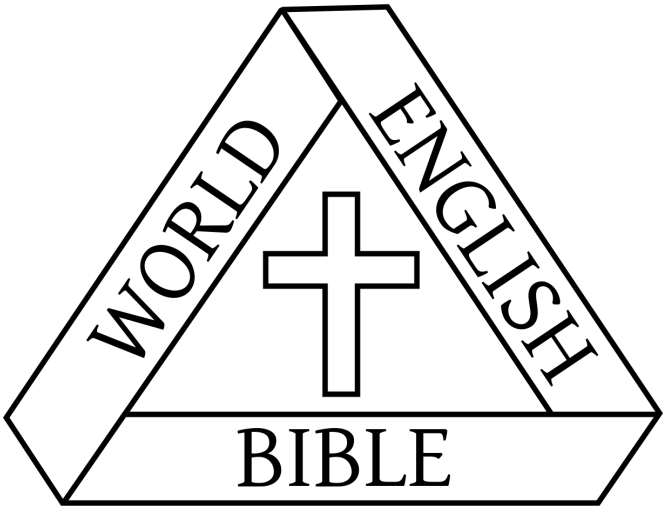
The

Holy Bible



The World English Bible

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Preface to the World English Bible

What is the Holy Bible?

The Holy Bible is a collection of books and letters written by many people who were inspired by the Holy Spirit of God. These books tell us how we can be saved from the evil of this world and gain eternal life that is truly worth living. Although the Holy Bible contains rules of conduct, it is not just a rule book. It reveals God's heart—a Father's heart, full of love and compassion. The Holy Bible tells you what you need to know and believe to be saved from sin and evil and how to live a life that is truly worth living, no matter what your current circumstances may be.

The Holy Bible consists of two main sections: the Old Testament (including Psalms and Proverbs) and the New Testament (Matthew through Revelation). The Old Testament records God's interaction with mankind before He sent His son to redeem us, while recording prophesy predicting that coming. The New Testament tells us of God's Son and Anointed One, Jesus, and the wonderful salvation that He purchased for us.

The same Holy Spirit who inspired the Holy Bible is living among us today, and He is happy to help you understand what He intended as you study His Word. Just ask Him, and He is more than happy to help you apply His message to your life.

The Old Testament was originally written mostly in Hebrew. The New Testament was originally written mostly in the common street Greek (not the formal Greek used for official legal matters). The Holy Bible is translated into many languages, and being translated into many more, so that everyone may have an opportunity to hear the Good News about Jesus Christ.†

Why was the World English Bible translated?

There are already many good translations of the Holy Bible into contemporary English. Unfortunately, almost all of them are restricted by copyright and copyright holder policy. This restricts publication and republication of God's Word in many ways, such as in downloadable files on the Internet, use of extensive quotations in books, etc. The World English Bible was commissioned by God in response to prayer about this subject.

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How was the World English Bible translated?

The World English Bible is an update of the American Standard Version (ASV) of the Holy Bible, published in 1901. A custom computer program updated the archaic words and word forms to contemporary equivalents, and then a team of volunteers proofread and updated the grammar. The New Testament was updated in places to conform to the Byzantine Majority Text reconstruction of the original Greek manuscripts, thus taking advantage of the superior access to manuscripts that we have now compared to when the original ASV was translated.

What is different about the World English Bible?

The style of the World English Bible, while fairly literally translated, is in informal, spoken English. The World

† : "Christ" means "Anointed One".

English Bible is designed to sound good and be accurate when read aloud. It is not formal in its language, just as the original Greek of the New Testament was not formal. The WEB uses contractions rather freely.

The World English Bible doesn't capitalize pronouns pertaining to God. The original manuscripts made no such distinction. Hebrew has no such thing as upper and lower case, and the original Greek manuscripts were written in all upper case letters. Attempting to add in such a distinction raises some difficulties in translating dual-meaning Scriptures such as the coronation psalms.

The Classic World English Bible translates God's Proper Name in the Old Testament as "Yahweh." All other editions of the World English Bible translate the same name as "LORD" (all capital letters), or when used with "Lord" (mixed case, translated from "Adonai"), GOD. There are solid translational arguments for both traditions.

Because the World English Bible uses the Byzantine Majority Text (MT) as the primary basis for the New Testament, you may notice the following differences in comparing the WEB to other translations:

- The order of Matthew 23:13 and 14 is reversed in some translations.
- Luke 17:36 and Acts 15:34, which are not found in the majority of the Greek Manuscripts (and are relegated to footnotes in the WEB), may be included in some other translations.
- Romans 14:24-26 in the WEB may appear as Romans 16:25-27 in other translations.
- 1 John 5:7-8 contains an addition in some translations, including the KJV. Erasmus admitted adding this text to his published Greek New Testament, even though he could at first find no Greek manuscript support for it, because he was being pressured by men to do so, and because he didn't see any doctrinal harm in it. Lots of things not written by John in this letter are true, but we decline to add them to what the Holy Spirit inspired through John.

With all of the above and some other places where lack of clarity in the original manuscripts has led to multiple possible readings, significant variants are listed in footnotes. The reading that in our prayerful judgment is best is in the main text. Overall, the World English Bible doesn't differ very much from several other good contemporary English translations of the Holy Bible. The message of Salvation through Jesus Christ is still the same. The point of this translation was not to be very different (except for legal status), but to update the ASV for readability while retaining or improving the accuracy of that well-respected translation and retaining the public domain status of the ASV.

Does the World English Bible include the Apocrypha?

The World English Bible is an ecumenical project that includes books included in Bibles in many denominations. The main 66 books of the Old and New Testaments are recognized as Scripture by all true Christians. There are also books considered to be part of, depending on which book and who you ask, Deuterocanon, Apocrypha, and Pseudepigrapha. The Deuterocanon/Apocrypha books are only included in the printed editions marked "Ecumenical".

The following books and parts of books are recognized as Deuterocanonical Scripture by the Roman Catholic, Greek, and Russian Orthodox Churches: *Tobit*, *Judith*, *Esther from the Greek Septuagint*, *The Wisdom of Solomon*, *Ecclesiasticus* (also called *The Wisdom of Jesus Son of Sirach*), *Baruch*, *The Song of the Three Holy Children*, *Susanna*, *Bel and the Dragon*, *1 Maccabees*, and *2 Maccabees*. In this edition, *The Letter of Jeremiah* is included as chapter 6 of *Baruch*. Three of those books come from parts of Daniel found in the Greek Septuagint, but not the Hebrew Old Testament: *The Song of the Three Holy Children*, *Susanna*, and *Bel and the Dragon*.

These three are included in *Daniel (Greek)*, in context, as they make more sense that way.

The following books are recognized as Deuterocanonical Scripture by the Greek and Russian Orthodox Churches, but not the Roman Catholic Church: 1 Esdras, The Prayer of Manasseh, Psalm 151, and 3 Maccabees. Note that 1 Esdras and the Prayer of Manasseh are also in an appendix to the Latin Vulgate Bible.

The Slavonic Bible includes 2 Esdras, but calls it 3 Esdras. This same book is in the Appendix to the Latin Vulgate as 4 Esdras.

An appendix to the Greek Septuagint contains 4 Maccabees. It is included for its historical value.

Among Christian denominations and among individual Christians, opinions vary widely on the Deuterocanon/Apocrypha, as do the collective names they give them. Many regard them as useful in gaining additional understanding of the Old and New Testaments and the hand of God in history, even if they don't give them the same status as the 66 books of the Old and New Testaments. They are included here in support of the churches and individuals who read them and use them, as separate from, but frequently used with, the core canon of the 66 books of the Holy Bible.

What are MT, TR, and NU?

In the footnotes, MT refers to the Byzantine Greek Majority Text New Testament, which is usually in the main text. TR stands for Textus Receptus, which is the Greek Text from which the King James Version New Testament was translated. NU stands for the Nestle-Aland/UBS critical text of the Greek New Testament, which is used as a basis for some other Bible translations.

More Information

For answers to frequently asked questions about the World English Bible, please visit our web site at WorldEnglish.Bible.

The First Book of Moses, Commonly Called Genesis

1 In the beginning, God† created the
heavens and the earth.
2 The earth was formless and empty.
Darkness was on the surface of the deep
and God's Spirit was hovering over the
surface of the waters.
3 God said, "Let there be light," and
there was light.
4 God saw the light, and saw that it was
good. God divided the light from the
darkness.
5 God called the light "day", and the
darkness he called "night". There was
evening and there was morning, the first
day.
6 God said, "Let there be an expanse in
the middle of the waters, and let it divide
the waters from the waters."
7 God made the expanse, and divided
the waters which were under the expanse
from the waters which were above the
expanse; and it was so.
8 God called the expanse "sky". There
was evening and there was morning, a
second day.
9 God said, "Let the waters under the sky
be gathered together to one place, and let
the dry land appear;" and it was so.
10 God called the dry land "earth", and
the gathering together of the waters he
called "seas". God saw that it was good.
11 God said, "Let the earth yield grass,
herbs yielding seeds, and fruit trees
bearing fruit after their kind, with their
seeds in it, on the earth;" and it was so.
12 The earth yielded grass, herbs
yielding seed after their kind, and trees
bearing fruit, with their seeds in it, after
their kind; and God saw that it was good.
13 There was evening and there was
morning, a third day.
14 God said, "Let there be lights in the
expanse of the sky to divide the day from
the night; and let them be for signs to
mark seasons, days, and years;
15 and let them be for lights in the
expanse of the sky to give light on the
earth;" and it was so.
16 God made the two great lights: the
greater light to rule the day, and the lesser
light to rule the night. He also made the
stars.
17 God set them in the expanse of the sky
to give light to the earth,
18 and to rule over the day and over the
night, and to divide the light from the
darkness. God saw that it was good.
19 There was evening and there was
morning, a fourth day.
20 God said, "Let the waters abound with
living creatures, and let birds fly above
the earth in the open expanse of the sky."
21 God created the large sea creatures
and every living creature that moves,
with which the waters swarmed, after
their kind, and every winged bird after its
kind. God saw that it was good.
22 God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful,
and multiply, and fill the waters in the
seas, and let birds multiply on the earth."
23 There was evening and there was
morning, a fifth day.
24 God said, "Let the earth produce
living creatures after their kind, livestock,
creeping things, and animals of the earth
after their kind;" and it was so.
25 God made the animals of the earth
after their kind, and the livestock after
their kind, and everything that creeps on
the ground after its kind. God saw that it
was good.
26 God said, "Let's make man in our
image, after our likeness. Let them have
dominion over the fish of the sea, and
over the birds of the sky, and over the
livestock, and over all the earth, and over
every creeping thing that creeps on the
earth."
27 God created man in his own image. In
God's image he created him; male and
female he created them.
28 God blessed them. God said to them,
"Be fruitful, multiply, fill the earth, and

† **1:1** The Hebrew word rendered "God" is "אֱלֹהִים" (Elohim).

subdue it. Have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the sky, and over every living thing that moves on the earth."
29 God said, "Behold,‡ I have given you every herb yielding seed, which is on the surface of all the earth, and every tree, which bears fruit yielding seed. It will be your food.
30 To every animal of the earth, and to every bird of the sky, and to everything that creeps on the earth, in which there is life, I have given every green herb for food;" and it was so.
31 God saw everything that he had made, and, behold, it was very good. There was evening and there was morning, a sixth day.

2

1 The heavens, the earth, and all their vast array were finished.
2 On the seventh day God finished his work which he had done; and he rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had done.
3 God blessed the seventh day, and made it holy, because he rested in it from all his work of creation which he had done.
4 This is the history of the generations of the heavens and of the earth when they were created, in the day that the LORD† God made the earth and the heavens.
5 No plant of the field was yet on the earth, and no herb of the field had yet sprung up; for the LORD God had not caused it to rain on the earth. There was not a man to till the ground,
6 but a mist went up from the earth, and watered the whole surface of the ground.
7 The LORD God formed man from the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.
8 The LORD God planted a garden eastward, in Eden, and there he put the man whom he had formed.
9 Out of the ground the LORD God made every tree to grow 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.
10 A river went out of Eden to water the garden; and from there it was parted, and became the source of four rivers.
11 The name of the first is Pishon: it flows through the whole land of Havilah, where there is gold;
12 and the gold of that land is good. Bdellium‡ and onyx stone are also there.
13 The name of the second river is Gihon. It is the same river that flows through the whole land of Cush.
14 The name of the third river is Hiddekel. This is the one which flows in front of Assyria. The fourth river is the Euphrates.
15 The LORD God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to cultivate and keep it.
16 The LORD God commanded the man, saying, "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden;
17 but you shall not eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil; for in the day that you eat of it, you will surely die."
18 The LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make him a helper comparable to§ him."
19 Out of the ground the LORD God formed every animal of the field, and every bird of the sky, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them. Whatever the man called every living creature became its name.
20 The man gave names to all livestock, and to the birds of the sky, and to every animal of the field; but for man there was not found a helper comparable to him.
21 The LORD God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep. As the man slept, he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh in its place.
22 The LORD God made a woman from the rib which he had taken from the man, and brought her to the man.

‡ **1:29** "Behold", from "הִנֵּה", means look at, take notice, observe, see, or gaze at. It is often used as an interjection.
† **2:4** When rendered in ALL CAPITAL LETTERS, "LORD" or "GOD" is the translation of God's Proper Name (Hebrew "יהוה", usually pronounced Yahweh). ‡ **2:12** or, aromatic resin § **2:18** or, suitable for, or appropriate for.

23 The man said, “This is now bone of
my bones, and flesh of my flesh. She will
be called ‘woman,’ because she was taken
out of Man.”
24 Therefore a man will leave his father
and his mother, and will join with his
wife, and they will be one flesh.
25 The man and his wife were both
naked, and they were not ashamed.

3

1 Now the serpent was more subtle than
any animal of the field which the LORD
God had made. He said to the woman,
“Has God really said, ‘You shall not eat of
any tree of the garden’?”
2 The woman said to the serpent, “We
may eat fruit from the trees of the garden,
3 but not the fruit of the tree which is in
the middle of the garden. God has said,
‘You shall not eat of it. You shall not touch
it, lest you die.’ ”
4 The serpent said to the woman, “You
won’t really die,
5 for God knows that in the day you eat
it, your eyes will be opened, and you will
be like God, knowing good and evil.”
6 When the woman saw that the tree
was good for food, and that it was a
delight to the eyes, and that the tree was
to be desired to make one wise, she took
some of its fruit, and ate. Then she gave
some to her husband with her, and he ate
it, too.
7 Their eyes were opened, and they both
knew that they were naked. They sewed
fig leaves together, and made coverings
for themselves.
8 They heard the LORD God’s voice
walking in the garden in the cool of the
day, and the man and his wife hid
themselves from the presence of the
LORD God among the trees of the garden.
9 The LORD God called to the man, and
said to him, “Where are you?”
10 The man said, “I heard your voice in
the garden, and I was afraid, because I
was naked; so I hid myself.”
11 God said, “Who told you that you were
naked? Have you eaten from the tree that
I commanded you not to eat from?”
12 The man said, “The woman whom
you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit
from the tree, and I ate it.”
13 The LORD God said to the woman,
“What have you done?”
The woman said, “The serpent deceived
me, and I ate.”
14 The LORD God said to the serpent,
“Because you have done this,
you are cursed above all livestock,
and above every animal of the field.
You shall go on your belly
and you shall eat dust all the days of
your life.
15 I will put hostility between you and the
woman,
and between your offspring and her
offspring.
He will bruise your head,
and you will bruise his heel.”
16 To the woman he said,
“I will greatly multiply your pain in
childbirth.
You will bear children in pain.
Your desire will be for your husband,
and he will rule over you.”
17 To Adam he said,
“Because you have listened to your wife’s
voice,
and have eaten from the tree,
about which I commanded you,
saying, ‘You shall not eat of it,’
the ground is cursed for your sake.
You will eat from it with much labor all
the days of your life.
18 It will yield thorns and thistles to
you;
and you will eat the herb of the field.
19 You will eat bread by the sweat of your
face until you return to the ground,
for you were taken out of it.
For you are dust,
and you shall return to dust.”
20 The man called his wife Eve because
she would be the mother of all the living.
21 The LORD God made garments of
animal skins for Adam and for his wife,
and clothed them.
22 The LORD God said, “Behold, the man
has become like one of us, knowing good
and evil. Now, lest he reach out his hand,

and also take of the tree of life, and eat,
and live forever—”
23 Therefore the LORD God sent him out
from the garden of Eden, to till the ground
from which he was taken.
24 So he drove out the man; and he
placed cherubim† at the east of the garden
of Eden, and a flaming sword which
turned every way, to guard the way to the
tree of life.

4

1 The man knew† Eve his wife. She
conceived,‡ and gave birth to Cain, and
said, “I have gotten a man with the LORD’s
help.”
2 Again she gave birth, to Cain’s brother
Abel. Abel was a keeper of sheep, but Cain
was a tiller of the ground.
3 As time passed, Cain brought an
offering to the LORD from the fruit of the
ground.
4 Abel also brought some of the
firstborn of his flock and of its fat. The
LORD respected Abel and his offering,
5 but he didn’t respect Cain and his
offering. Cain was very angry, and the
expression on his face fell.
6 The LORD said to Cain, “Why are you
angry? Why has the expression of your
face fallen?
7 If you do well, won’t it be lifted up? If
you don’t do well, sin crouches at the
door. Its desire is for you, but you are to
rule over it.”
8 Cain said to Abel, his brother, “Let’s go
into the field.” While they were in the
field, Cain rose up against Abel, his
brother, and killed him.
9 The LORD said to Cain, “Where is Abel,
your brother?”
He said, “I don’t know. Am I my
brother’s keeper?”
10 The LORD said, “What have you
done? The voice of your brother’s blood
cries to me from the ground.
11 Now you are cursed because of the
ground, which has opened its mouth to
receive your brother’s blood from your
hand.
12 From now on, when you till the
ground, it won’t yield its strength to you.
You will be a fugitive and a wanderer on
the earth.”
13 Cain said to the LORD, “My
punishment is greater than I can bear.
14 Behold, you have driven me out today
from the surface of the ground. I will be
hidden from your face, and I will be a
fugitive and a wanderer on the earth.
Whoever finds me will kill me.”
15 The LORD said to him, “Therefore
whoever slays Cain, vengeance will be
taken on him sevenfold.” The LORD
appointed a sign for Cain, so that anyone
finding him would not strike him.
16 Cain left the LORD’s presence, and
lived in the land of Nod, east of Eden.
17 Cain knew his wife. She conceived,
and gave birth to Enoch. He built a city,
and named the city after the name of his
son, Enoch.
18 Irad was born to Enoch. Irad became
the father of Mehujael. Mehujael became
the father of Methushael. Methushael
became the father of Lamech.
19 Lamech took two wives: the name of
the first one was Adah, and the name of
the second one was Zillah.
20 Adah gave birth to Jabal, who was the
father of those who dwell in tents and
have livestock.
21 His brother’s name was Jubal, who
was the father of all who handle the harp
and pipe.
22 Zillah also gave birth to Tubal Cain,
the forger of every cutting instrument of
bronze and iron. Tubal Cain’s sister was
Naamah.
23 Lamech said to his wives,
“Adah and Zillah, hear my voice.
You wives of Lamech, listen to my
speech,
for I have slain a man for wounding me,
a young man for bruising me.
24 If Cain will be avenged seven times,
truly Lamech seventy-seven times.”
25 Adam knew his wife again. She gave
birth to a son, and named him Seth,

† **3:24** cherubim are powerful angelic creatures, messengers of God with wings. See Ezekiel 10. † **4:1** or, lay with, or, had relations with ‡ **4:1** or, became pregnant

saying, “for God has given me another child instead of Abel, for Cain killed him.”
26 A son was also born to Seth, and he named him Enosh. At that time men began to call on the LORD’s name.

5

1 This is the book of the generations of Adam. In the day that God created man, he made him in God’s likeness.
2 He created them male and female, and blessed them. On the day they were created, he named them Adam.†
3 Adam lived one hundred thirty years, and became the father of a son in his own likeness, after his image, and named him Seth.
4 The days of Adam after he became the father of Seth were eight hundred years, and he became the father of other sons and daughters.
5 All the days that Adam lived were nine hundred thirty years, then he died.
6 Seth lived one hundred five years, then became the father of Enosh.
7 Seth lived after he became the father of Enosh eight hundred seven years, and became the father of other sons and daughters.
8 All of the days of Seth were nine hundred twelve years, then he died.
9 Enosh lived ninety years, and became the father of Kenan.
10 Enosh lived after he became the father of Kenan eight hundred fifteen years, and became the father of other sons and daughters.
11 All of the days of Enosh were nine hundred five years, then he died.
12 Kenan lived seventy years, then became the father of Mahalalel.
13 Kenan lived after he became the father of Mahalalel eight hundred forty years, and became the father of other sons and daughters
14 and all of the days of Kenan were nine hundred ten years, then he died.
15 Mahalalel lived sixty-five years, then became the father of Jared.
16 Mahalalel lived after he became the father of Jared eight hundred thirty years, and became the father of other sons and daughters.
17 All of the days of Mahalalel were eight hundred ninety-five years, then he died.
18 Jared lived one hundred sixty-two years, then became the father of Enoch.
19 Jared lived after he became the father of Enoch eight hundred years, and became the father of other sons and daughters.
20 All of the days of Jared were nine hundred sixty-two years, then he died.
21 Enoch lived sixty-five years, then became the father of Methuselah.
22 After Methuselah’s birth, Enoch walked with God for three hundred years, and became the father of more sons and daughters.
23 All the days of Enoch were three hundred sixty-five years.
24 Enoch walked with God, and he was not found, for God took him.
25 Methuselah lived one hundred eighty-seven years, then became the father of Lamech.
26 Methuselah lived after he became the father of Lamech seven hundred eighty-two years, and became the father of other sons and daughters.
27 All the days of Methuselah were nine hundred sixty-nine years, then he died.
28 Lamech lived one hundred eighty-two years, then became the father of a son.
29 He named him Noah, saying, “This one will comfort us in our work and in the toil of our hands, caused by the ground which the LORD has cursed.”
30 Lamech lived after he became the father of Noah five hundred ninety-five years, and became the father of other sons and daughters.
31 All the days of Lamech were seven hundred seventy-seven years, then he died.
32 Noah was five hundred years old, then Noah became the father of Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

6

1 When men began to multiply on the surface of the ground, and daughters

† **5:2** “Adam” and “Man” are spelled with the exact same consonants in Hebrew, so this can be correctly translated either way.

were born to them,
2 God's sons saw that men's daughters
were beautiful, and they took any that
they wanted for themselves as wives.
3 The LORD said, "My Spirit will not
strive with man forever, because he also
is flesh; so his days will be one hundred
twenty years."
4 The Nephilim† were on the earth in
those days, and also after that, when God's
sons came in to men's daughters and had
children with them. Those were the
mighty men who were of old, men of
renown.
5 The LORD saw that the wickedness of
man was great on the earth, and that
every imagination of the thoughts of
man's heart was continually only evil.
6 The LORD was sorry that he had made
man on the earth, and it grieved him in
his heart.
7 The LORD said, "I will destroy man
whom I have created from the surface of
the ground—man, along with animals,
creeping things, and birds of the sky—for I
am sorry that I have made them."
8 But Noah found favor in the LORD's
eyes.
9 This is the history of the generations of
Noah: Noah was a righteous man,
blameless among the people of his time.
Noah walked with God.
10 Noah became the father of three sons:
Shem, Ham, and Japheth.
11 The earth was corrupt before God,
and the earth was filled with violence.
12 God saw the earth, and saw that it
was corrupt, for all flesh had corrupted
their way on the earth.
13 God said to Noah, "I will bring an end
to all flesh, for the earth is filled with
violence through them. Behold, I will
destroy them and the earth.
14 Make a ship of gopher wood. You
shall make rooms in the ship, and shall
seal it inside and outside with pitch.
15 This is how you shall make it. The
length of the ship shall be three hundred
cubits,‡ its width fifty cubits, and its
height thirty cubits.
16 You shall make a roof in the ship, and
you shall finish it to a cubit upward. You
shall set the door of the ship in its side.
You shall make it with lower, second, and
third levels.
17 I, even I, will bring the flood of waters
on this earth, to destroy all flesh having
the breath of life from under the sky.
Everything that is on the earth will die.
18 But I will establish my covenant with
you. You shall come into the ship, you,
your sons, your wife, and your sons' wives
with you.
19 Of every living thing of all flesh, you
shall bring two of every sort into the ship,
to keep them alive with you. They shall be
male and female.
20 Of the birds after their kind, of the
livestock after their kind, of every
creeping thing of the ground after its
kind, two of every sort will come to you, to
keep them alive.
21 Take with you some of all food that is
eaten, and gather it to yourself; and it will
be for food for you, and for them."
22 Thus Noah did. He did all that God
commanded him.

7

1 The LORD said to Noah, "Come with all
of your household into the ship, for I have
seen your righteousness before me in this
generation.
2 You shall take seven pairs of every
clean animal with you, the male and his
female. Of the animals that are not clean,
take two, the male and his female.
3 Also of the birds of the sky, seven and
seven, male and female, to keep seed alive
on the surface of all the earth.
4 In seven days, I will cause it to rain on
the earth for forty days and forty nights. I
will destroy every living thing that I have
made from the surface of the ground."
5 Noah did everything that the LORD
commanded him.
6 Noah was six hundred years old when
the flood of waters came on the earth.

† **6:4** or, giants ‡ **6:15** A cubit is the length from the tip of the middle finger to the elbow on a man's arm, or about 18 inches or 46 centimeters.

7 Noah went into the ship with his sons,
his wife, and his sons' wives, because of
the floodwaters.
8 Clean animals, unclean animals, birds,
and everything that creeps on the ground
9 went by pairs to Noah into the ship,
male and female, as God commanded
Noah.
10 After the seven days, the floodwaters
came on the earth.
11 In the six hundredth year of Noah's
life, in the second month, on the
seventeenth day of the month, on that day
all the fountains of the great deep burst
open, and the sky's windows opened.
12 It rained on the earth forty days and
forty nights.
13 In the same day Noah, and Shem,
Ham, and Japheth—the sons of Noah—and
Noah's wife and the three wives of his
sons with them, entered into the ship—
14 they, and every animal after its kind,
all the livestock after their kind, every
creeping thing that creeps on the earth
after its kind, and every bird after its kind,
every bird of every sort.
15 Pairs from all flesh with the breath of
life in them went into the ship to Noah.
16 Those who went in, went in male and
female of all flesh, as God commanded
him; then the LORD shut him in.
17 The flood was forty days on the earth.
The waters increased, and lifted up the
ship, and it was lifted up above the earth.
18 The waters rose, and increased
greatly on the earth; and the ship floated
on the surface of the waters.
19 The waters rose very high on the
earth. All the high mountains that were
under the whole sky were covered.
20 The waters rose fifteen cubits† higher,
and the mountains were covered.
21 All flesh died that moved on the earth,
including birds, livestock, animals, every
creeping thing that creeps on the earth,
and every man.
22 All on the dry land, in whose nostrils
was the breath of the spirit of life, died.
23 Every living thing was destroyed that
was on the surface of the ground,
including man, livestock, creeping things,
and birds of the sky. They were destroyed
from the earth. Only Noah was left, and
those who were with him in the ship.
24 The waters flooded the earth one
hundred fifty days.

8

1 God remembered Noah, all the
animals, and all the livestock that were
with him in the ship; and God made a
wind to pass over the earth. The waters
subsided.
2 The deep's fountains and the sky's
windows were also stopped, and the rain
from the sky was restrained.
3 The waters continually receded from
the earth. After the end of one hundred
fifty days the waters receded.
4 The ship rested in the seventh month,
on the seventeenth day of the month, on
Ararat's mountains.
5 The waters receded continually until
the tenth month. In the tenth month, on
the first day of the month, the tops of the
mountains were visible.
6 At the end of forty days, Noah opened
the window of the ship which he had
made,
7 and he sent out a raven. It went back
and forth, until the waters were dried up
from the earth.
8 He himself sent out a dove to see if the
waters were abated from the surface of
the ground,
9 but the dove found no place to rest her
foot, and she returned into the ship to
him, for the waters were on the surface of
the whole earth. He put out his hand, and
took her, and brought her to him into the
ship.
10 He waited yet another seven days;
and again he sent the dove out of the ship.
11 The dove came back to him at evening
and, behold, in her mouth was a freshly
plucked olive leaf. So Noah knew that the
waters were abated from the earth.
12 He waited yet another seven days,
and sent out the dove; and she didn't
return to him any more.

† **7:20** A cubit is the length from the tip of the middle finger to the elbow on a man's arm, or about 18 inches or 46 centimeters.

13 In the six hundred first year, in the
first month, the first day of the month, the
waters were dried up from the earth.
Noah removed the covering of the ship,
and looked. He saw that the surface of the
ground was dry.
14 In the second month, on the
twenty-seventh day of the month, the
earth was dry.
15 God spoke to Noah, saying,
16 "Go out of the ship, you, your wife,
your sons, and your sons' wives with you.
17 Bring out with you every living thing
that is with you of all flesh, including
birds, livestock, and every creeping thing
that creeps on the earth, that they may
breed abundantly on the earth, and be
fruitful, and multiply on the earth."
18 Noah went out, with his sons, his
wife, and his sons' wives with him.
19 Every animal, every creeping thing,
and every bird, whatever moves on the
earth, after their families, went out of the
ship.
20 Noah built an altar to the LORD, and
took of every clean animal, and of every
clean bird, and offered burnt offerings on
the altar.
21 The LORD smelled the pleasant
aroma. The LORD said in his heart, "I will
not again curse the ground any more for
man's sake because the imagination of
man's heart is evil from his youth. I will
never again strike every living thing, as I
have done.
22 While the earth remains, seed time
and harvest, and cold and heat, and
summer and winter, and day and night
will not cease."

9

1 God blessed Noah and his sons, and
said to them, "Be fruitful, multiply, and
replenish the earth.
2 The fear of you and the dread of you
will be on every animal of the earth, and
on every bird of the sky. Everything that
moves along the ground, and all the fish of
the sea, are delivered into your hand.
3 Every moving thing that lives will be
food for you. As I gave you the green herb,
I have given everything to you.
4 But flesh with its life, that is, its blood,
you shall not eat.
5 I will surely require accounting for
your life's blood. At the hand of every
animal I will require it. At the hand of
man, even at the hand of every man's
brother, I will require the life of man.
6 Whoever sheds man's blood, his blood
will be shed by man, for God made man in
his own image.
7 Be fruitful and multiply. Increase
abundantly on the earth, and multiply in
it."
8 God spoke to Noah and to his sons with
him, saying,
9 "As for me, behold, I establish my
covenant with you, and with your
offspring after you,
10 and with every living creature that is
with you: the birds, the livestock, and
every animal of the earth with you, of all
that go out of the ship, even every animal
of the earth.
11 I will establish my covenant with you:
All flesh will not be cut off any more by
the waters of the flood. There will never
again be a flood to destroy the earth."
12 God said, "This is the token of the
covenant which I make between me and
you and every living creature that is with
you, for perpetual generations:
13 I set my rainbow in the cloud, and it
will be a sign of a covenant between me
and the earth.
14 When I bring a cloud over the earth,
that the rainbow will be seen in the cloud,
15 I will remember my covenant, which
is between me and you and every living
creature of all flesh, and the waters will
no more become a flood to destroy all
flesh.
16 The rainbow will be in the cloud. I
will look at it, that I may remember the
everlasting covenant between God and
every living creature of all flesh that is on
the earth."
17 God said to Noah, "This is the token of
the covenant which I have established
between me and all flesh that is on the
earth."
18 The sons of Noah who went out from
the ship were Shem, Ham, and Japheth.
Ham is the father of Canaan.

19 These three were the sons of Noah,
and from these the whole earth was
populated.
20 Noah began to be a farmer, and
planted a vineyard.
21 He drank of the wine and got drunk.
He was uncovered within his tent.
22 Ham, the father of Canaan, saw the
nakedness of his father, and told his two
brothers outside.
23 Shem and Japheth took a garment,
and laid it on both their shoulders, went
in backwards, and covered the nakedness
of their father. Their faces were
backwards, and they didn't see their
father's nakedness.
24 Noah awoke from his wine, and knew
what his youngest son had done to him.
25 He said,
"Canaan is cursed.
He will be a servant of servants to his
brothers."
26 He said,
"Blessed be the LORD, the God of Shem.
Let Canaan be his servant.
27 May God enlarge Japheth.
Let him dwell in the tents of Shem.
Let Canaan be his servant."
28 Noah lived three hundred fifty years
after the flood.
29 All the days of Noah were nine
hundred fifty years, and then he died.

10

1 Now this is the history of the
generations of the sons of Noah and of
Shem, Ham, and Japheth. Sons were born
to them after the flood.
2 The sons of Japheth were: Gomer,
Magog, Madai, Javan, Tubal, Meshech,
and Tiras.
3 The sons of Gomer were: Ashkenaz,
Riphath, and Togarmah.
4 The sons of Javan were: Elishah,
Tarshish, Kittim, and Dodanim.
5 Of these were the islands of the
nations divided in their lands, everyone
after his language, after their families, in
their nations.
6 The sons of Ham were: Cush, Mizraim,
Put, and Canaan.
7 The sons of Cush were: Seba, Havilah,
Sabtah, Raamah, and Sabteca. The sons of
Raamah were: Sheba and Dedan.
8 Cush became the father of Nimrod. He
began to be a mighty one on the earth.
9 He was a mighty hunter before the
LORD. Therefore it is said, "like Nimrod, a
mighty hunter before the LORD".
10 The beginning of his kingdom was
Babel, Erech, Accad, and Calneh, in the
land of Shinar.
11 Out of that land he went into Assyria,
and built Nineveh, Rehoboth Ir, Calah,
12 and Resen between Nineveh and the
great city Calah.
13 Mizraim became the father of Ludim,
Anamim, Lehabim, Naphtuhim,
14 Pathrusim, Casluhim (which the
Philistines descended from), and
Caphtorim.
15 Canaan became the father of Sidon
(his firstborn), Heth,
16 the Jebusites, the Amorites, the
Girgashites,
17 the Hivites, the Arkites, the Sinites,
18 the Arvadites, the Zemarites, and the
Hamathites. Afterward the families of the
Canaanites were spread abroad.
19 The border of the Canaanites was
from Sidon—as you go toward Gerar—to
Gaza—as you go toward Sodom,
Gomorrah, Admah, and Zeboiim—to
Lasha.
20 These are the sons of Ham, after their
families, according to their languages, in
their lands and their nations.
21 Children were also born to Shem (the
elder brother of Japheth), the father of all
the children of Eber.
22 The sons of Shem were: Elam, Asshur,
Arpachshad, Lud, and Aram.
23 The sons of Aram were: Uz, Hul,
Gether, and Mash.
24 Arpachshad became the father of
Shelah. Shelah became the father of Eber.
25 To Eber were born two sons. The
name of the one was Peleg, for in his days
the earth was divided. His brother's name
was Joktan.
26 Joktan became the father of Almodad,
Sheleph, Hazarmaveth, Jerah,
27 Hadoram, Uzal, Diklah,
28 Obal, Abimael, Sheba,
29 Ophir, Havilah, and Jobab. All these
were the sons of Joktan.

30 Their dwelling extended from Mesha,
as you go toward Sephar, the mountain of
the east.
31 These are the sons of Shem, by their
families, according to their languages,
lands, and nations.
32 These are the families of the sons of
Noah, by their generations, according to
their nations. The nations divided from
these on the earth after the flood.

11

1 The whole earth was of one language
and of one speech.
2 As they traveled east,† they found a
plain in the land of Shinar, and they lived
there.
3 They said to one another, “Come, let’s
make bricks, and burn them thoroughly.”
They had brick for stone, and they used
tar for mortar.
4 They said, “Come, let’s build ourselves
a city, and a tower whose top reaches to
the sky, and let’s make a name for
ourselves, lest we be scattered abroad on
the surface of the whole earth.”
5 The LORD came down to see the city
and the tower, which the children of men
built.
6 The LORD said, “Behold, they are one
people, and they all have one language,
and this is what they begin to do. Now
nothing will be withheld from them,
which they intend to do.
7 Come, let’s go down, and there confuse
their language, that they may not
understand one another’s speech.”
8 So the LORD scattered them abroad
from there on the surface of all the earth.
They stopped building the city.
9 Therefore its name was called Babel,
because there the LORD confused the
language of all the earth. From there, the
LORD scattered them abroad on the
surface of all the earth.
10 This is the history of the generations
of Shem: Shem was one hundred years
old when he became the father of
Arpachshad two years after the flood.
11 Shem lived five hundred years after
he became the father of Arpachshad, and
became the father of more sons and
daughters.
12 Arpachshad lived thirty-five years
and became the father of Shelah.
13 Arpachshad lived four hundred three
years after he became the father of
Shelah, and became the father of more
sons and daughters.
14 Shelah lived thirty years, and became
the father of Eber.
15 Shelah lived four hundred three
years after he became the father of Eber,
and became the father of more sons and
daughters.
16 Eber lived thirty-four years, and
became the father of Peleg.
17 Eber lived four hundred thirty years
after he became the father of Peleg, and
became the father of more sons and
daughters.
18 Peleg lived thirty years, and became
the father of Reu.
19 Peleg lived two hundred nine years
after he became the father of Reu, and
became the father of more sons and
daughters.
20 Reu lived thirty-two years, and
became the father of Serug.
21 Reu lived two hundred seven years
after he became the father of Serug, and
became the father of more sons and
daughters.
22 Serug lived thirty years, and became
the father of Nahor.
23 Serug lived two hundred years after
he became the father of Nahor, and
became the father of more sons and
daughters.
24 Nahor lived twenty-nine years, and
became the father of Terah.
25 Nahor lived one hundred nineteen
years after he became the father of Terah,
and became the father of more sons and
daughters.
26 Terah lived seventy years, and
became the father of Abram, Nahor, and
Haran.
27 Now this is the history of the
generations of Terah. Terah became the
father of Abram, Nahor, and Haran.
Haran became the father of Lot.

† **11:2** LXX reads “from the east”.

28 Haran died in the land of his birth, in
Ur of the Chaldees, while his father Terah
was still alive.
29 Abram and Nahor married wives.
The name of Abram's wife was Sarai, and
the name of Nahor's wife was Milcah, the
daughter of Haran, who was also the
father of Iscah.
30 Sarai was barren. She had no child.
31 Terah took Abram his son, Lot the son
of Haran, his son's son, and Sarai his
daughter-in-law, his son Abram's wife.
They went from Ur of the Chaldees, to go
into the land of Canaan. They came to
Haran and lived there.
32 The days of Terah were two hundred
five years. Terah died in Haran.

12

1 Now the LORD said to Abram, "Leave
your country, and your relatives, and
your father's house, and go to the land
that I will show you.
2 I will make of you a great nation. I will
bless you and make your name great. You
will be a blessing.
3 I will bless those who bless you, and I
will curse him who treats you with
contempt. All the families of the earth will
be blessed through you."
4 So Abram went, as the LORD had told
him. Lot went with him. Abram was
seventy-five years old when he departed
from Haran.
5 Abram took Sarai his wife, Lot his
brother's son, all their possessions that
they had gathered, and the people whom
they had acquired in Haran, and they
went to go into the land of Canaan. They
entered into the land of Canaan.
6 Abram passed through the land to the
place of Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At
that time, Canaanites were in the land.
7 The LORD appeared to Abram and
said, "I will give this land to your
offspring."†
He built an altar there to the LORD, who
had appeared to him.
8 He left from there to go to the
mountain on the east of Bethel and
pitched his tent, having Bethel on the
west, and Ai on the east. There he built an
altar to the LORD‡ and called on the
LORD's name.
9 Abram traveled, still going on toward
the South.
10 There was a famine in the land.
Abram went down into Egypt to live as a
foreigner there, for the famine was severe
in the land.
11 When he had come near to enter
Egypt, he said to Sarai his wife, "See now, I
know that you are a beautiful woman to
look at.
12 It will happen that when the
Egyptians see you, they will say, 'This is
his wife.' They will kill me, but they will
save you alive.
13 Please say that you are my sister, that
it may be well with me for your sake, and
that my soul may live because of you."
14 When Abram had come into Egypt,
some Egyptians saw that the woman was
very beautiful.
15 The princes of Pharaoh saw her, and
praised her to Pharaoh; and the woman
was taken into Pharaoh's house.
16 He dealt well with Abram for her
sake. He had sheep, cattle, male donkeys,
male servants, female servants, female
donkeys, and camels.
17 The LORD afflicted Pharaoh and his
house with great plagues because of Sarai,
Abram's wife.
18 Pharaoh called Abram and said,
"What is this that you have done to me?
Why didn't you tell me that she was your
wife?
19 Why did you say, 'She is my sister,' so
that I took her to be my wife? Now
therefore, see your wife, take her, and go
your way."
20 Pharaoh commanded men
concerning him, and they escorted him
away with his wife and all that he had.

13

1 Abram went up out of Egypt—he, his
wife, all that he had, and Lot with
him—into the South.
2 Abram was very rich in livestock, in
silver, and in gold.

† **12:7** or, seed ‡ **12:8** LORD or GOD in all caps is from the Hebrew יהוה Yahweh except when otherwise noted as being from the short form יה Yah.

3 He went on his journeys from the
South as far as Bethel, to the place where
his tent had been at the beginning,
between Bethel and Ai,
4 to the place of the altar, which he had
made there at the first. There Abram
called on the LORD's name.
5 Lot also, who went with Abram, had
flocks, herds, and tents.
6 The land was not able to bear them,
that they might live together; for their
possessions were so great that they
couldn't live together.
7 There was strife between the
herdsmen of Abram's livestock and the
herdsmen of Lot's livestock. The
Canaanites and the Perizzites lived in the
land at that time.
8 Abram said to Lot, "Please, let there be
no strife between you and me, and
between your herdsmen and my
herdsmen; for we are relatives.
9 Isn't the whole land before you?
Please separate yourself from me. If you
go to the left hand, then I will go to the
right. Or if you go to the right hand, then I
will go to the left."
10 Lot lifted up his eyes, and saw all the
plain of the Jordan, that it was
well-watered everywhere, before the
LORD destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah,
like the garden of the LORD, like the land
of Egypt, as you go to Zoar.
11 So Lot chose the Plain of the Jordan
for himself. Lot traveled east, and they
separated themselves from one another.
12 Abram lived in the land of Canaan,
and Lot lived in the cities of the plain, and
moved his tent as far as Sodom.
13 Now the men of Sodom were
exceedingly wicked and sinners against
the LORD.
14 The LORD said to Abram, after Lot
was separated from him, "Now, lift up
your eyes, and look from the place where
you are, northward and southward and
eastward and westward,
15 for I will give all the land which you
see to you and to your offspring forever.
16 I will make your offspring as the dust
of the earth, so that if a man can count the
dust of the earth, then your offspring may
also be counted.
17 Arise, walk through the land in its
length and in its width; for I will give it to
you."
18 Abram moved his tent, and came and
lived by the oaks of Mamre, which are in
Hebron, and built an altar there to the
LORD.

14

1 In the days of Amraphel, king of
Shinar; Arioch, king of Ellasar;
Chedorlaomer, king of Elam; and Tidal,
king of Goiim,
2 they made war with Bera, king of
Sodom; Birsha, king of Gomorrah; Shinab,
king of Admah; Shemeber, king of
Zeboiim; and the king of Bela (also called
Zoar).
3 All these joined together in the valley
of Siddim (also called the Salt Sea).
4 They served Chedorlaomer for twelve
years, and in the thirteenth year they
rebelled.
5 In the fourteenth year Chedorlaomer
and the kings who were with him came
and struck the Rephaim in Ashteroth
Karnaim, the Zuzim in Ham, the Emim in
Shaveh Kiriathaim,
6 and the Horites in their Mount Seir, to
El Paran, which is by the wilderness.
7 They returned, and came to En
Mishpat (also called Kadesh), and struck
all the country of the Amalekites, and also
the Amorites, that lived in Hazazon
Tamar.
8 The king of Sodom, and the king of
Gomorrah, the king of Admah, the king of
Zeboiim, and the king of Bela (also called
Zoar) went out; and they set the battle in
array against them in the valley of Siddim
9 against Chedorlaomer king of Elam,
Tidal king of Goiim, Amraphel king of
Shinar, and Arioch king of Ellasar; four
kings against the five.
10 Now the valley of Siddim was full of
tar pits; and the kings of Sodom and
Gomorrah fled, and some fell there. Those
who remained fled to the hills.
11 They took all the goods of Sodom and
Gomorrah, and all their food, and went
their way.

12 They took Lot, Abram's brother's son,
who lived in Sodom, and his goods, and
departed.
13 One who had escaped came and told
Abram, the Hebrew. At that time, he lived
by the oaks of Mamre, the Amorite,
brother of Eshcol and brother of Aner.
They were allies of Abram.
14 When Abram heard that his relative
was taken captive, he led out his three
hundred eighteen trained men, born in
his house, and pursued as far as Dan.
15 He divided himself against them by
night, he and his servants, and struck
them, and pursued them to Hobah, which
is on the left hand of Damascus.
16 He brought back all the goods, and
also brought back his relative Lot and his
goods, and the women also, and the other
people.
17 The king of Sodom went out to meet
him after his return from the slaughter of
Chedorlaomer and the kings who were
with him, at the valley of Shaveh (that is,
the King's Valley).
18 Melchizedek king of Salem brought
out bread and wine. He was priest of God
Most High.
19 He blessed him, and said, "Blessed be
Abram of God Most High, possessor of
heaven and earth.
20 Blessed be God Most High, who has
delivered your enemies into your hand."

Abram gave him a tenth of all.

21 The king of Sodom said to Abram,
"Give me the people, and take the goods
for yourself."

22 Abram said to the king of Sodom, "I
have lifted up my hand to the LORD, God
Most High, possessor of heaven and earth,
23 that I will not take a thread nor a
sandal strap nor anything that is yours,
lest you should say, 'I have made Abram
rich.'
24 I will accept nothing from you except
that which the young men have eaten,
and the portion of the men who went with
me: Aner, Eshcol, and Mamre. Let them
take their portion."

15

1 After these things the LORD's word
came to Abram in a vision, saying, "Don't
be afraid, Abram. I am your shield, your
exceedingly great reward."

2 Abram said, "Lord† GOD, what will you
give me, since I go childless, and he who
will inherit my estate is Eliezer of
Damascus?"
3 Abram said, "Behold, you have given
no children to me: and, behold, one born
in my house is my heir."

4 Behold, the LORD's word came to him,
saying, "This man will not be your heir,
but he who will come out of your own
body will be your heir."
5 The LORD brought him outside, and
said, "Look now toward the sky, and
count the stars, if you are able to count
them." He said to Abram, "So your
offspring will be."
6 He believed in the LORD, who credited
it to him for righteousness.
7 He said to Abram, "I am the LORD who
brought you out of Ur of the Chaldees, to
give you this land to inherit it."

8 He said, "Lord GOD, how will I know
that I will inherit it?"

9 He said to him, "Bring me a heifer
three years old, a female goat three years
old, a ram three years old, a turtledove,
and a young pigeon."
10 He brought him all these, and divided
them in the middle, and laid each half
opposite the other; but he didn't divide
the birds.
11 The birds of prey came down on the
carcasses, and Abram drove them away.

12 When the sun was going down, a
deep sleep fell on Abram. Now terror and
great darkness fell on him.
13 He said to Abram, "Know for sure that
your offspring will live as foreigners in a
land that is not theirs, and will serve them.
They will afflict them four hundred years.
14 I will also judge that nation, whom
they will serve. Afterward they will come
out with great wealth;

† **15:2** The word translated "Lord" is "Adonai".

15 but you will go to your fathers in
peace. You will be buried at a good old
age.
16 In the fourth generation they will
come here again, for the iniquity of the
Amorite is not yet full."
17 It came to pass that, when the sun
went down, and it was dark, behold, a
smoking furnace and a flaming torch
passed between these pieces.
18 In that day the LORD made a
covenant with Abram, saying, "I have
given this land to your offspring, from the
river of Egypt to the great river, the river
Euphrates:
19 the land of the Kenites, the Kenizzites,
the Kadmonites,
20 the Hittites, the Perizzites, the
Rephaim,
21 the Amorites, the Canaanites, the
Girgashites, and the Jebusites."

16

1 Now Sarai, Abram's wife, bore him no
children. She had a servant, an Egyptian,
whose name was Hagar.
2 Sarai said to Abram, "See now, the
LORD has restrained me from bearing.
Please go in to my servant. It may be that I
will obtain children by her." Abram
listened to the voice of Sarai.
3 Sarai, Abram's wife, took Hagar the
Egyptian, her servant, after Abram had
lived ten years in the land of Canaan, and
gave her to Abram her husband to be his
wife.
4 He went in to Hagar, and she
conceived. When she saw that she had
conceived, her mistress was despised in
her eyes.
5 Sarai said to Abram, "This wrong is
your fault. I gave my servant into your
bosom, and when she saw that she had
conceived, she despised me. May the
LORD judge between me and you."
6 But Abram said to Sarai, "Behold, your
maid is in your hand. Do to her whatever
is good in your eyes." Sarai dealt harshly
with her, and she fled from her face.
7 The LORD's angel found her by a
fountain of water in the wilderness, by
the fountain on the way to Shur.
8 He said, "Hagar, Sarai's servant, where
did you come from? Where are you
going?"
She said, "I am fleeing from the face of
my mistress Sarai."
9 The LORD's angel said to her, "Return
to your mistress, and submit yourself
under her hands."
10 The LORD's angel said to her, "I will
greatly multiply your offspring, that they
will not be counted for multitude."
11 The LORD's angel said to her, "Behold,
you are with child, and will bear a son.
You shall call his name Ishmael, because
the LORD has heard your affliction.
12 He will be like a wild donkey among
men. His hand will be against every man,
and every man's hand against him. He
will live opposed to all of his brothers."
13 She called the name of the LORD who
spoke to her, "You are a God who sees," for
she said, "Have I even stayed alive after
seeing him?"
14 Therefore the well was called Beer
Lahai Roi.† Behold, it is between Kadesh
and Bered.
15 Hagar bore a son for Abram. Abram
called the name of his son, whom Hagar
bore, Ishmael.
16 Abram was eighty-six years old when
Hagar bore Ishmael to Abram.

17

1 When Abram was ninety-nine years
old, the LORD appeared to Abram and
said to him, "I am God Almighty. Walk
before me and be blameless.
2 I will make my covenant between me
and you, and will multiply you
exceedingly."
3 Abram fell on his face. God talked with
him, saying,
4 "As for me, behold, my covenant is
with you. You will be the father of a
multitude of nations.
5 Your name will no more be called
Abram, but your name will be Abraham;

† **16:14** Beer Lahai Roi means "well of the one who lives and sees me".

for I have made you the father of a multitude of nations.
6 I will make you exceedingly fruitful,
and I will make nations of you. Kings will
come out of you.
7 I will establish my covenant between
me and you and your offspring after you
throughout their generations for an
everlasting covenant, to be a God to you
and to your offspring after you.
8 I will give to you, and to your offspring
after you, the land where you are
traveling, all the land of Canaan, for an
everlasting possession. I will be their
God."
9 God said to Abraham, "As for you, you
shall keep my covenant, you and your
offspring after you throughout their
generations.
10 This is my covenant, which you shall
keep, between me and you and your
offspring after you. Every male among
you shall be circumcised.
11 You shall be circumcised in the flesh
of your foreskin. It will be a token of the
covenant between me and you.
12 He who is eight days old shall be
circumcised among you, every male
throughout your generations, he who is
born in the house, or bought with money
from any foreigner who is not of your
offspring.
13 He who is born in your house, and he
who is bought with your money, must be
circumcised. My covenant shall be in your
flesh for an everlasting covenant.
14 The uncircumcised male who is not
circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin,
that soul shall be cut off from his people.
He has broken my covenant."
15 God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai
your wife, you shall not call her name
Sarai, but her name shall be Sarah.
16 I will bless her, and moreover I will
give you a son by her. Yes, I will bless her,
and she will be a mother of nations. Kings
of peoples will come from her."
17 Then Abraham fell on his face, and
laughed, and said in his heart, "Will a
child be born to him who is one hundred
years old? Will Sarah, who is ninety years
old, give birth?"
18 Abraham said to God, "Oh that
Ishmael might live before you!"
19 God said, "No, but Sarah, your wife,
will bear you a son. You shall call his
name Isaac.† I will establish my covenant
with him for an everlasting covenant for
his offspring after him.
20 As for Ishmael, I have heard you.
Behold, I have blessed him, and will make
him fruitful, and will multiply him
exceedingly. He will become the father of
twelve princes, and I will make him a
great nation.
21 But I will establish my covenant with
Isaac, whom Sarah will bear to you at this
set time next year."
22 When he finished talking with him,
God went up from Abraham.
23 Abraham took Ishmael his son, all
who were born in his house, and all who
were bought with his money: every male
among the men of Abraham's house, and
circumcised the flesh of their foreskin in
the same day, as God had said to him.
24 Abraham was ninety-nine years old
when he was circumcised in the flesh of
his foreskin.
25 Ishmael, his son, was thirteen years
old when he was circumcised in the flesh
of his foreskin.
26 In the same day both Abraham and
Ishmael, his son, were circumcised.
27 All the men of his house, those born
in the house, and those bought with
money from a foreigner, were
circumcised with him.

18

1 The LORD appeared to him by the oaks
of Mamre, as he sat in the tent door in the
heat of the day.
2 He lifted up his eyes and looked, and
saw that three men stood near him. When
he saw them, he ran to meet them from
the tent door, and bowed himself to the
earth,
3 and said, "My lord, if now I have found
favor in your sight, please don't go away
from your servant.

† **17:19** Isaac means "he laughs".

4 Now let a little water be fetched, wash
your feet, and rest yourselves under the
tree.
5 I will get a piece of bread so you can
refresh your heart. After that you may go
your way, now that you have come to
your servant."
They said, "Very well, do as you have
said."
6 Abraham hurried into the tent to
Sarah, and said, "Quickly prepare three
seahs† of fine meal, knead it, and make
cakes."
7 Abraham ran to the herd, and fetched
a tender and good calf, and gave it to the
servant. He hurried to dress it.
8 He took butter, milk, and the calf
which he had dressed, and set it before
them. He stood by them under the tree,
and they ate.
9 They asked him, "Where is Sarah, your
wife?"
He said, "There, in the tent."
10 He said, "I will certainly return to you
at about this time next year; and behold,
Sarah your wife will have a son."
Sarah heard in the tent door, which was
behind him.
11 Now Abraham and Sarah were old,
well advanced in age. Sarah had passed
the age of childbearing.
12 Sarah laughed within herself, saying,
"After I have grown old will I have
pleasure, my lord being old also?"
13 The LORD said to Abraham, "Why did
Sarah laugh, saying, 'Will I really bear a
child when I am old?'
14 Is anything too hard for the LORD? At
the set time I will return to you, when the
season comes around, and Sarah will
have a son."
15 Then Sarah denied it, saying, "I didn't
laugh," for she was afraid.
He said, "No, but you did laugh."
16 The men rose up from there, and
looked toward Sodom. Abraham went
with them to see them on their way.
17 The LORD said, "Will I hide from
Abraham what I do,
18 since Abraham will surely become a
great and mighty nation, and all the
nations of the earth will be blessed in
him?
19 For I have known him, to the end that
he may command his children and his
household after him, that they may keep
the way of the LORD, to do righteousness
and justice; to the end that the LORD may
bring on Abraham that which he has
spoken of him."
20 The LORD said, "Because the cry of
Sodom and Gomorrah is great, and
because their sin is very grievous,
21 I will go down now, and see whether
their deeds are as bad as the reports
which have come to me. If not, I will
know."
22 The men turned from there, and went
toward Sodom, but Abraham stood yet
before the LORD.
23 Abraham came near, and said, "Will
you consume the righteous with the
wicked?
24 What if there are fifty righteous
within the city? Will you consume and not
spare the place for the fifty righteous who
are in it?
25 May it be far from you to do things
like that, to kill the righteous with the
wicked, so that the righteous should be
like the wicked. May that be far from you.
Shouldn't the Judge of all the earth do
right?"
26 The LORD said, "If I find in Sodom
fifty righteous within the city, then I will
spare the whole place for their sake."
27 Abraham answered, "See now, I have
taken it on myself to speak to the Lord,
although I am dust and ashes.
28 What if there will lack five of the fifty
righteous? Will you destroy all the city for
lack of five?"
He said, "I will not destroy it if I find
forty-five there."
29 He spoke to him yet again, and said,
"What if there are forty found there?"
He said, "I will not do it for the forty's
sake."
30 He said, "Oh don't let the Lord be
angry, and I will speak. What if there are
thirty found there?"

† **18:6** 1 seah is about 7 liters or 1.9 gallons or 0.8 pecks

He said, “I will not do it if I find thirty there.”
31 He said, “See now, I have taken it on myself to speak to the Lord. What if there are twenty found there?”
He said, “I will not destroy it for the twenty’s sake.”
32 He said, “Oh don’t let the Lord be angry, and I will speak just once more. What if ten are found there?”
He said, “I will not destroy it for the ten’s sake.”
33 The LORD went his way as soon as he had finished communing with Abraham, and Abraham returned to his place.

19

1 The two angels came to Sodom at evening. Lot sat in the gate of Sodom. Lot saw them, and rose up to meet them. He bowed himself with his face to the earth,
2 and he said, “See now, my lords, please come into your servant’s house, stay all night, wash your feet, and you can rise up early, and go on your way.”
They said, “No, but we will stay in the street all night.”
3 He urged them greatly, and they came in with him, and entered into his house. He made them a feast, and baked unleavened bread, and they ate.
4 But before they lay down, the men of the city, the men of Sodom, surrounded the house, both young and old, all the people from every quarter.
5 They called to Lot, and said to him, “Where are the men who came in to you this night? Bring them out to us, that we may have sex with them.”
6 Lot went out to them through the door, and shut the door after himself.
7 He said, “Please, my brothers, don’t act so wickedly.
8 See now, I have two virgin daughters. Please let me bring them out to you, and you may do to them what seems good to you. Only don’t do anything to these men, because they have come under the shadow of my roof.”
9 They said, “Stand back!” Then they said, “This one fellow came in to live as a foreigner, and he appoints himself a judge. Now we will deal worse with you than with them!” They pressed hard on the man Lot, and came near to break the door.
10 But the men reached out their hand, and brought Lot into the house to them, and shut the door.
11 They struck the men who were at the door of the house with blindness, both small and great, so that they wearied themselves to find the door.
12 The men said to Lot, “Do you have anybody else here? Sons-in-law, your sons, your daughters, and whomever you have in the city, bring them out of the place:
13 for we will destroy this place, because the outcry against them has grown so great before the LORD that the LORD has sent us to destroy it.”
14 Lot went out, and spoke to his sons-in-law, who were pledged to marry his daughters, and said, “Get up! Get out of this place, for the LORD will destroy the city!”
But he seemed to his sons-in-law to be joking.
15 When the morning came, then the angels hurried Lot, saying, “Get up! Take your wife and your two daughters who are here, lest you be consumed in the iniquity of the city.”
16 But he lingered; and the men grabbed his hand, his wife’s hand, and his two daughters’ hands, the LORD being merciful to him; and they took him out, and set him outside of the city.
17 It came to pass, when they had taken them out, that he said, “Escape for your life! Don’t look behind you, and don’t stay anywhere in the plain. Escape to the mountains, lest you be consumed!”
18 Lot said to them, “Oh, not so, my lord.
19 See now, your servant has found favor in your sight, and you have magnified your loving kindness, which you have shown to me in saving my life. I can’t escape to the mountain, lest evil overtake me, and I die.
20 See now, this city is near to flee to, and it is a little one. Oh let me escape

there (isn't it a little one?), and my soul will live."
21 He said to him, "Behold, I have granted your request concerning this thing also, that I will not overthrow the city of which you have spoken.
22 Hurry, escape there, for I can't do anything until you get there." Therefore the name of the city was called Zoar.†
23 The sun had risen on the earth when Lot came to Zoar.
24 Then the LORD rained on Sodom and on Gomorrah sulfur and fire from the LORD out of the sky.
25 He overthrew those cities, all the plain, all the inhabitants of the cities, and that which grew on the ground.
26 But Lot's wife looked back from behind him, and she became a pillar of salt.
27 Abraham went up early in the morning to the place where he had stood before the LORD.
28 He looked toward Sodom and Gomorrah, and toward all the land of the plain, and saw that the smoke of the land went up as the smoke of a furnace.
29 When God destroyed the cities of the plain, God remembered Abraham, and sent Lot out of the middle of the overthrow, when he overthrew the cities in which Lot lived.
30 Lot went up out of Zoar, and lived in the mountain, and his two daughters with him; for he was afraid to live in Zoar. He lived in a cave with his two daughters.
31 The firstborn said to the younger, "Our father is old, and there is not a man on the earth to come in to us in the way of all the earth.
32 Come, let's make our father drink wine, and we will lie with him, that we may preserve our father's family line."
33 They made their father drink wine that night: and the firstborn went in, and lay with her father. He didn't know when she lay down, nor when she arose.
34 It came to pass on the next day, that the firstborn said to the younger, "Behold, I lay last night with my father. Let's make him drink wine again tonight. You go in, and lie with him, that we may preserve our father's family line."
35 They made their father drink wine that night also. The younger went and lay with him. He didn't know when she lay down, nor when she got up.
36 Thus both of Lot's daughters were with child by their father.
37 The firstborn bore a son, and named him Moab. He is the father of the Moabites to this day.
38 The younger also bore a son, and called his name Ben Ammi. He is the father of the children of Ammon to this day.

20

1 Abraham traveled from there toward the land of the South, and lived between Kadesh and Shur. He lived as a foreigner in Gerar.
2 Abraham said about Sarah his wife, "She is my sister." Abimelech king of Gerar sent, and took Sarah.
3 But God came to Abimelech in a dream of the night, and said to him, "Behold, you are a dead man, because of the woman whom you have taken; for she is a man's wife."
4 Now Abimelech had not come near her. He said, "Lord, will you kill even a righteous nation?
5 Didn't he tell me, 'She is my sister'? She, even she herself, said, 'He is my brother.' I have done this in the integrity of my heart and the innocence of my hands."
6 God said to him in the dream, "Yes, I know that in the integrity of your heart you have done this, and I also withheld you from sinning against me. Therefore I didn't allow you to touch her.
7 Now therefore, restore the man's wife. For he is a prophet, and he will pray for you, and you will live. If you don't restore her, know for sure that you will die, you, and all who are yours."
8 Abimelech rose early in the morning, and called all his servants, and told all these things in their ear. The men were very scared.

† **19:22** Zoar means "little".

9 Then Abimelech called Abraham, and
said to him, “What have you done to us?
How have I sinned against you, that you
have brought on me and on my kingdom a
great sin? You have done deeds to me that
ought not to be done!”
10 Abimelech said to Abraham, “What
did you see, that you have done this
thing?”
11 Abraham said, “Because I thought,
‘Surely the fear of God is not in this place.
They will kill me for my wife’s sake.’
12 Besides, she is indeed my sister, the
daughter of my father, but not the
daughter of my mother; and she became
my wife.
13 When God caused me to wander from
my father’s house, I said to her, ‘This is
your kindness which you shall show to
me. Everywhere that we go, say of me,
“He is my brother.” ’ ”
14 Abimelech took sheep and cattle,
male servants and female servants, and
gave them to Abraham, and restored
Sarah, his wife, to him.
15 Abimelech said, “Behold, my land is
before you. Dwell where it pleases you.”
16 To Sarah he said, “Behold, I have
given your brother a thousand pieces of
silver. Behold, it is for you a covering of
the eyes to all that are with you. In front
of all you are vindicated.”
17 Abraham prayed to God. So God
healed Abimelech, his wife, and his
female servants, and they bore children.
18 For the LORD had closed up tight all
the wombs of the house of Abimelech,
because of Sarah, Abraham’s wife.

21

1 The LORD visited Sarah as he had said,
and the LORD did to Sarah as he had
spoken.
2 Sarah conceived, and bore Abraham a
son in his old age, at the set time of which
God had spoken to him.
3 Abraham called his son who was born
to him, whom Sarah bore to him, Isaac.†
4 Abraham circumcised his son, Isaac,
when he was eight days old, as God had
commanded him.
5 Abraham was one hundred years old
when his son, Isaac, was born to him.
6 Sarah said, “God has made me laugh.
Everyone who hears will laugh with me.”
7 She said, “Who would have said to
Abraham that Sarah would nurse
children? For I have borne him a son in
his old age.”
8 The child grew and was weaned.
Abraham made a great feast on the day
that Isaac was weaned.
9 Sarah saw the son of Hagar the
Egyptian, whom she had borne to
Abraham, mocking.
10 Therefore she said to Abraham, “Cast
out this servant and her son! For the son
of this servant will not be heir with my
son, Isaac.”
11 The thing was very grievous in
Abraham’s sight on account of his son.
12 God said to Abraham, “Don’t let it be
grievous in your sight because of the boy,
and because of your servant. In all that
Sarah says to you, listen to her voice. For
your offspring will be named through
Isaac.
13 I will also make a nation of the son of
the servant, because he is your child.”
14 Abraham rose up early in the
morning, and took bread and a container
of water, and gave it to Hagar, putting it
on her shoulder; and gave her the child,
and sent her away. She departed, and
wandered in the wilderness of Beersheba.
15 The water in the container was spent,
and she put the child under one of the
shrubs.
16 She went and sat down opposite him,
a good way off, about a bow shot away.
For she said, “Don’t let me see the death of
the child.” She sat opposite him, and lifted
up her voice, and wept.
17 God heard the voice of the boy.

The angel of God called to Hagar out of
the sky, and said to her, “What troubles
you, Hagar? Don’t be afraid. For God has
heard the voice of the boy where he is.
18 Get up, lift up the boy, and hold him
with your hand. For I will make him a
great nation.”

† **21:3** Isaac means “He laughs”.

19 God opened her eyes, and she saw a
well of water. She went, filled the
container with water, and gave the boy a
drink.
20 God was with the boy, and he grew.
He lived in the wilderness, and as he grew
up, he became an archer.
21 He lived in the wilderness of Paran.
His mother got a wife for him out of the
land of Egypt.
22 At that time, Abimelech and Phicol
the captain of his army spoke to Abraham,
saying, "God is with you in all that you do.
23 Now, therefore, swear to me here by
God that you will not deal falsely with me,
nor with my son, nor with my son's son.
But according to the kindness that I have
done to you, you shall do to me, and to the
land in which you have lived as a
foreigner."
24 Abraham said, "I will swear."
25 Abraham complained to Abimelech
because of a water well, which
Abimelech's servants had violently taken
away.
26 Abimelech said, "I don't know who
has done this thing. You didn't tell me, and
I didn't hear of it until today."
27 Abraham took sheep and cattle, and
gave them to Abimelech. Those two made
a covenant.
28 Abraham set seven ewe lambs of the
flock by themselves.
29 Abimelech said to Abraham, "What
do these seven ewe lambs, which you
have set by themselves, mean?"
30 He said, "You shall take these seven
ewe lambs from my hand, that it may be a
witness to me, that I have dug this well."
31 Therefore he called that place
Beersheba,‡ because they both swore an
oath there.
32 So they made a covenant at
Beersheba. Abimelech rose up with
Phicol, the captain of his army, and they
returned into the land of the Philistines.
33 Abraham planted a tamarisk tree in
Beersheba, and there he called on the
name of the LORD,§ the Everlasting God.
34 Abraham lived as a foreigner in the
land of the Philistines many days.

22

1 After these things, God tested
Abraham, and said to him, "Abraham!"
He said, "Here I am."
2 He said, "Now take your son, your only
son, Isaac, whom you love, and go into the
land of Moriah. Offer him there as a burnt
offering on one of the mountains which I
will tell you of."
3 Abraham rose early in the morning,
and saddled his donkey; and took two of
his young men with him, and Isaac his
son. He split the wood for the burnt
offering, and rose up, and went to the
place of which God had told him.
4 On the third day Abraham lifted up his
eyes, and saw the place far off.
5 Abraham said to his young men, "Stay
here with the donkey. The boy and I will
go over there. We will worship, and come
back to you."
6 Abraham took the wood of the burnt
offering and laid it on Isaac his son. He
took in his hand the fire and the knife.
They both went together.
7 Isaac spoke to Abraham his father, and
said, "My father?"
He said, "Here I am, my son."
He said, "Here is the fire and the wood,
but where is the lamb for a burnt
offering?"
8 Abraham said, "God will provide
himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my
son." So they both went together.
9 They came to the place which God had
told him of. Abraham built the altar there,
and laid the wood in order, bound Isaac
his son, and laid him on the altar, on the
wood.
10 Abraham stretched out his hand, and
took the knife to kill his son.
11 The LORD's angel called to him out of
the sky, and said, "Abraham, Abraham!"
He said, "Here I am."
12 He said, "Don't lay your hand on the
boy or do anything to him. For now I
know that you fear God, since you have

‡ **21:31** Beersheba can mean "well of the oath" or "well of seven". § **21:33** LORD or GOD in all caps is from the Hebrew יהוה Yahweh except when otherwise noted as being from the short form יה Yah.

not withheld your son, your only son,
from me."
13 Abraham lifted up his eyes, and
looked, and saw that behind him was a
ram caught in the thicket by his horns.
Abraham went and took the ram, and
offered him up for a burnt offering
instead of his son.
14 Abraham called the name of that
place "The LORD Will Provide".† As it is
said to this day, "On the LORD's mountain,
it will be provided."
15 The LORD's angel called to Abraham a
second time out of the sky,
16 and said, " 'I have sworn by myself,'
says the LORD, 'because you have done
this thing, and have not withheld your
son, your only son,
17 that I will bless you greatly, and I will
multiply your offspring greatly like the
stars of the heavens, and like the sand
which is on the seashore. Your offspring
will possess the gate of his enemies.
18 All the nations of the earth will be
blessed by your offspring, because you
have obeyed my voice.' "
19 So Abraham returned to his young
men, and they rose up and went together
to Beersheba. Abraham lived at
Beersheba.
20 After these things, Abraham was told,
"Behold, Milcah, she also has borne
children to your brother Nahor:
21 Uz his firstborn, Buz his brother,
Kemuel the father of Aram,
22 Chesed, Hazo, Pildash, Jidlaph, and
Bethuel."
23 Bethuel became the father of
Rebekah. These eight Milcah bore to
Nahor, Abraham's brother.
24 His concubine, whose name was
Reumah, also bore Tebah, Gaham,
Tahash, and Maacah.

23

1 Sarah lived one hundred twenty-seven
years. This was the length of Sarah's life.
2 Sarah died in Kiriath Arba (also called
Hebron), in the land of Canaan. Abraham
came to mourn for Sarah, and to weep for
her.
3 Abraham rose up from before his dead
and spoke to the children of Heth, saying,
4 "I am a stranger and a foreigner living
with you. Give me a possession of a
burying-place with you, that I may bury
my dead out of my sight."
5 The children of Heth answered
Abraham, saying to him,
6 "Hear us, my lord. You are a prince of
God among us. Bury your dead in the best
of our tombs. None of us will withhold
from you his tomb. Bury your dead."
7 Abraham rose up, and bowed himself
to the people of the land, to the children of
Heth.
8 He talked with them, saying, "If you
agree that I should bury my dead out of
my sight, hear me, and entreat for me to
Ephron the son of Zohar,
9 that he may sell me the cave of
Machpelah, which he has, which is in the
end of his field. For the full price let him
sell it to me among you as a possession for
a burial place."
10 Now Ephron was sitting in the middle
of the children of Heth. Ephron the Hittite
answered Abraham in the hearing of the
children of Heth, even of all who went in
at the gate of his city, saying,
11 "No, my lord, hear me. I give you the
field, and I give you the cave that is in it.
In the presence of the children of my
people I give it to you. Bury your dead."
12 Abraham bowed himself down before
the people of the land.
13 He spoke to Ephron in the audience of
the people of the land, saying, "But if you
will, please hear me. I will give the price
of the field. Take it from me, and I will
bury my dead there."
14 Ephron answered Abraham, saying to
him,
15 "My lord, listen to me. What is a piece
of land worth four hundred shekels of
silver† between me and you? Therefore
bury your dead."
16 Abraham listened to Ephron.
Abraham weighed to Ephron the silver
which he had named in the hearing of the

† **22:14** or, the LORD Jireh, or, the LORD Seeing

† **23:15** A shekel is about 10 grams, so 400 shekels would be about 4 kg. or 8.8 pounds.

children of Heth, four hundred shekels of silver, according to the current merchants' standard.
17 So the field of Ephron, which was in Machpelah, which was before Mamre, the field, the cave which was in it, and all the trees that were in the field, that were in all of its borders, were deeded
18 to Abraham for a possession in the presence of the children of Heth, before all who went in at the gate of his city.
19 After this, Abraham buried Sarah his wife in the cave of the field of Machpelah before Mamre (that is, Hebron), in the land of Canaan.
20 The field, and the cave that is in it, were deeded to Abraham by the children of Heth as a possession for a burial place.

24

1 Abraham was old, and well advanced in age. The LORD had blessed Abraham in all things.
2 Abraham said to his servant, the elder of his house, who ruled over all that he had, "Please put your hand under my thigh.
3 I will make you swear by the LORD, the God of heaven and the God of the earth, that you shall not take a wife for my son of the daughters of the Canaanites, among whom I live.
4 But you shall go to my country, and to my relatives, and take a wife for my son Isaac."
5 The servant said to him, "What if the woman isn't willing to follow me to this land? Must I bring your son again to the land you came from?"
6 Abraham said to him, "Beware that you don't bring my son there again.
7 The LORD, the God of heaven—who took me from my father's house, and from the land of my birth, who spoke to me, and who swore to me, saying, 'I will give this land to your offspring—he will send his angel before you, and you shall take a wife for my son from there.
8 If the woman isn't willing to follow you, then you shall be clear from this oath to me. Only you shall not bring my son there again."
9 The servant put his hand under the thigh of Abraham his master, and swore to him concerning this matter.
10 The servant took ten of his master's camels, and departed, having a variety of good things of his master's with him. He arose, and went to Mesopotamia, to the city of Nahor.
11 He made the camels kneel down outside the city by the well of water at the time of evening, the time that women go out to draw water.
12 He said, "LORD, the God of my master Abraham, please give me success today, and show kindness to my master Abraham.
13 Behold, I am standing by the spring of water. The daughters of the men of the city are coming out to draw water.
14 Let it happen, that the young lady to whom I will say, 'Please let down your pitcher, that I may drink,' then she says, 'Drink, and I will also give your camels a drink,'—let her be the one you have appointed for your servant Isaac. By this I will know that you have shown kindness to my master."
15 Before he had finished speaking, behold, Rebekah came out, who was born to Bethuel the son of Milcah, the wife of Nahor, Abraham's brother, with her pitcher on her shoulder.
16 The young lady was very beautiful to look at, a virgin. No man had known her. She went down to the spring, filled her pitcher, and came up.
17 The servant ran to meet her, and said, "Please give me a drink, a little water from your pitcher."
18 She said, "Drink, my lord." She hurried, and let down her pitcher on her hand, and gave him a drink.
19 When she had finished giving him a drink, she said, "I will also draw for your camels, until they have finished drinking."
20 She hurried, and emptied her pitcher into the trough, and ran again to the well to draw, and drew for all his camels.
21 The man looked steadfastly at her, remaining silent, to know whether the

LORD had made his journey prosperous or not.
22 As the camels had finished drinking,
the man took a golden ring of half a
shekel† weight, and two bracelets for her
hands of ten shekels weight of gold,
23 and said, “Whose daughter are you?
Please tell me. Is there room in your
father’s house for us to stay?”
24 She said to him, “I am the daughter of
Bethuel the son of Milcah, whom she bore
to Nahor.”
25 She said moreover to him, “We have
both straw and feed enough, and room to
lodge in.”
26 The man bowed his head, and
worshiped the LORD.
27 He said, “Blessed be the LORD, the
God of my master Abraham, who has not
forsaken his loving kindness and his truth
toward my master. As for me, the LORD
has led me on the way to the house of my
master’s relatives.”
28 The young lady ran, and told her
mother’s house about these words.
29 Rebekah had a brother, and his name
was Laban. Laban ran out to the man, to
the spring.
30 When he saw the ring, and the
bracelets on his sister’s hands, and when
he heard the words of Rebekah his sister,
saying, “This is what the man said to me,”
he came to the man. Behold, he was
standing by the camels at the spring.
31 He said, “Come in, you blessed of the
LORD. Why do you stand outside? For I
have prepared the house, and room for
the camels.”
32 The man came into the house, and he
unloaded the camels. He gave straw and
feed for the camels, and water to wash his
feet and the feet of the men who were
with him.
33 Food was set before him to eat, but he
said, “I will not eat until I have told my
message.”

Laban said, “Speak on.”

34 He said, “I am Abraham’s servant.
35 The LORD has blessed my master
greatly. He has become great. The LORD
has given him flocks and herds, silver and
gold, male servants and female servants,
and camels and donkeys.
36 Sarah, my master’s wife, bore a son to
my master when she was old. He has
given all that he has to him.
37 My master made me swear, saying,
‘You shall not take a wife for my son from
the daughters of the Canaanites, in whose
land I live,
38 but you shall go to my father’s house,
and to my relatives, and take a wife for
my son.’
39 I asked my master, ‘What if the
woman will not follow me?’
40 He said to me, ‘The LORD, before
whom I walk, will send his angel with you,
and prosper your way. You shall take a
wife for my son from my relatives, and of
my father’s house.
41 Then you will be clear from my oath,
when you come to my relatives. If they
don’t give her to you, you shall be clear
from my oath.’
42 I came today to the spring, and said,
‘The LORD, the God of my master
Abraham, if now you do prosper my way
which I go—
43 behold, I am standing by this spring
of water. Let it happen, that the maiden
who comes out to draw, to whom I will
say, “Please give me a little water from
your pitcher to drink,”
44 then she tells me, “Drink, and I will
also draw for your camels,”—let her be the
woman whom the LORD has appointed
for my master’s son.’
45 Before I had finished speaking in my
heart, behold, Rebekah came out with her
pitcher on her shoulder. She went down
to the spring, and drew. I said to her,
‘Please let me drink.’
46 She hurried and let down her pitcher
from her shoulder, and said, ‘Drink, and I
will also give your camels a drink.’ So I
drank, and she also gave the camels a
drink.
47 I asked her, and said, ‘Whose
daughter are you?’ She said, ‘The
daughter of Bethuel, Nahor’s son, whom
Milcah bore to him.’ I put the ring on her

† **24:22** A shekel is about 10 grams or about 0.35 ounces.

nose, and the bracelets on her hands.
48 I bowed my head, and worshiped the
LORD, and blessed the LORD, the God of
my master Abraham, who had led me in
the right way to take my master's
brother's daughter for his son.
49 Now if you will deal kindly and truly
with my master, tell me. If not, tell me,
that I may turn to the right hand, or to the
left."
50 Then Laban and Bethuel answered,
"The thing proceeds from the LORD. We
can't speak to you bad or good.
51 Behold, Rebekah is before you. Take
her, and go, and let her be your master's
son's wife, as the LORD has spoken."
52 When Abraham's servant heard their
words, he bowed himself down to the
earth to the LORD.
53 The servant brought out jewels of
silver, and jewels of gold, and clothing,
and gave them to Rebekah. He also gave
precious things to her brother and her
mother.
54 They ate and drank, he and the men
who were with him, and stayed all night.
They rose up in the morning, and he said,
"Send me away to my master."
55 Her brother and her mother said, "Let
the young lady stay with us a few days, at
least ten. After that she will go."
56 He said to them, "Don't hinder me,
since the LORD has prospered my way.
Send me away that I may go to my
master."
57 They said, "We will call the young
lady, and ask her."
58 They called Rebekah, and said to her,
"Will you go with this man?"
She said, "I will go."
59 They sent away Rebekah, their sister,
with her nurse, Abraham's servant, and
his men.
60 They blessed Rebekah, and said to
her, "Our sister, may you be the mother of
thousands of ten thousands, and let your
offspring possess the gate of those who
hate them."
61 Rebekah arose with her ladies. They
rode on the camels, and followed the man.
The servant took Rebekah, and went his
way.
62 Isaac came from the way of Beer
Lahai Roi, for he lived in the land of the
South.
63 Isaac went out to meditate in the field
at the evening. He lifted up his eyes and
looked. Behold, there were camels
coming.
64 Rebekah lifted up her eyes, and when
she saw Isaac, she got off the camel.
65 She said to the servant, "Who is the
man who is walking in the field to meet
us?"
The servant said, "It is my master."
She took her veil, and covered herself.
66 The servant told Isaac all the things
that he had done.
67 Isaac brought her into his mother
Sarah's tent, and took Rebekah, and she
became his wife. He loved her. So Isaac
was comforted after his mother's death.

25

1 Abraham took another wife, and her
name was Keturah.
2 She bore him Zimran, Jokshan, Medan,
Midian, Ishbak, and Shuah.
3 Jokshan became the father of Sheba,
and Dedan. The sons of Dedan were
Asshurim, Letushim, and Leummim.
4 The sons of Midian were Ephah,
Epher, Hanoch, Abida, and Eldaah. All
these were the children of Keturah.
5 Abraham gave all that he had to Isaac,
6 but Abraham gave gifts to the sons of
Abraham's concubines. While he still
lived, he sent them away from Isaac his
son, eastward, to the east country.
7 These are the days of the years of
Abraham's life which he lived: one
hundred seventy-five years.
8 Abraham gave up his spirit, and died
at a good old age, an old man, and full of
years, and was gathered to his people.
9 Isaac and Ishmael, his sons, buried
him in the cave of Machpelah, in the field
of Ephron, the son of Zohar the Hittite,
which is near Mamre,
10 the field which Abraham purchased
from the children of Heth. Abraham was
buried there with Sarah, his wife.
11 After the death of Abraham, God
blessed Isaac, his son. Isaac lived by Beer
Lahai Roi.

12 Now this is the history of the
generations of Ishmael, Abraham's son,
whom Hagar the Egyptian, Sarah's
servant, bore to Abraham.
13 These are the names of the sons of
Ishmael, by their names, according to the
order of their birth: the firstborn of
Ishmael, Nebaioth, then Kedar, Adbeel,
Mibsam,
14 Mishma, Dumah, Massa,
15 Hadad, Tema, Jetur, Naphish, and
Kedemah.
16 These are the sons of Ishmael, and
these are their names, by their villages,
and by their encampments: twelve
princes, according to their nations.
17 These are the years of the life of
Ishmael: one hundred thirty-seven years.
He gave up his spirit and died, and was
gathered to his people.
18 They lived from Havilah to Shur that
is before Egypt, as you go toward Assyria.
He lived opposite all his relatives.
19 This is the history of the generations
of Isaac, Abraham's son. Abraham
became the father of Isaac.
20 Isaac was forty years old when he
took Rebekah, the daughter of Bethuel the
Syrian of Paddan Aram, the sister of
Laban the Syrian, to be his wife.
21 Isaac entreated the LORD for his wife,
because she was barren. The LORD was
entreated by him, and Rebekah his wife
conceived.
22 The children struggled together
within her. She said, "If it is like this, why
do I live?" She went to inquire of the
LORD.
23 The LORD said to her,

"Two nations are in your womb.
Two peoples will be separated from your
body.
The one people will be stronger than the
other people.
The elder will serve the younger."

24 When her days to be delivered were
fulfilled, behold, there were twins in her
womb.
25 The first came out red all over, like a
hairy garment. They named him Esau.
26 After that, his brother came out, and
his hand had hold on Esau's heel. He was
named Jacob. Isaac was sixty years old
when she bore them.
27 The boys grew. Esau was a skillful
hunter, a man of the field. Jacob was a
quiet man, living in tents.
28 Now Isaac loved Esau, because he ate
his venison. Rebekah loved Jacob.
29 Jacob boiled stew. Esau came in from
the field, and he was famished.
30 Esau said to Jacob, "Please feed me
with some of that red stew, for I am
famished." Therefore his name was called
Edom.†
31 Jacob said, "First, sell me your
birthright."
32 Esau said, "Behold, I am about to die.
What good is the birthright to me?"
33 Jacob said, "Swear to me first."
He swore to him. He sold his birthright
to Jacob.
34 Jacob gave Esau bread and lentil
stew. He ate and drank, rose up, and went
his way. So Esau despised his birthright.

26

1 There was a famine in the land, in
addition to the first famine that was in the
days of Abraham. Isaac went to
Abimelech king of the Philistines, to
Gerar.
2 The LORD appeared to him, and said,
"Don't go down into Egypt. Live in the
land I will tell you about.
3 Live in this land, and I will be with
you, and will bless you. For I will give to
you, and to your offspring, all these lands,
and I will establish the oath which I swore
to Abraham your father.
4 I will multiply your offspring as the
stars of the sky, and will give all these
lands to your offspring. In your offspring
all the nations of the earth will be blessed,
5 because Abraham obeyed my voice,
and kept my requirements, my
commandments, my statutes, and my
laws."
6 Isaac lived in Gerar.
7 The men of the place asked him about
his wife. He said, "She is my sister," for he

† **25:30** "Edom" means "red".

was afraid to say, “My wife”, lest, he thought, “the men of the place might kill me for Rebekah, because she is beautiful to look at.”
8 When he had been there a long time, Abimelech king of the Philistines looked out at a window, and saw, and, behold, Isaac was caressing Rebekah, his wife.
9 Abimelech called Isaac, and said, “Behold, surely she is your wife. Why did you say, ‘She is my sister’?”

Isaac said to him, “Because I said, ‘Lest I die because of her.’ ”
10 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!”

11 Abimelech commanded all the people, saying, “He who touches this man or his wife will surely be put to death.”

12 Isaac sowed in that land, and reaped in the same year one hundred times what he planted. The LORD blessed him.
13 The man grew great, and grew more and more until he became very great.
14 He had possessions of flocks, possessions of herds, and a great household. The Philistines envied him.
15 Now all the wells which his father’s servants had dug in the days of Abraham his father, the Philistines had stopped, and filled with earth.
16 Abimelech said to Isaac, “Go away from us, for you are much mightier than we.”
17 Isaac departed from there, encamped in the valley of Gerar, and lived there.

18 Isaac dug again the wells of water, which they had dug in the days of Abraham his father, for the Philistines had stopped them after the death of Abraham. He called their names after the names by which his father had called them.
19 Isaac’s servants dug in the valley, and found there a well of flowing† water.
20 The herdsmen of Gerar argued with Isaac’s herdsmen, saying, “The water is ours.” So he called the name of the well Esek,‡ because they contended with him.
21 They dug another well, and they argued over that, also. So he called its name Sitnah.§
22 He left that place, and dug another well. They didn’t argue over that one. So he called it Rehoboth.† He said, “For now the LORD has made room for us, and we will be fruitful in the land.”
23 He went up from there to Beersheba.
24 The LORD appeared to him the same night, and said, “I am the God of Abraham your father. Don’t be afraid, for I am with you, and will bless you, and multiply your offspring for my servant Abraham’s sake.”
25 He built an altar there, and called on the LORD’s name, and pitched his tent there. There Isaac’s servants dug a well.
26 Then Abimelech went to him from Gerar with Ahuzzath his friend, and Phicol the captain of his army.
27 Isaac said to them, “Why have you come to me, since you hate me, and have sent me away from you?”
28 They said, “We saw plainly that the LORD was with you. We said, ‘Let there now be an oath between us, even between us and you, and let’s make a covenant with you,
29 that you will do us no harm, as we have not touched you, and as we have done to you nothing but good, and have sent you away in peace.’ You are now the blessed of the LORD.”
30 He made them a feast, and they ate and drank.
31 They rose up some time in the morning, and swore an oath to one another. Isaac sent them away, and they departed from him in peace.
32 The same day, Isaac’s servants came, and told him concerning the well which they had dug, and said to him, “We have found water.”
33 He called it “Shibah”.‡ Therefore the name of the city is “Beersheba”§ to this day.

† **26:19** Or, living. Or, fresh. ‡ **26:20** “Esek” means “contention”. § **26:21** “Sitnah” means “hostility”. † **26:22** “Rehoboth” means “broad places”. ‡ **26:33** Shibah means “oath” or “seven”. § **26:33** Beersheba means “well of the oath” or “well of the seven”

34 When Esau was forty years old, he
took as wife Judith, the daughter of Beeri
the Hittite, and Basemath, the daughter of
Elon the Hittite.
35 They grieved Isaac's and Rebekah's
spirits.

27

1 When Isaac was old, and his eyes were
dim, so that he could not see, he called
Esau his elder son, and said to him, "My
son?"
He said to him, "Here I am."
2 He said, "See now, I am old. I don't
know the day of my death.
3 Now therefore, please take your
weapons, your quiver and your bow, and
go out to the field, and get me venison.
4 Make me savory food, such as I love,
and bring it to me, that I may eat, and that
my soul may bless you before I die."
5 Rebekah heard when Isaac spoke to
Esau his son. Esau went to the field to
hunt for venison, and to bring it.
6 Rebekah spoke to Jacob her son,
saying, "Behold, I heard your father speak
to Esau your brother, saying,
7 'Bring me venison, and make me
savory food, that I may eat, and bless you
before the LORD before my death.'
8 Now therefore, my son, obey my voice
according to that which I command you.
9 Go now to the flock and get me two
good young goats from there. I will make
them savory food for your father, such as
he loves.
10 You shall bring it to your father, that
he may eat, so that he may bless you
before his death."
11 Jacob said to Rebekah his mother,
"Behold, Esau my brother is a hairy man,
and I am a smooth man.
12 What if my father touches me? I will
seem to him as a deceiver, and I would
bring a curse on myself, and not a
blessing."
13 His mother said to him, "Let your
curse be on me, my son. Only obey my
voice, and go get them for me."
14 He went, and got them, and brought
them to his mother. His mother made
savory food, such as his father loved.
15 Rebekah took the good clothes of
Esau, her elder son, which were with her
in the house, and put them on Jacob, her
younger son.
16 She put the skins of the young goats
on his hands, and on the smooth of his
neck.
17 She gave the savory food and the
bread, which she had prepared, into the
hand of her son Jacob.
18 He came to his father, and said, "My
father?"
He said, "Here I am. Who are you, my
son?"
19 Jacob said to his father, "I am Esau
your firstborn. I have done what you
asked me to do. Please arise, sit and eat of
my venison, that your soul may bless me."
20 Isaac said to his son, "How is it that
you have found it so quickly, my son?"
He said, "Because the LORD your God
gave me success."
21 Isaac said to Jacob, "Please come near,
that I may feel you, my son, whether you
are really my son Esau or not."
22 Jacob went near to Isaac his father.
He felt him, and said, "The voice is Jacob's
voice, but the hands are the hands of
Esau."
23 He didn't recognize him, because his
hands were hairy, like his brother Esau's
hands. So he blessed him.
24 He said, "Are you really my son
Esau?"
He said, "I am."
25 He said, "Bring it near to me, and I
will eat of my son's venison, that my soul
may bless you."
He brought it near to him, and he ate.
He brought him wine, and he drank.
26 His father Isaac said to him, "Come
near now, and kiss me, my son."
27 He came near, and kissed him. He
smelled the smell of his clothing, and
blessed him, and said,
"Behold, the smell of my son
is as the smell of a field which the
LORD has blessed.
28 God give you of the dew of the sky,
of the fatness of the earth,
and plenty of grain and new wine.
29 Let peoples serve you,
and nations bow down to you.

Be lord over your brothers.
Let your mother's sons bow down to you.
Cursed be everyone who curses you.
Blessed be everyone who blesses you."
30 As soon as Isaac had finished blessing
Jacob, and Jacob had just gone out from
the presence of Isaac his father, Esau his
brother came in from his hunting.
31 He also made savory food, and
brought it to his father. He said to his
father, "Let my father arise, and eat of his
son's venison, that your soul may bless
me."
32 Isaac his father said to him, "Who are
you?"
He said, "I am your son, your firstborn,
Esau."
33 Isaac trembled violently, and said,
"Who, then, is he who has taken venison,
and brought it to me, and I have eaten of
all before you came, and have blessed
him? Yes, he will be blessed."
34 When Esau heard the words of his
father, he cried with an exceedingly great
and bitter cry, and said to his father,
"Bless me, even me also, my father."
35 He said, "Your brother came with
deceit, and has taken away your blessing."
36 He said, "Isn't he rightly named
Jacob? For he has supplanted me these
two times. He took away my birthright.
See, now he has taken away my blessing."
He said, "Haven't you reserved a blessing
for me?"
37 Isaac answered Esau, "Behold, I have
made him your lord, and all his brothers I
have given to him for servants. I have
sustained him with grain and new wine.
What then will I do for you, my son?"
38 Esau said to his father, "Do you have
just one blessing, my father? Bless me,
even me also, my father." Esau lifted up
his voice, and wept.
39 Isaac his father answered him,
"Behold, your dwelling will be of the
fatness of the earth,
and of the dew of the sky from above.
40 You will live by your sword, and you
will serve your brother.
It will happen, when you will break loose,
that you will shake his yoke from off your
neck."
41 Esau hated Jacob because of the
blessing with which his father blessed
him. Esau said in his heart, "The days of
mourning for my father are at hand. Then
I will kill my brother Jacob."
42 The words of Esau, her elder son,
were told to Rebekah. She sent and called
Jacob, her younger son, and said to him,
"Behold, your brother Esau comforts
himself about you by planning to kill you.
43 Now therefore, my son, obey my
voice. Arise, flee to Laban, my brother, in
Haran.
44 Stay with him a few days, until your
brother's fury turns away—
45 until your brother's anger 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 be bereaved of
you both in one day?"
46 Rebekah said to Isaac, "I am weary of
my life because of the daughters of Heth.
If Jacob takes a wife of the daughters of
Heth, such as these, of the daughters of
the land, what good will my life do me?"

28

1 Isaac called Jacob, blessed him, and
commanded him, "You shall not take a
wife of the daughters of Canaan.
2 Arise, go to Paddan Aram, to the house
of Bethuel your mother's father. Take a
wife from there from the daughters of
Laban, your mother's brother.
3 May God Almighty bless you, and
make you fruitful, and multiply you, that
you may be a company of peoples,
4 and give you the blessing of Abraham,
to you and to your offspring with you, that
you may inherit the land where you
travel, which God gave to Abraham."
5 Isaac sent Jacob away. He went to
Paddan Aram to Laban, son of Bethuel the
Syrian, the brother of Rebekah, Jacob's
and Esau's mother.
6 Now Esau saw that Isaac had blessed
Jacob and sent him away to Paddan Aram,
to take him a wife from there, and that as
he blessed him he gave him a command,

saying, “You shall not take a wife of the daughters of Canaan;”
7 and that Jacob obeyed his father and his mother, and was gone to Paddan Aram.
8 Esau saw that the daughters of Canaan didn’t please Isaac, his father.
9 So Esau went to Ishmael, and took, in addition to the wives that he had, Mahalath the daughter of Ishmael, Abraham’s son, the sister of Nebaioth, to be his wife.

10 Jacob went out from Beersheba, and went toward Haran.
11 He came to a certain place, and stayed there all night, because the sun had set. He took one of the stones of the place, and put it under his head, and lay down in that place to sleep.
12 He dreamed and saw a stairway set upon the earth, and its top reached to heaven. Behold, the angels of God were ascending and descending on it.
13 Behold, the LORD stood above it, and said, “I am the LORD, the God of Abraham your father, and the God of Isaac. I will give the land you lie on to you and to your offspring.
14 Your offspring will be as the dust of the earth, and you will spread abroad to the west, and to the east, and to the north, and to the south. In you and in your offspring, all the families of the earth will be blessed.
15 Behold, I am with you, and will keep you, wherever you go, and will bring you again into this land. For I will not leave you until I have done that which I have spoken of to you.”

16 Jacob awakened out of his sleep, and he said, “Surely the LORD is in this place, and I didn’t know it.”
17 He was afraid, and said, “How awesome this place is! This is none other than God’s house, and this is the gate of heaven.”

18 Jacob rose up early in the morning, and took the stone that he had put under his head, and set it up for a pillar, and poured oil on its top.
19 He called the name of that place Bethel, but the name of the city was Luz at the first.
20 Jacob vowed a vow, saying, “If God will be with me, and will keep me in this way that I go, and will give me bread to eat, and clothing to put on,
21 so that I come again to my father’s house in peace, and the LORD will be my God,
22 then this stone, which I have set up for a pillar, will be God’s house. Of all that you will give me I will surely give a tenth to you.”

29

1 Then Jacob went on his journey, and came to the land of the children of the east.
2 He looked, and saw a well in the field, and saw three flocks of sheep lying there by it. For out of that well they watered the flocks. The stone on the well’s mouth was large.
3 There all the flocks were gathered. They rolled the stone from the well’s mouth, and watered the sheep, and put the stone back on the well’s mouth in its place.
4 Jacob said to them, “My relatives, where are you from?”
They said, “We are from Haran.”
5 He said to them, “Do you know Laban, the son of Nahor?”
They said, “We know him.”
6 He said to them, “Is it well with him?”
They said, “It is well. See, Rachel, his daughter, is coming with the sheep.”
7 He said, “Behold, it is still the middle of the day, not time to gather the livestock together. Water the sheep, and go and feed them.”
8 They said, “We can’t, until all the flocks are gathered together, and they roll the stone from the well’s mouth. Then we will water the sheep.”
9 While he was yet speaking with them, Rachel came with her father’s sheep, for she kept them.
10 When Jacob saw Rachel the daughter of Laban, his mother’s brother, and the sheep of Laban, his mother’s brother,

Jacob went near, and rolled the stone
from the well's mouth, and watered the
flock of Laban his mother's brother.
11 Jacob kissed Rachel, and lifted up his
voice, and wept.
12 Jacob told Rachel that he was her
father's relative, and that he was
Rebekah's son. She ran and told her
father.
13 When Laban heard the news of Jacob,
his sister's son, he ran to meet Jacob, and
embraced him, and kissed him, and
brought him to his house. Jacob told
Laban all these things.
14 Laban said to him, "Surely you are my
bone and my flesh." Jacob stayed with
him for a month.
15 Laban said to Jacob, "Because you are
my relative, should you therefore serve
me for nothing? Tell me, what will your
wages be?"
16 Laban had two daughters. The name
of the elder was Leah, and the name of the
younger was Rachel.
17 Leah's eyes were weak, but Rachel
was beautiful in form and attractive.
18 Jacob loved Rachel. He said, "I will
serve you seven years for Rachel, your
younger daughter."
19 Laban said, "It is better that I give her
to you, than that I should give her to
another man. Stay with me."
20 Jacob served seven years for Rachel.
They seemed to him but a few days, for
the love he had for her.
21 Jacob said to Laban, "Give me my
wife, for my days are fulfilled, that I may
go in to her."
22 Laban gathered together all the men
of the place, and made a feast.
23 In the evening, he took Leah his
daughter, and brought her to Jacob. He
went in to her.
24 Laban gave Zilpah his servant to his
daughter Leah for a servant.
25 In the morning, behold, it was Leah!
He said to Laban, "What is this you have
done to me? Didn't I serve with you for
Rachel? Why then have you deceived
me?"
26 Laban said, "It is not done so in our
place, to give the younger before the
firstborn.
27 Fulfill the week of this one, and we
will give you the other also for the service
which you will serve with me for seven
more years."
28 Jacob did so, and fulfilled her week.
He gave him Rachel his daughter as wife.
29 Laban gave Bilhah, his servant, to his
daughter Rachel to be her servant.
30 He went in also to Rachel, and he
loved also Rachel more than Leah, and
served with him seven more years.
31 The LORD saw that Leah was hated,
and he opened her womb, but Rachel was
barren.
32 Leah conceived, and bore a son, and
she named him Reuben. For she said,
"Because the LORD has looked at my
affliction; for now my husband will love
me."
33 She conceived again, and bore a son,
and said, "Because the LORD has heard
that I am hated, he has therefore given me
this son also." She named him Simeon.
34 She conceived again, and bore a son.
She said, "Now this time my husband will
be joined to me, because I have borne him
three sons." Therefore his name was
called Levi.
35 She conceived again, and bore a son.
She said, "This time I will praise the
LORD." Therefore she named him Judah.
Then she stopped bearing.

30

1 When Rachel saw that she bore Jacob
no children, Rachel envied her sister. She
said to Jacob, "Give me children, or else I
will die."
2 Jacob's anger burned against Rachel,
and he said, "Am I in God's place, who has
withheld from you the fruit of the womb?"
3 She said, "Behold, my maid Bilhah. Go
in to her, that she may bear on my knees,
and I also may obtain children by her."
4 She gave him Bilhah her servant as
wife, and Jacob went in to her.
5 Bilhah conceived, and bore Jacob a
son.

6 Rachel said, “God has judged me, and
has also heard my voice, and has given me
a son.” Therefore she called his name Dan.
7 Bilhah, Rachel’s servant, conceived
again, and bore Jacob a second son.
8 Rachel said, “I have wrestled with my
sister with mighty wrestlings, and have
prevailed.” She named him Naphtali.
9 When Leah saw that she had finished
bearing, she took Zilpah, her servant, and
gave her to Jacob as a wife.
10 Zilpah, Leah’s servant, bore Jacob a
son.
11 Leah said, “How fortunate!” She
named him Gad.
12 Zilpah, Leah’s servant, bore Jacob a
second son.
13 Leah said, “Happy am I, for the
daughters will call me happy.” She named
him Asher.
14 Reuben went in the days of wheat
harvest, and found mandrakes in the
field, and brought them to his mother,
Leah. Then Rachel said to Leah, “Please
give me some of your son’s mandrakes.”
15 Leah said to her, “Is it a small matter
that you have taken away my husband?
Would you take away my son’s
mandrakes, also?”
Rachel said, “Therefore he will lie with
you tonight for your son’s mandrakes.”
16 Jacob came from the field in the
evening, and Leah went out to meet him,
and said, “You must come in to me; for I
have surely hired you with my son’s
mandrakes.”
He lay with her that night.
17 God listened to Leah, and she
conceived, and bore Jacob a fifth son.
18 Leah said, “God has given me my hire,
because I gave my servant to my
husband.” She named him Issachar.
19 Leah conceived again, and bore a
sixth son to Jacob.
20 Leah said, “God has endowed me with
a good dowry. Now my husband will live
with me, because I have borne him six
sons.” She named him Zebulun.
21 Afterwards, she bore a daughter, and
named her Dinah.
22 God remembered Rachel, and God
listened to her, and opened her womb.
23 She conceived, bore a son, and said,
“God has taken away my reproach.”
24 She named him Joseph,† saying, “May
the LORD add another son to me.”
25 When Rachel had borne Joseph, Jacob
said to Laban, “Send me away, that I may
go to my own place, and to my country.
26 Give me my wives and my children
for whom I have served you, and let me
go; for you know my service with which I
have served you.”
27 Laban said to him, “If now I have
found favor in your eyes, stay here, for I
have divined that the LORD has blessed
me for your sake.”
28 He said, “Appoint me your wages, and
I will give it.”
29 Jacob said to him, “You know how I
have served you, and how your livestock
have fared with me.
30 For it was little which you had before
I came, and it has increased to a
multitude. The LORD has blessed you
wherever I turned. Now when will I
provide for my own house also?”
31 Laban said, “What shall I give you?”
Jacob said, “You shall not give me
anything. If you will do this thing for me, I
will again feed your flock and keep it.
32 I will pass through all your flock
today, removing from there every
speckled and spotted one, and every black
one among the sheep, and the spotted and
speckled among the goats. This will be my
hire.
33 So my righteousness will answer for
me hereafter, when you come concerning
my hire that is before you. Every one that
is not speckled and spotted among the
goats, and black among the sheep, that
might be with me, will be considered
stolen.”
34 Laban said, “Behold, let it be
according to your word.”
35 That day, he removed the male goats
that were streaked and spotted, and all
the female goats that were speckled and
spotted, every one that had white in it,
and all the black ones among the sheep,
and gave them into the hand of his sons.

† **30:24** Joseph means “may he add”.

36 He set three days' journey between
himself and Jacob, and Jacob fed the rest
of Laban's flocks.
37 Jacob took to himself rods of fresh
poplar, almond, and plane tree, peeled
white streaks in them, and made the
white appear which was in the rods.
38 He set the rods which he had peeled
opposite the flocks in the watering
troughs where the flocks came to drink.
They conceived when they came to drink.
39 The flocks conceived before the rods,
and the flocks produced streaked,
speckled, and spotted.
40 Jacob separated the lambs, and set the
faces of the flocks toward the streaked
and all the black in Laban's flock. He put
his own droves apart, and didn't put them
into Laban's flock.
41 Whenever the stronger of the flock
conceived, Jacob laid the rods in front of
the eyes of the flock in the watering
troughs, that they might conceive among
the rods;
42 but when the flock were feeble, he
didn't put them in. So the feebler were
Laban's, and the stronger Jacob's.
43 The man increased exceedingly, and
had large flocks, female servants and
male servants, and camels and donkeys.

31

1 Jacob heard Laban's sons' words,
saying, "Jacob has taken away all that was
our father's. He has obtained all this
wealth from that which was our father's."
2 Jacob saw the expression on Laban's
face, and, behold, it was not toward him
as before.
3 The LORD 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 flock,
5 and said to them, "I see the expression
on your father's face, that it is not toward
me as before; but the God of my father has
been with me.
6 You know that I have served your
father with all of my strength.
7 Your father has deceived me, and
changed my wages ten times, but God
didn't allow him to hurt me.
8 If he said, 'The speckled will be your
wages,' then all the flock bore speckled. If
he said, 'The streaked will be your wages,'
then all the flock bore streaked.
9 Thus God has taken away your father's
livestock, and given them to me.
10 During mating season, I lifted up my
eyes, and saw in a dream, and behold, the
male goats which leaped on the flock were
streaked, speckled, and grizzled.
11 The angel of God said to me in the
dream, 'Jacob,' and I said, 'Here I am.'
12 He said, 'Now lift up your eyes, and
behold, all the male goats which leap on
the flock are streaked, speckled, and
grizzled, for I have seen all that Laban
does to you.
13 I am the God of Bethel, where you
anointed a pillar, where you vowed a vow
to me. Now arise, get out from this land,
and return to the land of your birth.' "
14 Rachel and Leah answered him, "Is
there yet any portion or inheritance for us
in our father's house?
15 Aren't we considered as foreigners by
him? For he has sold us, and has also used
up our money.
16 For all the riches which God has taken
away from our father are ours and our
children's. Now then, whatever God has
said to you, do."
17 Then Jacob rose up, and set his sons
and his wives on the camels,
18 and he took away all his livestock,
and all his possessions which he had
gathered, including the livestock which
he had gained in Paddan Aram, to go to
Isaac his father, to the land of Canaan.
19 Now Laban had gone to shear his
sheep; and Rachel stole the teraphim† that
were her father's.
20 Jacob deceived Laban the Syrian, in
that he didn't tell him that he was running
away.
21 So he fled with all that he had. He
rose up, passed over the River, and set his
face toward the mountain of Gilead.

† **31:19** teraphim were household idols that may have been associated with inheritance rights to the household property.

22 Laban was told on the third day that
Jacob had fled.
23 He took his relatives with him, and
pursued him seven days' journey. He
overtook him in the mountain of Gilead.
24 God came to Laban the Syrian in a
dream of the night, and said to him, "Be
careful that you don't speak to Jacob
either good or bad."
25 Laban caught up with Jacob. Now
Jacob had pitched his tent in the
mountain, and Laban with his relatives
encamped in the mountain of Gilead.
26 Laban said to Jacob, "What have you
done, that you have deceived me, and
carried away my daughters like captives
of the sword?
27 Why did you flee secretly, and
deceive me, and didn't tell me, that I might
have sent you away with mirth and with
songs, with tambourine and with harp;
28 and didn't allow me to kiss my sons
and my daughters? Now you have done
foolishly.
29 It is in the power of my hand to hurt
you, but the God of your father spoke to
me last night, saying, 'Be careful that you
don't speak to Jacob either good or bad.'
30 Now, you want to be gone, because
you greatly longed for your father's
house, but why have you stolen my gods?"
31 Jacob answered Laban, "Because I
was afraid, for I said, 'Lest you should take
your daughters from me by force.'
32 Anyone you find your gods with shall
not live. Before our relatives, discern
what is yours with me, and take it." For
Jacob didn't know that Rachel had stolen
them.
33 Laban went into Jacob's tent, into
Leah's tent, and into the tent of the two
female servants; but he didn't find them.
He went out of Leah's tent, and entered
into Rachel's tent.
34 Now Rachel had taken the teraphim,
put them in the camel's saddle, and sat on
them. Laban felt around all the tent, but
didn't find them.
35 She said to her father, "Don't let my
lord be angry that I can't rise up before
you; for I'm having my period." He
searched, but didn't find the teraphim.

36 Jacob was angry, and argued with
Laban. Jacob answered Laban, "What is
my trespass? What is my sin, that you
have hotly pursued me?
37 Now that you have felt around in all
my stuff, what have you found of all your
household stuff? Set it here before my
relatives and your relatives, that they may
judge between us two.

38 "These twenty years I have been with
you. Your ewes and your female goats
have not cast their young, and I haven't
eaten the rams of your flocks.
39 That which was torn of animals, I
didn't bring to you. I bore its loss. Of my
hand you required it, whether stolen by
day or stolen by night.
40 This was my situation: in the day the
drought consumed me, and the frost by
night; and my sleep fled from my eyes.
41 These twenty years I have been in
your house. I served you fourteen years
for your two daughters, and six years for
your flock, and you have changed my
wages ten times.
42 Unless the God of my father, the God
of Abraham, and the fear of Isaac, had
been with me, surely now you would have
sent me away empty. God has seen my
affliction and the labor of my hands, and
rebuked you last night."

43 Laban answered Jacob, "The
daughters are my daughters, the children
are my children, the flocks are my flocks,
and all that you see is mine! What can I do
today to these my daughters, or to their
children whom they have borne?
44 Now come, let's make a covenant, you
and I. Let it be for a witness between me
and you."

45 Jacob took a stone, and set it up for a
pillar.
46 Jacob said to his relatives, "Gather
stones." They took stones, and made a
heap. They ate there by the heap.

‡ **31:47** "Jegar Sahadutha" means "Witness Heap" in Aramaic. § **31:47** "Galeed" means "Witness Heap" in Hebrew.

47 Laban called it Jegar Sahadutha,‡ but
Jacob called it Galeed.§
48 Laban said, “This heap is witness
between me and you today.” Therefore it
was named Galeed
49 and Mizpah, for he said, “The LORD
watch between me and you, when we are
absent one from another.
50 If you afflict my daughters, or if you
take wives in addition to my daughters,
no man is with us; behold, God is witness
between me and you.”
51 Laban said to Jacob, “See this heap,
and see the pillar, which I have set
between me and you.
52 May this heap be a witness, and the
pillar be a witness, that I will not pass
over this heap to you, and that you will
not pass over this heap and this pillar to
me, for harm.
53 The God of Abraham, and the God of
Nahor, the God of their father, judge
between us.” Then Jacob swore by the
fear of his father, Isaac.
54 Jacob offered a sacrifice in the
mountain, and called his relatives to eat
bread. They ate bread, and stayed all
night in the mountain.
55 Early in the morning, Laban rose up,
and kissed his sons and his daughters, and
blessed them. Laban departed and
returned to his place.

32

1 Jacob went on his way, and the angels
of God met him.
2 When he saw them, Jacob said, “This is
God’s army.” He called the name of that
place Mahanaim.†
3 Jacob sent messengers in front of him
to Esau, his brother, to the land of Seir, the
field of Edom.
4 He commanded them, saying, “This is
what you shall tell my lord, Esau: ‘This is
what your servant, Jacob, says. I have
lived as a foreigner with Laban, and
stayed until now.
5 I have cattle, donkeys, flocks, male
servants, and female servants. I have sent
to tell my lord, that I may find favor in
your sight.’ ”
6 The messengers returned to Jacob,
saying, “We came to your brother Esau.
He is coming to meet you, and four
hundred men are with him.”
7 Then Jacob was greatly afraid and was
distressed. He divided the people who
were with him, along with the flocks, the
herds, and the camels, into two
companies.
8 He said, “If Esau comes to the one
company, and strikes it, then the company
which is left will escape.”
9 Jacob said, “God of my father
Abraham, and God of my father Isaac, the
LORD, who said to me, ‘Return to your
country, and to your relatives, and I will
do you good,’
10 I am not worthy of the least of all the
loving kindnesses, and of all the truth,
which you have shown to your servant;
for with just my staff I crossed over this
Jordan; and now I have become two
companies.
11 Please deliver me from the hand of
my brother, from the hand of Esau; for I
fear him, lest he come and strike me and
the mothers with the children.
12 You said, ‘I will surely do you good,
and make your offspring as the sand of
the sea, which can’t be counted because
there are so many.’ ”
13 He stayed there that night, and took
from that which he had with him a
present for Esau, his brother:
14 two hundred female goats and twenty
male goats, two hundred ewes and twenty
rams,
15 thirty milk camels and their colts,
forty cows, ten bulls, twenty female
donkeys and ten foals.
16 He delivered them into the hands of
his servants, every herd by itself, and said
to his servants, “Pass over before me, and
put a space between herd and herd.”
17 He commanded the foremost, saying,
“When Esau, my brother, meets you, and
asks you, saying, ‘Whose are you? Where
are you going? Whose are these before

† **32:2** “Mahanaim” means “two camps”.

you?'
18 Then you shall say, 'They are your
servant, Jacob's. It is a present sent to my
lord, Esau. Behold, he also is behind us.' "
19 He commanded also the second, and
the third, and all that followed the herds,
saying, "This is how you shall speak to
Esau, when you find him.
20 You shall say, 'Not only that, but
behold, your servant, Jacob, is behind
us.' " For, he said, "I will appease him with
the present that goes before me, and
afterward I will see his face. Perhaps he
will accept me."
21 So the present passed over before
him, and he himself stayed that night in
the camp.
22 He rose up that night, and took his
two wives, and his two servants, and his
eleven sons, and crossed over the ford of
the Jabbok.
23 He took them, and sent them over the
stream, and sent over that which he had.
24 Jacob was left alone, and wrestled
with a man there until the breaking of the
day.
25 When he saw that he didn't prevail
against him, the man touched the hollow
of his thigh, and the hollow of Jacob's
thigh was strained as he wrestled.
26 The man said, "Let me go, for the day
breaks."
Jacob said, "I won't let you go unless you
bless me."
27 He said to him, "What is your name?"
He said, "Jacob".
28 He said, "Your name will no longer be
called Jacob, but Israel; for you have
fought with God and with men, and have
prevailed."
29 Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your
name."
He said, "Why is it that you ask what my
name is?" So he blessed him there.
30 Jacob called the name of the place
Peniel;‡ for he said, "I have seen God face
to face, and my life is preserved."
31 The sun rose on him as he passed over
Peniel, and he limped because of his thigh.
32 Therefore the children of Israel don't
eat the sinew of the hip, which is on the
hollow of the thigh, to this day, because he
touched the hollow of Jacob's thigh in the
sinew of the hip.

33

1 Jacob lifted up his eyes, and looked,
and, behold, Esau was coming, and with
him four hundred men. He divided the
children between Leah, Rachel, and the
two servants.
2 He put the servants and their children
in front, Leah and her children after, and
Rachel and Joseph at the rear.
3 He himself passed over in front of
them, and bowed himself to the ground
seven times, until he came near to his
brother.
4 Esau ran to meet him, embraced him,
fell on his neck, kissed him, and they wept.
5 He lifted up his eyes, and saw the
women and the children; and said, "Who
are these with you?"
He said, "The children whom God has
graciously given your servant."
6 Then the servants came near with
their children, and they bowed
themselves.
7 Leah also and her children came near,
and bowed themselves. After them,
Joseph came near with Rachel, and they
bowed themselves.
8 Esau said, "What do you mean by all
this company which I met?"
Jacob said, "To find favor in the sight of
my lord."
9 Esau said, "I have enough, my brother;
let that which you have be yours."
10 Jacob said, "Please, no, if I have now
found favor in your sight, then receive my
present at my hand, because I have seen
your face, as one sees the face of God, and
you were pleased with me.
11 Please take the gift that I brought to
you, because God has dealt graciously
with me, and because I have enough." He
urged him, and he took it.
12 Esau said, "Let's take our journey, and
let's go, and I will go before you."

‡ **32:30** Peniel means "face of God".

13 Jacob said to him, “My lord knows
that the children are tender, and that the
flocks and herds with me have their
young, and if they overdrive them one
day, all the flocks will die.
14 Please let my lord pass over before his
servant, and I will lead on gently,
according to the pace of the livestock that
are before me and according to the pace
of the children, until I come to my lord to
Seir.”
15 Esau said, “Let me now leave with
you some of the people who are with me.”
He said, “Why? Let me find favor in the
sight of my lord.”
16 So Esau returned that day on his way
to Seir.
17 Jacob traveled to Succoth, built
himself a house, and made shelters for his
livestock. Therefore the name of the place
is called Succoth.†
18 Jacob came in peace to the city of
Shechem, which is in the land of Canaan,
when he came from Paddan Aram; and
encamped before the city.
19 He bought the parcel of ground
where he had spread his tent, at the hand
of the children of Hamor, Shechem’s
father, for one hundred pieces of money.
20 He erected an altar there, and called
it El Elohe Israel.‡

34

1 Dinah, the daughter of Leah, whom
she bore to Jacob, went out to see the
daughters of the land.
2 Shechem the son of Hamor the Hivite,
the prince of the land, saw her. He took
her, lay with her, and humbled her.
3 His soul joined to Dinah, the daughter
of Jacob, and he loved the young lady, and
spoke kindly to the young lady.
4 Shechem spoke to his father, Hamor,
saying, “Get me this young lady as a wife.”
5 Now Jacob heard that he had defiled
Dinah, his daughter; and his sons were
with his livestock in the field. Jacob held
his peace until they came.
6 Hamor the father of Shechem went out
to Jacob to talk with him.
7 The sons of Jacob came in from the
field when they heard it. The men were
grieved, and they were very angry,
because he had done folly in Israel in
lying with Jacob’s daughter, a thing that
ought not to be done.
8 Hamor talked with them, saying, “The
soul of my son, Shechem, longs for your
daughter. Please give her to him as a wife.
9 Make marriages with us. Give your
daughters to us, and take our daughters
for yourselves.
10 You shall dwell with us, and the land
will be before you. Live and trade in it,
and get possessions in it.”
11 Shechem said to her father and to her
brothers, “Let me find favor in your eyes,
and whatever you will tell me I will give.
12 Ask me a great amount for a dowry,
and I will give whatever you ask of me,
but give me the young lady as a wife.”
13 The sons of Jacob answered Shechem
and Hamor his father with deceit when
they spoke, because he had defiled Dinah
their sister,
14 and said to them, “We can’t do this
thing, to give our sister to one who is
uncircumcised; for that is a reproach to
us.
15 Only on this condition will we
consent to you. If you will be as we are,
that every male of you be circumcised,
16 then will we give our daughters to
you; and we will take your daughters to
us, and we will dwell with you, and we
will become one people.
17 But if you will not listen to us and be
circumcised, then we will take our sister,†
and we will be gone.”
18 Their words pleased Hamor and
Shechem, Hamor’s son.
19 The young man didn’t wait to do this
thing, because he had delight in Jacob’s
daughter, and he was honored above all
the house of his father.
20 Hamor and Shechem, his son, came to
the gate of their city, and talked with the
men of their city, saying,

† **33:17** succoth means shelters or booths. ‡ **33:20** El Elohe Israel means “God, the God of Israel” or “The God of Israel is mighty”. † **34:17** Hebrew has, literally, “daughter”

21 “These men are peaceful with us.
Therefore let them live in the land and
trade in it. For behold, the land is large
enough for them. Let’s take their
daughters to us for wives, and let’s give
them our daughters.
22 Only on this condition will the men
consent to us to live with us, to become
one people, if every male among us is
circumcised, as they are circumcised.
23 Won’t their livestock and their
possessions and all their animals be ours?
Only let’s give our consent to them, and
they will dwell with us.”
24 All who went out of the gate of his city
listened to Hamor, and to Shechem his
son; and every male was circumcised, all
who went out of the gate of his city.
25 On the third day, when they were
sore, two of Jacob’s sons, Simeon and Levi,
Dinah’s brothers, each took his sword,
came upon the unsuspecting city, and
killed all the males.
26 They killed Hamor and Shechem, his
son, with the edge of the sword, and took
Dinah out of Shechem’s house, and went
away.
27 Jacob’s sons came on the dead, and
plundered the city, because they had
defiled their sister.
28 They took their flocks, their herds,
their donkeys, that which was in the city,
that which was in the field,
29 and all their wealth. They took
captive all their little ones and their
wives, and took as plunder everything
that was in the house.
30 Jacob said to Simeon and Levi, “You
have troubled me, to make me odious to
the inhabitants of the land, among the
Canaanites and the Perizzites. I am few in
number. They will gather themselves
together against me and strike me, and I
will be destroyed, I and my house.”
31 They said, “Should he deal with our
sister as with a prostitute?”

35

1 God said to Jacob, “Arise, go up to
Bethel, and live there. Make there an altar
to God, who appeared to you when you
fled from the face of Esau your brother.”
2 Then Jacob said to his household, and
to all who were with him, “Put away the
foreign gods that are among you, purify
yourselves, and change your garments.
3 Let’s arise, and go up to Bethel. I will
make there an altar to God, who answered
me in the day of my distress, and was with
me on the way which I went.”
4 They gave to Jacob all the foreign gods
which were in their hands, and the rings
which were in their ears; and Jacob hid
them under the oak which was by
Shechem.
5 They traveled, and a terror of God was
on the cities that were around them, and
they didn’t pursue the sons of Jacob.
6 So Jacob came to Luz (that is, Bethel),
which is in the land of Canaan, he and all
the people who were with him.
7 He built an altar there, and called the
place El Beth El; because there God was
revealed to him, when he fled from the
face of his brother.
8 Deborah, Rebekah’s nurse, died, and
she was buried below Bethel under the
oak; and its name was called Allon Bacuth.
9 God appeared to Jacob again, when he
came from Paddan Aram, and blessed
him.
10 God said to him, “Your name is Jacob.
Your name shall not be Jacob any more,
but your name will be Israel.” He named
him Israel.
11 God said to him, “I am God Almighty.
Be fruitful and multiply. A nation and a
company of nations will be from you, and
kings will come out of your body.
12 The land which I gave to Abraham
and Isaac, I will give it to you, and to your
offspring after you I will give the land.”
13 God went up from him in the place
where he spoke with him.
14 Jacob set up a pillar in the place
where he spoke with him, a pillar of stone.
He poured out a drink offering on it, and
poured oil on it.
15 Jacob called the name of the place
where God spoke with him “Bethel”.
16 They traveled from Bethel. There was
still some distance to come to Ephrath,
and Rachel travailed. She had hard labor.

17 When she was in hard labor, the
midwife said to her, “Don’t be afraid, for
now you will have another son.”
18 As her soul was departing (for she
died), she named him Benoni,† but his
father named him Benjamin.‡
19 Rachel died, and was buried on the
way to Ephrath (also called Bethlehem).
20 Jacob set up a pillar on her grave. The
same is the Pillar of Rachel’s grave to this
day.
21 Israel traveled, and spread his tent
beyond the tower of Eder.
22 While Israel lived in that land,
Reuben went and lay with Bilhah, his
father’s concubine, and Israel heard of it.
Now the sons of Jacob were twelve.
23 The sons of Leah: Reuben (Jacob’s
firstborn), Simeon, Levi, Judah, Issachar,
and Zebulun.
24 The sons of Rachel: Joseph and
Benjamin.
25 The sons of Bilhah (Rachel’s servant):
Dan and Naphtali.
26 The sons of Zilpah (Leah’s servant):
Gad and Asher. These are the sons of
Jacob, who were born to him in Paddan
Aram.
27 Jacob came to Isaac his father, to
Mamre, to Kiriath Arba (which is
Hebron), where Abraham and Isaac lived
as foreigners.
28 The days of Isaac were one hundred
eighty years.
29 Isaac gave up the spirit and died, and
was gathered to his people, old and full of
days. Esau and Jacob, his sons, buried
him.

36

1 Now this is the history of the
generations of Esau (that is, Edom).
2 Esau took his wives from the
daughters of Canaan: Adah the daughter
of Elon, the Hittite; and Oholibamah the
daughter of Anah, the daughter of Zibeon,
the Hivite;
3 and Basemath, Ishmael’s daughter,
sister of Nebaioth.
4 Adah bore to Esau Eliphaz. Basemath
bore Reuel.
5 Oholibamah bore Jeush, Jalam, and
Korah. These are the sons of Esau, who
were born to him in the land of Canaan.
6 Esau took his wives, his sons, his
daughters, and all the members of his
household, with 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.
7 For their substance was too great for
them to dwell together, and the land of
their travels couldn’t bear them because
of their livestock.
8 Esau lived in the hill country of Seir.
Esau is Edom.
9 This is the history of the generations of
Esau the father of the Edomites in the hill
country of Seir:
10 these are the names of Esau’s sons:
Eliphaz, the son of Adah, the wife of Esau;
and Reuel, the son of Basemath, the wife
of Esau.
11 The sons of Eliphaz were Teman,
Omar, Zepho, and Gatam, and Kenaz.
12 Timna was concubine to Eliphaz,
Esau’s son; and she bore to Eliphaz
Amalek. These are the descendants of
Adah, Esau’s wife.
13 These are the sons of Reuel: Nahath,
Zerah, Shammah, and Mizzah. These
were the descendants of Basemath, Esau’s
wife.
14 These were the sons of Oholibamah,
the daughter of Anah, the daughter of
Zibeon, Esau’s wife: she bore to Esau
Jeush, Jalam, and Korah.
15 These are the chiefs of the sons of
Esau: the sons of Eliphaz the firstborn of
Esau: chief Teman, chief Omar, chief
Zepho, chief Kenaz,
16 chief Korah, chief Gatam, chief
Amalek. These are the chiefs who came of
Eliphaz in the land of Edom. These are the
sons of Adah.
17 These are the sons of Reuel, Esau’s
son: chief Nahath, chief Zerah, chief
Shammah, chief Mizzah. These are the
chiefs who came of Reuel in the land of
Edom. These are the sons of Basemath,
Esau’s wife.

† **35:18** “Benoni” means “son of my trouble”. ‡ **35:18** “Benjamin” means “son of my right hand”.

18 These are the sons of Oholibamah,
Esau's wife: chief Jeush, chief Jalam, chief
Korah. These are the chiefs who came of
Oholibamah the daughter of Anah, Esau's
wife.
19 These are the sons of Esau (that is,
Edom), and these are their chiefs.
20 These are the sons of Seir the Horite,
the inhabitants of the land: Lotan, Shobal,
Zibeon, Anah,
21 Dishon, Ezer, and Dishan. These are
the chiefs who came of the Horites, the
children of Seir in the land of Edom.
22 The children of Lotan were Hori and
Heman. Lotan's sister was Timna.
23 These are the children of Shobal:
Alvan, Manahath, Ebal, Shepho, and
Onam.
24 These are the children of Zibeon:
Aiah and Anah. This is Anah who found
the hot springs in the wilderness, as he
fed the donkeys of Zibeon his father.
25 These are the children of Anah:
Dishon and Oholibamah, the daughter of
Anah.
26 These are the children of Dishon:
Hemdan, Eshban, Ithran, and Cheran.
27 These are the children of Ezer:
Bilhan, Zaavan, and Akan.
28 These are the children of Dishan: Uz
and Aran.
29 These are the chiefs who came of the
Horites: chief Lotan, chief Shobal, chief
Zibeon, chief Anah,
30 chief Dishon, chief Ezer, and chief
Dishan. These are the chiefs who came of
the Horites, according to their chiefs in
the land of Seir.
31 These are the kings who reigned in
the land of Edom, before any king reigned
over the children of Israel.
32 Bela, the son of Beor, reigned in
Edom. The name of his city was Dinhabah.
33 Bela died, and Jobab, the son of Zerah
of Bozrah, reigned in his place.
34 Jobab died, and Husham of the land
of the Temanites reigned in his place.
35 Husham died, and Hadad, the son of
Bedad, who struck Midian in the field of
Moab, reigned in his place. The name of
his city was Avith.
36 Hadad died, and Samlah of Masrekah
reigned in his place.
37 Samlah died, and Shaul of Rehoboth
by the river, reigned in his place.
38 Shaul died, and Baal Hanan the son of
Achbor reigned in his place.
39 Baal Hanan the son of Achbor died,
and Hadar reigned in his place. The name
of his city was Pau. His wife's name was
Mehetabel, the daughter of Matred, the
daughter of Mezahab.
40 These are the names of the chiefs who
came from Esau, according to their
families, after their places, and by their
names: chief Timna, chief Alvah, chief
Jetheth,
41 chief Oholibamah, chief Elah, chief
Pinon,
42 chief Kenaz, chief Teman, chief
Mibzar,
43 chief Magdiel, and chief Iram. These
are the chiefs of Edom, according to their
habitations in the land of their possession.
This is Esau, the father of the Edomites.

37

1 Jacob lived in the land of his father's
travels, in the land of Canaan.
2 This is the history of the generations of
Jacob. Joseph, being seventeen years old,
was feeding the flock with his brothers.
He was a boy with the sons of Bilhah and
Zilpah, his father's wives. Joseph brought
an evil report of them to their father.
3 Now Israel loved Joseph more than all
his children, because he was the son of his
old age, and he made him a tunic of many
colors.
4 His brothers saw that their father
loved him more than all his brothers, and
they hated him, and couldn't speak
peaceably to him.
5 Joseph dreamed a dream, and he told
it to his brothers, and they hated him all
the more.
6 He said to them, "Please hear this
dream which I have dreamed:
7 for behold, we were binding sheaves
in the field, and behold, my sheaf arose
and also stood upright; and behold, your
sheaves came around, and bowed down
to my sheaf."
8 His brothers asked him, "Will you
indeed reign over us? Will you indeed
have dominion over us?" They hated him

all the more for his dreams and for his words.
9 He dreamed yet another dream, and told it to his brothers, and said, “Behold, I have dreamed yet another dream: and behold, the sun and the moon and eleven stars bowed down to me.”
10 He told it to his father and to his brothers. His father rebuked him, and said to him, “What is this dream that you have dreamed? Will I and your mother and your brothers indeed come to bow ourselves down to the earth before you?”
11 His brothers envied him, but his father kept this saying in mind.
12 His brothers went to feed their father’s flock in Shechem.
13 Israel said to Joseph, “Aren’t your brothers feeding the flock in Shechem? Come, and I will send you to them.” He said to him, “Here I am.”
14 He said to him, “Go now, see whether it is well with your brothers, and well with the flock; and bring me word again.” So he sent him out of the valley of Hebron, and he came to Shechem.
15 A certain man found him, and behold, he was wandering in the field. The man asked him, “What are you looking for?”
16 He said, “I am looking for my brothers. Tell me, please, where they are feeding the flock.”
17 The man said, “They have left here, for I heard them say, ‘Let’s go to Dothan.’ ”
Joseph went after his brothers, and found them in Dothan.
18 They saw him afar off, and before he came near to them, they conspired against him to kill him.
19 They said to one another, “Behold, this dreamer comes.
20 Come now therefore, and let’s kill him, and cast him into one of the pits, and we will say, ‘An evil animal has devoured him.’ We will see what will become of his dreams.”
21 Reuben heard it, and delivered him out of their hand, and said, “Let’s not take his life.”
22 Reuben said to them, “Shed no blood. Throw him into this pit that is in the wilderness, but lay no hand on him”—that he might deliver him out of their hand, to restore him to his father.
23 When Joseph came to his brothers, they stripped Joseph of his tunic, the tunic of many colors that was on him;
24 and they took him, and threw him into the pit. The pit was empty. There was no water in it.
25 They sat down to eat bread, and they lifted up their eyes and looked, and saw a caravan of Ishmaelites coming from Gilead, with their camels bearing spices and balm and myrrh, going to carry it down to Egypt.
26 Judah said to his brothers, “What profit is it if we kill our brother and conceal his blood?
27 Come, and let’s sell him to the Ishmaelites, and not let our hand be on him; for he is our brother, our flesh.” His brothers listened to him.
28 Midianites who were merchants passed by, and they drew and lifted up Joseph out of the pit, and sold Joseph to the Ishmaelites for twenty pieces of silver. The merchants brought Joseph into Egypt.
29 Reuben returned to the pit, and saw that Joseph wasn’t in the pit; and he tore his clothes.
30 He returned to his brothers, and said, “The child is no more; and I, where will I go?”
31 They took Joseph’s tunic, and killed a male goat, and dipped the tunic in the blood.
32 They took the tunic of many colors, and they brought it to their father, and said, “We have found this. Examine it, now, and see if it is your son’s tunic or not.”
33 He recognized it, and said, “It is my son’s tunic. An evil animal has devoured him. Joseph is without doubt torn in pieces.”
34 Jacob tore his clothes, and put sackcloth on his waist, and mourned for his son many days.
35 All his sons and all his daughters rose up to comfort him, but he refused to be comforted. He said, “For I will go down to

† **37:35** Sheol is the place of the dead.

Sheol† to my son, mourning." His father wept for him.
36 The Midianites sold him into Egypt to Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh's, the captain of the guard.

38

1 At that time, Judah went down from his brothers, and visited a certain Adullamite, whose name was Hirah.
2 There, Judah saw the daughter of a certain Canaanite man named Shua. He took her, and went in to her.
3 She conceived, and bore a son; and he named him Er.
4 She conceived again, and bore a son; and she named him Onan.
5 She yet again bore a son, and named him Shelah. He was at Chezib when she bore him.
6 Judah took a wife for Er, his firstborn, and her name was Tamar.
7 Er, Judah's firstborn, was wicked in the LORD's sight. So the LORD killed him.
8 Judah said to Onan, "Go in to your brother's wife, and perform the duty of a husband's brother to her, and raise up offspring for your brother."
9 Onan knew that the offspring wouldn't be his; and when he went in to his brother's wife, he spilled his semen on the ground, lest he should give offspring to his brother.
10 The thing which he did was evil in the LORD's sight, and he killed him also.
11 Then Judah said to Tamar, his daughter-in-law, "Remain a widow in your father's house, until Shelah, my son, is grown up;" for he said, "Lest he also die, like his brothers." Tamar went and lived in her father's house.
12 After many days, Shua's daughter, the wife of Judah, died. Judah was comforted, and went up to his sheep shearers to Timnah, he and his friend Hirah, the Adullamite.
13 Tamar was told, "Behold, your father-in-law is going up to Timnah to shear his sheep."
14 She took off the garments of her widowhood, and covered herself with her veil, and wrapped herself, and sat in the gate of Enaim, which is on the way to Timnah; for she saw that Shelah was grown up, and she wasn't given to him as a wife.
15 When Judah saw her, he thought that she was a prostitute, for she had covered her face.
16 He turned to her by the way, and said, "Please come, let me come in to you," for he didn't know that she was his daughter-in-law.
She said, "What will you give me, that you may come in to me?"
17 He said, "I will send you a young goat from the flock."
She said, "Will you give me a pledge, until you send it?"
18 He said, "What pledge will I give you?"
She said, "Your signet and your cord, and your staff that is in your hand."
He gave them to her, and came in to her, and she conceived by him.
19 She arose, and went away, and put off her veil from her, and put on the garments of her widowhood.
20 Judah sent the young goat by the hand of his friend, the Adullamite, to receive the pledge from the woman's hand, but he didn't find her.
21 Then he asked the men of her place, saying, "Where is the prostitute, that was at Enaim by the road?"
They said, "There has been no prostitute here."
22 He returned to Judah, and said, "I haven't found her; and also the men of the place said, 'There has been no prostitute here.' "
23 Judah said, "Let her keep it, lest we be shamed. Behold, I sent this young goat, and you haven't found her."
24 About three months later, Judah was told, "Tamar, your daughter-in-law, has played the prostitute. Moreover, behold, she is with child by prostitution."
Judah said, "Bring her out, and let her be burned."
25 When she was brought out, she sent to her father-in-law, saying, "I am with child by the man who owns these." She also said, "Please discern whose these

are—the signet, and the cords, and the staff."
26 Judah acknowledged them, and said, "She is more righteous than I, because I didn't give her to Shelah, my son."

He knew her again no more.
27 In the time of her travail, behold, twins were in her womb.
28 When she travailed, one put out a hand, and the midwife took and tied a scarlet thread on his hand, saying, "This came out first."
29 As he drew back his hand, behold, his brother came out, and she said, "Why have you made a breach for yourself?" Therefore his name was called Perez.†
30 Afterward his brother came out, who had the scarlet thread on his hand, and his name was called Zerah.‡

39

1 Joseph was brought down to Egypt. Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh's, the captain of the guard, an Egyptian, bought him from the hand of the Ishmaelites that had brought him down there.
2 The LORD was with Joseph, and he was a prosperous man. He was in the house of his master the Egyptian.
3 His master saw that the LORD was with him, and that the LORD made all that he did prosper in his hand.
4 Joseph found favor in his sight. He ministered to him, and Potiphar made him overseer over his house, and all that he had he put into his hand.
5 From the time that he made him overseer in his house, and over all that he had, the LORD blessed the Egyptian's house for Joseph's sake. The LORD's blessing was on all that he had, in the house and in the field.
6 He left all that he had in Joseph's hand. He didn't concern himself with anything, except for the food which he ate.

Joseph was well-built and handsome.
7 After these things, his master's wife set her eyes on Joseph; and she said, "Lie with me."
8 But he refused, and said to his master's wife, "Behold, my master doesn't know what is with me in the house, and he has put all that he has into my hand.
9 No one is greater in this house than I am, and 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?"
10 As she spoke to Joseph day by day, he didn't listen to her, to lie by her, or to be with her.
11 About this time, he went into the house to do his work, and there were none of the men of the house inside.
12 She caught him by his garment, saying, "Lie with me!"

He left his garment in her hand, and ran outside.
13 When she saw that he had left his garment in her hand, and had run outside,
14 she called to the men of her house, and spoke to them, saying, "Behold, he has brought a Hebrew in to us to mock us. He came in to me to lie with me, and I cried with a loud voice.
15 When he heard that I lifted up my voice and cried, he left his garment by me, and ran outside."
16 She laid up his garment by her, until his master came home.
17 She spoke to him according to these words, saying, "The Hebrew servant, whom you have brought to us, came in to me to mock me,
18 and as I lifted up my voice and cried, he left his garment by me, and ran outside."
19 When his master heard the words of his wife, which she spoke to him, saying, "This is what your servant did to me," his wrath was kindled.
20 Joseph's master took him, and put him into the prison, the place where the king's prisoners were bound, and he was there in custody.
21 But the LORD was with Joseph, and showed kindness to him, and gave him favor in the sight of the keeper of the prison.
22 The keeper of the prison committed to Joseph's hand all the prisoners who

† **38:29** Perez means "breaking out". ‡ **38:30** Zerah means "scarlet" or "brightness".

were in the prison. Whatever they did there, he was responsible for it.
23 The keeper of the prison didn't look after anything that was under his hand, because the LORD was with him; and that which he did, the LORD made it prosper.

40

1 After these things, the butler of the king of Egypt and his baker offended their lord, the king of Egypt.
2 Pharaoh was angry with his two officers, the chief cup bearer and the chief baker.
3 He put them in custody in the house of the captain of the guard, into the prison, the place where Joseph was bound.
4 The captain of the guard assigned them to Joseph, and he took care of them. They stayed in prison many days.
5 They both dreamed a dream, each man his dream, in one night, each man according to the interpretation of his dream, the cup bearer and the baker of the king of Egypt, who were bound in the prison.
6 Joseph came in to them in the morning, and saw them, and saw that they were sad.
7 He asked Pharaoh's officers who were with him in custody in his master's house, saying, "Why do you look so sad today?"
8 They said to him, "We have dreamed a dream, and there is no one who can interpret it."
Joseph said to them, "Don't interpretations belong to God? Please tell it to me."
9 The chief cup bearer told his dream to Joseph, and said to him, "In my dream, behold, a vine was in front of me,
10 and in the vine were three branches. It was as though it budded, it blossomed, and its clusters produced ripe grapes.
11 Pharaoh's cup was in my hand; and I took the grapes, and pressed them into Pharaoh's cup, and I gave the cup into Pharaoh's hand."
12 Joseph said to him, "This is its interpretation: the three branches are three days.
13 Within three more days, Pharaoh will lift up your head, and restore you to your office. You will give Pharaoh's cup into his hand, the way you did when you were his cup bearer.
14 But remember me when it is well with you. Please show kindness to me, and make mention of me to Pharaoh, and bring me out of this house.
15 For indeed, I was stolen away out of the land of the Hebrews, and here also I have done nothing that they should put me into the dungeon."
16 When the chief baker saw that the interpretation was good, he said to Joseph, "I also was in my dream, and behold, three baskets of white bread were on my head.
17 In the uppermost basket there were all kinds of baked food for Pharaoh, and the birds ate them out of the basket on my head."
18 Joseph answered, "This is its interpretation. The three baskets are three days.
19 Within three more days, Pharaoh will lift up your head from off you, and will hang you on a tree; and the birds will eat your flesh from off you."
20 On the third day, which was Pharaoh's birthday, he made a feast for all his servants, and he lifted up the head of the chief cup bearer and the head of the chief baker among his servants.
21 He restored the chief cup bearer to his position again, and he gave the cup into Pharaoh's hand;
22 but he hanged the chief baker, as Joseph had interpreted to them.
23 Yet the chief cup bearer didn't remember Joseph, but forgot him.

41

1 At the end of two full years, Pharaoh dreamed, and behold, he stood by the river.
2 Behold, seven cattle came up out of the river. They were sleek and fat, and they fed in the marsh grass.
3 Behold, seven other cattle came up after them out of the river, ugly and thin,

and stood by the other cattle on the brink of the river.
4 The ugly and thin cattle ate up the seven sleek and fat cattle. So Pharaoh awoke.
5 He slept and dreamed a second time; and behold, seven heads of grain came up on one stalk, healthy and good.
6 Behold, seven heads of grain, thin and blasted with the east wind, sprung up after them.
7 The thin heads of grain swallowed up the seven healthy and full ears. Pharaoh awoke, and behold, it was a dream.
8 In the morning, his spirit was troubled, and he sent and called for all of Egypt's magicians and wise men. Pharaoh told them his dreams, but there was no one who could interpret them to Pharaoh.
9 Then the chief cup bearer spoke to Pharaoh, saying, "I remember my faults today.
10 Pharaoh was angry with his servants, and put me in custody in the house of the captain of the guard, with the chief baker.
11 We dreamed a dream in one night, he and I. Each man dreamed according to the interpretation of his dream.
12 There was with us there a young man, a Hebrew, servant to the captain of the guard, and we told him, and he interpreted to us our dreams. He interpreted to each man according to his dream.
13 As he interpreted to us, so it was. He restored me to my office, and he hanged him."
14 Then Pharaoh sent and called Joseph, and they brought him hastily out of the dungeon. He shaved himself, changed his clothing, and came in to Pharaoh.
15 Pharaoh said to Joseph, "I have dreamed a dream, and there is no one who can interpret it. I have heard it said of you, that when you hear a dream you can interpret it."
16 Joseph answered Pharaoh, saying, "It isn't in me. God will give Pharaoh an answer of peace."
17 Pharaoh spoke to Joseph, "In my dream, behold, I stood on the brink of the river;
18 and behold, seven fat and sleek cattle came up out of the river. They fed in the marsh grass;
19 and behold, seven other cattle came up after them, poor and very ugly and thin, such as I never saw in all the land of Egypt for ugliness.
20 The thin and ugly cattle ate up the first seven fat cattle;
21 and when they had eaten them up, it couldn't be known that they had eaten them, but they were still ugly, as at the beginning. So I awoke.
22 I saw in my dream, and behold, seven heads of grain came up on one stalk, full and good;
23 and behold, seven heads of grain, withered, thin, and blasted with the east wind, sprung up after them.
24 The thin heads of grain swallowed up the seven good heads of grain. I told it to the magicians, but there was no one who could explain it to me."
25 Joseph said to Pharaoh, "The dream of Pharaoh is one. What God is about to do he has declared to Pharaoh.
26 The seven good cattle are seven years; and the seven good heads of grain are seven years. The dream is one.
27 The seven thin and ugly cattle that came up after them are seven years, and also the seven empty heads of grain blasted with the east wind; they will be seven years of famine.
28 That is the thing which I have spoken to Pharaoh. God has shown Pharaoh what he is about to do.
29 Behold, seven years of great plenty throughout all the land of Egypt are coming.
30 Seven years of famine will arise after them, and all the plenty will be forgotten in the land of Egypt. The famine will consume the land,
31 and the plenty will not be known in the land by reason of that famine which follows; for it will be very grievous.
32 The dream was doubled to Pharaoh, because the thing is established by God, and God will shortly bring it to pass.

33 “Now therefore let Pharaoh look for a
discreet and wise man, and set him over
the land of Egypt.
34 Let Pharaoh do this, and let him
appoint overseers over the land, and take
up the fifth part of the land of Egypt’s
produce in the seven plenteous years.
35 Let them gather all the food of these
good years that come, and store grain
under the hand of Pharaoh for food in the
cities, and let them keep it.
36 The food will be to supply the land
against the seven years of famine, which
will be in the land of Egypt; so that the
land will not perish through the famine.”
37 The thing was good in the eyes of
Pharaoh, and in the eyes of all his
servants.
38 Pharaoh said to his servants, “Can we
find such a one as this, a man in whom is
the Spirit of God?”
39 Pharaoh said to Joseph, “Because God
has shown you all of this, there is no one
so discreet and wise as you.
40 You shall be over my house. All my
people will be ruled according to your
word. Only in the throne I will be greater
than you.”
41 Pharaoh said to Joseph, “Behold, I
have set you over all the land of Egypt.”
42 Pharaoh took off his signet ring from
his hand, and put it on Joseph’s hand, and
arrayed him in robes of fine linen, and put
a gold chain about his neck.
43 He made him ride in the second
chariot which he had. They cried before
him, “Bow the knee!” He set him over all
the land of Egypt.
44 Pharaoh said to Joseph, “I am
Pharaoh. Without you, no man shall lift
up his hand or his foot in all the land of
Egypt.”
45 Pharaoh called Joseph’s name
Zaphenath-Paneah. He gave him Asenath,
the daughter of Potiphera priest of On as a
wife. Joseph went out over the land of
Egypt.
46 Joseph 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.
47 In the seven plenteous years the earth
produced abundantly.
48 He gathered up all the food of the
seven years which were in the land of
Egypt, and laid up the food in the cities.
He stored food in each city from the fields
around that city.
49 Joseph laid up grain as the sand of the
sea, very much, until he stopped counting,
for it was without number.
50 To Joseph were born two sons before
the year of famine came, whom Asenath,
the daughter of Potiphera priest of On,
bore to him.
51 Joseph called the name of the
firstborn Manasseh,† “For”, he said, “God
has made me forget all my toil, and all my
father’s house.”
52 The name of the second, he called
Ephraim:‡ “For God has made me fruitful
in the land of my affliction.”
53 The seven years of plenty, that were
in the land of Egypt, came to an end.
54 The seven years of famine began to
come, just as Joseph had said. There was
famine in all lands, but in all the land of
Egypt there was bread.
55 When all the land of Egypt was
famished, the people cried to Pharaoh for
bread, and Pharaoh said to all the
Egyptians, “Go to Joseph. What he says to
you, do.”
56 The famine was over all the surface of
the earth. Joseph opened all the store
houses, and sold to the Egyptians. The
famine was severe in the land of Egypt.
57 All countries came into Egypt, to
Joseph, to buy grain, because the famine
was severe in all the earth.

42

1 Now Jacob saw that there was grain in
Egypt, and Jacob said to his sons, “Why do
you look at one another?”
2 He said, “Behold, I have heard that
there is grain in Egypt. Go down there,

† **41:51** “Manasseh” sounds like the Hebrew for “forget”.

‡ **41:52** “Ephraim” sounds like the Hebrew for “twice fruitful”.

and buy for us from there, so that we may
live, and not die."
3 Joseph's ten brothers went down to
buy grain from Egypt.
4 But Jacob didn't send Benjamin,
Joseph's brother, with his brothers; for he
said, "Lest perhaps harm happen to him."
5 The sons of Israel came to buy among
those who came, for the famine was in the
land of Canaan.
6 Joseph was the governor over the land.
It was he who sold to all the people of the
land. Joseph's brothers came, and bowed
themselves down to him with their faces
to the earth.
7 Joseph saw his brothers, and he
recognized them, but acted like a stranger
to them, and spoke roughly with them. He
said to them, "Where did you come from?"

They said, "From the land of Canaan, to
buy food."

8 Joseph recognized his brothers, but
they didn't recognize him.
9 Joseph remembered the dreams which
he dreamed about them, and said to them,
"You are spies! You have come to see the
nakedness of the land."
10 They said to him, "No, my lord, but
your servants have come to buy food.
11 We are all one man's sons; we are
honest men. Your servants are not spies."
12 He said to them, "No, but you have
come to see the nakedness of the land!"
13 They said, "We, your servants, are
twelve brothers, the sons of one man in
the land of Canaan; and behold, the
youngest is today with our father, and one
is no more."
14 Joseph said to them, "It is like I told
you, saying, 'You are spies!'
15 By this you shall be tested. By the life
of Pharaoh, you shall not go out from
here, unless your youngest brother comes
here.
16 Send one of you, and let him get your
brother, and you shall be bound, that your
words may be tested, whether there is
truth in you, or else by the life of Pharaoh
surely you are spies."
17 He put them all together into custody
for three days.
18 Joseph said to them the third day, "Do
this, and live, for I fear God.
19 If you are honest men, then let one of
your brothers be bound in your prison;
but you go, carry grain for the famine of
your houses.
20 Bring your youngest brother to me; so
will your words be verified, and you won't
die."

They did so.
21 They said to one another, "We are
certainly guilty concerning our brother, in
that we saw the distress of his soul, when
he begged us, and we wouldn't listen.
Therefore this distress has come upon us."
22 Reuben answered them, saying,
"Didn't I tell you, saying, 'Don't sin against
the child,' and you wouldn't listen?
Therefore also, behold, his blood is
required."
23 They didn't know that Joseph
understood them; for there was an
interpreter between them.
24 He turned himself away from them,
and wept. Then he returned to them, and
spoke to them, and took Simeon from
among them, and bound him before their
eyes.
25 Then Joseph gave a command to fill
their bags with grain, and to restore each
man's money into his sack, and to give
them food for the way. So it was done to
them.
26 They loaded their donkeys with their
grain, and departed from there.
27 As one of them opened his sack to
give his donkey food in the lodging place,
he saw his money. Behold, it was in the
mouth of his sack.
28 He said to his brothers, "My money is
restored! Behold, it is in my sack!" Their
hearts failed them, and they turned
trembling to one another, saying, "What is
this that God has done to us?"
29 They came to Jacob their father, to the
land of Canaan, and told him all that had
happened to them, saying,
30 "The man, the lord of the land, spoke
roughly with us, and took us for spies of
the country.

31 We said to him, ‘We are honest men.
We are no spies.
32 We are twelve brothers, sons of our
father; one is no more, and the youngest is
today with our father in the land of
Canaan.’
33 The 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,
and take grain for the famine of your
houses, and go your way.
34 Bring your youngest brother to me.
Then I will know that you are not spies,
but that you are honest men. So I will
deliver your brother to you, and you shall
trade in the land.’ ”
35 As they emptied their sacks, behold,
each man’s bundle of money was in his
sack. When they and their father saw
their bundles of money, they were afraid.
36 Jacob, their father, said to them, “You
have bereaved me of my children! Joseph
is no more, Simeon is no more, and you
want to take Benjamin away. All these
things are against me.”
37 Reuben spoke to his father, saying,
“Kill my two sons, if I don’t bring him to
you. Entrust him to my care, and I will
bring him to you again.”
38 He said, “My son shall not go down
with you; for his brother is dead, and he
only is left. If harm happens to him along
the way in which you go, then you will
bring down my gray hairs with sorrow to
Sheol.”†

43

1 The famine was severe in the land.
2 When they had eaten up the grain
which they had brought out of Egypt,
their father said to them, “Go again, buy
us a little more food.”
3 Judah spoke to him, saying, “The man
solemnly warned us, saying, ‘You shall not
see my face, unless your brother is with
you.’
4 If you’ll send our brother with us, we’ll
go down and buy you food;
5 but if you don’t send him, we won’t go
down, for the man said to us, ‘You shall
not see my face, unless your brother is
with you.’ ”
6 Israel said, “Why did you treat me so
badly, telling the man that you had
another brother?”
7 They said, “The man asked directly
concerning ourselves, and concerning our
relatives, saying, ‘Is your father still alive?
Have you another brother?’ We just
answered his questions. Is there any way
we could know that he would say, ‘Bring
your brother down’?”
8 Judah said to Israel, his father, “Send
the boy with me, and we’ll get up and go,
so that we may live, and not die, both we,
and you, and also our little ones.
9 I’ll be collateral for him. From my
hand will you require him. If I don’t bring
him to you, and set him before you, then
let me bear the blame forever;
10 for if we hadn’t delayed, surely we
would have returned a second time by
now.”
11 Their father, Israel, said to them, “If it
must be so, then do this: Take from the
choice fruits of the land in your bags, and
carry down a present for the man, a little
balm, a little honey, spices and myrrh,
nuts, and almonds;
12 and take double money in your hand,
and take back the money that was
returned in the mouth of your sacks.
Perhaps it was an oversight.
13 Take your brother also, get up, and
return to the man.
14 May God Almighty give you mercy
before the man, that he may release to you
your other brother and Benjamin. If I am
bereaved of my children, I am bereaved.”
15 The men took that present, and they
took double money in their hand, and
Benjamin; and got up, went down to
Egypt, and stood before Joseph.
16 When Joseph saw Benjamin with
them, he said to the steward of his house,
“Bring the men into the house, and
butcher an animal, and prepare; for the
men will dine with me at noon.”

† **42:38** Sheol is the place of the dead.

17 The man did as Joseph commanded, and the man brought the men to Joseph's house.
18 The men were afraid, because they were brought to Joseph's house; and they said, "Because of the money that was returned in our sacks the first time, we're brought in; that he may seek occasion against us, attack us, and seize us as slaves, along with our donkeys."
19 They came near to the steward of Joseph's house, and they spoke to him at the door of the house,
20 and said, "Oh, my lord, we indeed came down the first time to buy food.
21 When we came to the lodging place, we opened our sacks, and behold, each man's money was in the mouth of his sack, our money in full weight. We have brought it back in our hand.
22 We have brought down other money in our hand to buy food. We don't know who put our money in our sacks."
23 He said, "Peace be to you. Don't be afraid. Your God, and the God of your father, has given you treasure in your sacks. I received your money." He brought Simeon out to them.
24 The man brought the men into Joseph's house, and gave them water, and they washed their feet. He gave their donkeys fodder.
25 They prepared the present for Joseph's coming at noon, for they heard that they should eat bread there.
26 When Joseph came home, they brought him the present which was in their hand into the house, and bowed themselves down to the earth before him.
27 He asked them of their welfare, and said, "Is your father well, the old man of whom you spoke? Is he yet alive?"
28 They said, "Your servant, our father, is well. He is still alive." They bowed down humbly.
29 He lifted up his eyes, and saw Benjamin, his brother, his mother's son, and said, "Is this your youngest brother, of whom you spoke to me?" He said, "God be gracious to you, my son."
30 Joseph hurried, for his heart yearned over his brother; and he sought a place to weep. He entered into his room, and wept there.
31 He washed his face, and came out. He controlled himself, and said, "Serve the meal."
32 They served him by himself, and them by themselves, and the Egyptians who ate with him by themselves, because the Egyptians don't eat with the Hebrews, for that is an abomination to the Egyptians.
33 They sat before him, the firstborn according to his birthright, and the youngest according to his youth, and the men marveled with one another.
34 He sent portions to them from before him, but Benjamin's portion was five times as much as any of theirs. They drank, and were merry with him.

44

1 He commanded the steward of his house, saying, "Fill the men's sacks with food, as much as they can carry, and put each man's money in his sack's mouth.
2 Put my cup, the silver cup, in the sack's mouth of the youngest, with his grain money." He did according to the word that Joseph had spoken.
3 As soon as the morning was light, the men were sent away, they and their donkeys.
4 When they had gone out of the city, and were not yet far off, Joseph said to his steward, "Up, follow after the men. When you overtake them, ask them, 'Why have you rewarded evil for good?
5 Isn't this that from which my lord drinks, and by which he indeed divines? You have done evil in so doing.' "
6 He overtook them, and he spoke these words to them.
7 They said to him, "Why does my lord speak such words as these? Far be it from your servants that they should do such a thing!
8 Behold, the money, which we found in our sacks' mouths, we brought again to you out of the land of Canaan. How then

should we steal silver or gold out of your
lord's house?
9 With whomever of your servants it is
found, let him die, and we also will be my
lord's slaves."
10 He said, "Now also let it be according
to your words. He with whom it is found
will be my slave; and you will be
blameless."
11 Then they hurried, and each man
took his sack down to the ground, and
each man opened his sack.
12 He searched, beginning with the
oldest, and ending at the youngest. The
cup was found in Benjamin's sack.
13 Then they tore their clothes, and each
man loaded his donkey, and returned to
the city.
14 Judah and his brothers came to
Joseph's house, and he was still there.
They fell on the ground before him.
15 Joseph said to them, "What deed is
this that you have done? Don't you know
that such a man as I can indeed do
divination?"
16 Judah said, "What will we tell my
lord? What will we speak? How will we
clear ourselves? God has found out the
iniquity of your servants. Behold, we are
my lord's slaves, both we and he also in
whose hand the cup is found."
17 He said, "Far be it from me that I
should do so. The man in whose hand the
cup is found, he will be my slave; but as
for you, go up in peace to your father."
18 Then Judah came near to him, and
said, "Oh, my lord, please let your servant
speak a word in my lord's ears, and don't
let your anger burn against your servant;
for you are even as Pharaoh.
19 My lord asked his servants, saying,
'Have you a father, or a brother?'
20 We said to my lord, 'We have a father,
an old man, and a child of his old age, a
little one; and his brother is dead, and he
alone is left of his mother; and his father
loves him.'
21 You said to your servants, 'Bring him
down to me, that I may set my eyes on
him.'
22 We said to my lord, 'The boy can't
leave his father, for if he should leave his
father, his father would die.'
23 You said to your servants, 'Unless
your youngest brother comes down with
you, you will see my face no more.'
24 When we came up to your servant my
father, we told him the words of my lord.
25 Our father said, 'Go again and buy us
a little food.'
26 We said, 'We can't go down. If our
youngest brother is with us, then we will
go down: for we may not see the man's
face, unless our youngest brother is with
us.'
27 Your servant, my father, said to us,
'You know that my wife bore me two sons.
28 One went out from me, and I said,
"Surely he is torn in pieces;" and I haven't
seen him since.
29 If you take this one also from me, and
harm happens to him, you will bring
down my gray hairs with sorrow to
Sheol.'†
30 Now therefore when I come to your
servant my father, and the boy is not with
us; since his life is bound up in the boy's
life;
31 it will happen, when he sees that the
boy is no more, that he will die. Your
servants will bring down the gray hairs of
your servant, our father, with sorrow to
Sheol.‡
32 For your servant became collateral
for the boy to my father, saying, 'If I don't
bring him to you, then I will bear the
blame to my father forever.'
33 Now therefore, please let your
servant stay instead of the boy, my lord's
slave; and let the boy go up with his
brothers.
34 For how will I go up to my father, if
the boy isn't with me?—lest I see the evil
that will come on my father."

45

1 Then Joseph couldn't control himself
before all those who stood before him,
and he called out, "Cause everyone to go
out from me!" No one else stood with him,

† **44:29** Sheol is the place of the dead. ‡ **44:31** Sheol is the place of the dead.

while Joseph made himself known to his brothers.
2 He wept aloud. The Egyptians heard, and the house of Pharaoh heard.
3 Joseph said to his brothers, “I am Joseph! Does my father still live?”
His brothers couldn’t answer him; for they were terrified at his presence.
4 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.
5 Now don’t be grieved, nor angry with yourselves, that you sold me here, for God sent me before you to preserve life.
6 For these two years the famine has been in the land, and there are yet five years, in which there will be no plowing and no harvest.
7 God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on the earth, and to save you alive by a great deliverance.
8 So now it wasn’t you who sent me here, but God, and he has made me a father to Pharaoh, lord of all his house, and ruler over all the land of Egypt.
9 Hurry, and go up to my father, and tell him, ‘This is what your son Joseph says, “God has made me lord of all Egypt. Come down to me. Don’t wait.
10 You shall dwell in the land of Goshen, and you will be near to me, you, your children, your children’s children, your flocks, your herds, and all that you have.
11 There I will provide for you; for there are yet five years of famine; lest you come to poverty, you, and your household, and all that you have.” ’
12 Behold, your eyes see, and the eyes of my brother Benjamin, that it is my mouth that speaks to you.
13 You shall tell my father of all my glory in Egypt, and of all that you have seen. You shall hurry and bring my father down here.”
14 He fell on his brother Benjamin’s neck and wept, and Benjamin wept on his neck.
15 He kissed all his brothers, and wept on them. After that his brothers talked with him.
16 The report of it was heard in Pharaoh’s house, saying, “Joseph’s brothers have come.” It pleased Pharaoh well, and his servants.
17 Pharaoh said to Joseph, “Tell your brothers, ‘Do this: Load your animals, and go, travel to the land of Canaan.
18 Take your father and your households, and come to me, and I will give you the good of the land of Egypt, and you will eat the fat of the land.’
19 Now you are commanded to do this: Take wagons out of the land of Egypt for your little ones, and for your wives, and bring your father, and come.
20 Also, don’t concern yourselves about your belongings, for the good of all the land of Egypt is yours.”
21 The sons of Israel did so. Joseph gave them wagons, according to the commandment of Pharaoh, and gave them provision for the way.
22 He gave each one of them changes of clothing, but to Benjamin he gave three hundred pieces of silver and five changes of clothing.
23 He sent the following to his father: ten donkeys loaded with the good things of Egypt, and ten female donkeys loaded with grain and bread and provision for his father by the way.
24 So he sent his brothers away, and they departed. He said to them, “See that you don’t quarrel on the way.”
25 They went up out of Egypt, and came into the land of Canaan, to Jacob their father.
26 They told him, saying, “Joseph is still alive, and he is ruler over all the land of Egypt.” His heart fainted, for he didn’t believe them.
27 They told him all the words of Joseph, which he had said to them. When he saw the wagons which Joseph had sent to carry him, the spirit of Jacob, their father, revived.
28 Israel said, “It is enough. Joseph my son is still alive. I will go and see him before I die.”

46

1 Israel traveled with all that he had, and came to Beersheba, and offered sacrifices to the God of his father, Isaac.

2 God spoke to Israel in the visions of the
night, and said, “Jacob, Jacob!”
He said, “Here I am.”
3 He said, “I am God, the God of your
father. Don’t be afraid to go down into
Egypt, for there I will make of you a great
nation.
4 I will go down with you into Egypt. I
will also surely bring you up again.
Joseph’s hand will close your eyes.”
5 Jacob rose up from Beersheba, and the
sons of Israel carried Jacob, their father,
their little ones, and their wives, in the
wagons which Pharaoh had sent to carry
him.
6 They took their livestock, and their
goods, which they had gotten in the land
of Canaan, and came into Egypt—Jacob,
and all his offspring with him,
7 his sons, and his sons’ sons with him,
his daughters, and his sons’ daughters,
and he brought all his offspring with him
into Egypt.
8 These are the names of the children of
Israel, who came into Egypt, Jacob and his
sons: Reuben, Jacob’s firstborn.
9 The sons of Reuben: Hanoch, Pallu,
Hezron, and Carmi.
10 The sons of Simeon: Jemuel, Jamin,
Ohad, Jachin, Zohar, and Shaul the son of
a Canaanite woman.
11 The sons of Levi: Gershon, Kohath,
and Merari.
12 The sons of Judah: Er, Onan, Shelah,
Perez, and Zerah; but Er and Onan died in
the land of Canaan. The sons of Perez
were Hezron and Hamul.
13 The sons of Issachar: Tola, Puvah, Iob,
and Shimron.
14 The sons of Zebulun: Sered, Elon, and
Jahleel.
15 These are the sons of Leah, whom she
bore to Jacob in Paddan Aram, with his
daughter Dinah. All the souls of his sons
and his daughters were thirty-three.
16 The sons of Gad: Ziphion, Haggi,
Shuni, Ezbon, Eri, Arodi, and Areli.
17 The sons of Asher: Imnah, Ishvah,
Ishvi, Beriah, and Serah their sister. The
sons of Beriah: Heber and Malchiel.
18 These are the sons of Zilpah, whom
Laban gave to Leah, his daughter, and
these she bore to Jacob, even sixteen souls.
19 The sons of Rachel, Jacob’s wife:
Joseph and Benjamin.
20 To Joseph in the land of Egypt were
born Manasseh and Ephraim, whom
Asenath, the daughter of Potiphera, priest
of On, bore to him.
21 The sons of Benjamin: Bela, Becher,
Ashbel, Gera, Naaman, Ehi, Rosh,
Muppim, Huppim, and Ard.
22 These are the sons of Rachel, who
were born to Jacob: all the souls were
fourteen.
23 The son of Dan: Hushim.
24 The sons of Naphtali: Jahzeel, Guni,
Jezer, and Shillem.
25 These are the sons of Bilhah, whom
Laban gave to Rachel, his daughter, and
these she bore to Jacob: all the souls were
seven.
26 All the souls who came with Jacob
into Egypt, who were his direct offspring,
in addition to Jacob’s sons’ wives, all the
souls were sixty-six.
27 The sons of Joseph, who were born to
him in Egypt, were two souls. All the souls
of the house of Jacob, who came into
Egypt, were seventy.

28 Jacob sent Judah before him to
Joseph, to show the way before him to
Goshen, and they came into the land of
Goshen.
29 Joseph prepared his chariot, and went
up to meet Israel, his father, in Goshen. He
presented himself to him, and fell on his
neck, and wept on his neck a good while.
30 Israel said to Joseph, “Now let me die,
since I have seen your face, that you are
still alive.”

31 Joseph said to his brothers, and to his
father’s house, “I will go up, and speak
with Pharaoh, and will tell him, ‘My
brothers, and my father’s house, who
were in the land of Canaan, have come to
me.
32 These men are shepherds, for they
have been keepers of livestock, and they
have brought their flocks, and their herds,
and all that they have.’
33 It will happen, when Pharaoh
summons you, and will say, ‘What is your
occupation?’

34 that you shall say, 'Your servants have
been keepers of livestock from our youth
even until now, both we, and our fathers:'
that you may dwell in the land of Goshen;
for every shepherd is an abomination to
the Egyptians."

47

1 Then Joseph went in and told Pharaoh,
and said, "My father and my brothers,
with their flocks, their herds, and all that
they own, have come out of the land of
Canaan; and behold, they are in the land
of Goshen."
2 From among his brothers he took five
men, and presented them to Pharaoh.
3 Pharaoh said to his brothers, "What is
your occupation?"
They said to Pharaoh, "Your servants
are shepherds, both we, and our fathers."
4 They also said to Pharaoh, "We have
come to live as foreigners in the land, for
there is no pasture for your servants'
flocks. For the famine is severe in the land
of Canaan. Now therefore, please let your
servants dwell in the land of Goshen."
5 Pharaoh spoke to Joseph, saying, "Your
father and your brothers have come to
you.
6 The land of Egypt is before you. Make
your father and your brothers dwell in
the best of the land. Let them dwell in the
land of Goshen. If you know any able men
among them, then put them in charge of
my livestock."
7 Joseph brought in Jacob, his father,
and set him before Pharaoh; and Jacob
blessed Pharaoh.
8 Pharaoh said to Jacob, "How old are
you?"
9 Jacob said to Pharaoh, "The years of
my pilgrimage are one hundred thirty
years. The days of the years of my life
have been few and evil. They have not
attained to the days of the years of the life
of my fathers in the days of their
pilgrimage."
10 Jacob blessed Pharaoh, and went out
from the presence of Pharaoh.
11 Joseph placed his father and his
brothers, and gave them a possession in
the land of Egypt, in the best of the land,
in the land of Rameses, as Pharaoh had
commanded.
12 Joseph provided his father, his
brothers, and all of his father's household
with bread, according to the sizes of their
families.
13 There was no bread in all the land; for
the famine was very severe, so that the
land of Egypt and the land of Canaan
fainted by reason of the famine.
14 Joseph gathered up all the money that
was found in the land of Egypt, and in the
land of Canaan, for the grain which they
bought: and Joseph brought the money
into Pharaoh's house.
15 When the money was all spent in the
land of Egypt, and in the land of Canaan,
all the Egyptians came to Joseph, and said,
"Give us bread, for why should we die in
your presence? For our money fails."
16 Joseph said, "Give me your livestock;
and I will give you food for your livestock,
if your money is gone."
17 They brought their livestock to
Joseph, and Joseph gave them bread in
exchange for the horses, and for the
flocks, and for the herds, and for the
donkeys: and he fed them with bread in
exchange for all their livestock for that
year.
18 When that year was ended, they came
to him the second year, and said to him,
"We will not hide from my lord how our
money is all spent, and the herds of
livestock are my lord's. There is nothing
left in the sight of my lord, but our bodies,
and our lands.
19 Why should we die before your eyes,
both we and our land? Buy us and our
land for bread, and we and our land will
be servants to Pharaoh. Give us seed, that
we may live, and not die, and that the land
won't be desolate."
20 So Joseph bought all the land of Egypt
for Pharaoh, for every man of the
Egyptians sold his field, because the
famine was severe on them, and the land
became Pharaoh's.
21 As for the people, he moved them to
the cities from one end of the border of
Egypt even to the other end of it.

22 Only he didn't buy the land of the
priests, for the priests had a portion from
Pharaoh, and ate their portion which
Pharaoh gave them. That is why they
didn't sell their land.
23 Then Joseph said to the people,
"Behold, I have bought you and your land
today for Pharaoh. Behold, here is seed
for you, and you shall sow the land.
24 It will happen at the harvests, that
you shall give a fifth to Pharaoh, and four
parts will be your own, for seed of the
field, for your food, for them of your
households, and for food for your little
ones."
25 They said, "You have saved our lives!
Let us find favor in the sight of my lord,
and we will be Pharaoh's servants."
26 Joseph made it a statute concerning
the land of Egypt to this day, that Pharaoh
should have the fifth. Only the land of the
priests alone didn't become Pharaoh's.
27 Israel lived in the land of Egypt, in the
land of Goshen; and they got themselves
possessions therein, and were fruitful,
and multiplied exceedingly.
28 Jacob lived in the land of Egypt
seventeen years. So the days of Jacob, the
years of his life, were one hundred
forty-seven years.
29 The time came near that Israel must
die, and he called his son Joseph, and said
to him, "If now I have found favor in your
sight, please put your hand under my
thigh, and deal kindly and truly with me.
Please don't bury me in Egypt,
30 but when I sleep with my fathers, you
shall carry me out of Egypt, and bury me
in their burying place."
Joseph said, "I will do as you have said."
31 Israel said, "Swear to me," and he
swore to him. Then Israel bowed himself
on the bed's head.

48

1 After these things, someone said to
Joseph, "Behold, your father is sick." He
took with him his two sons, Manasseh and
Ephraim.
2 Someone told Jacob, and said, "Behold,
your son Joseph comes to you," and Israel
strengthened himself, and sat on the bed.
3 Jacob said to Joseph, "God Almighty
appeared to me at Luz in the land of
Canaan, and blessed me,
4 and said to me, 'Behold, I will make
you fruitful, and multiply you, and I will
make of you a company of peoples, and
will give this land to your offspring after
you for an everlasting possession.'
5 Now your two sons, who were born to
you in the land of Egypt before I came to
you into Egypt, are mine; Ephraim and
Manasseh, even as Reuben and Simeon,
will be mine.
6 Your offspring, whom you become the
father of after them, will be yours. They
will be called after the name of their
brothers in their inheritance.
7 As for me, when I came from Paddan,
Rachel died beside me in the land of
Canaan on the way, when there was still
some distance to come to Ephrath, and I
buried her there on the way to Ephrath
(also called Bethlehem)."
8 Israel saw Joseph's sons, and said,
"Who are these?"
9 Joseph said to his father, "They are my
sons, whom God has given me here."
He said, "Please bring them to me, and I
will bless them."
10 Now the eyes of Israel were dim for
age, so that he couldn't see well. Joseph
brought them near to him; and he kissed
them, and embraced them.
11 Israel said to Joseph, "I didn't think I
would see your face, and behold, God has
let me see your offspring also."
12 Joseph brought them out from
between his knees, and he bowed himself
with his face to the earth.
13 Joseph took them both, Ephraim in his
right hand toward Israel's left hand, and
Manasseh in his left hand toward Israel's
right hand, and brought them near to him.
14 Israel stretched out his right hand,
and laid it on Ephraim's head, who was
the younger, and his left hand on
Manasseh's head, guiding his hands
knowingly, for Manasseh was the
firstborn.
15 He blessed Joseph, and said,
"The God before whom my fathers
Abraham and Isaac walked,

the God who has fed me all my life long to
this day,
16 the angel who has redeemed me from
all evil, bless the lads,
and let my name be named on them,
and the name of my fathers Abraham and
Isaac.
Let them grow into a multitude upon the
earth."
17 When Joseph saw that his father laid
his right hand on the head of Ephraim, it
displeased him. He held up his father's
hand, to remove it from Ephraim's head
to Manasseh's head.
18 Joseph said to his father, "Not so, my
father, for this is the firstborn. Put your
right hand on his head."
19 His father refused, and said, "I know,
my son, I know. He also will become a
people, and he also will be great.
However, his younger brother will be
greater than he, and his offspring will
become a multitude of nations."
20 He blessed them that day, saying,
"Israel will bless in your name, saying,
'God make you as Ephraim and as
Manasseh' " He set Ephraim before
Manasseh.
21 Israel said to Joseph, "Behold, I am
dying, but God will be with you, and bring
you again to the land of your fathers.
22 Moreover I have given to you one
portion above your brothers, which I took
out of the hand of the Amorite with my
sword and with my bow."

49

1 Jacob called to his sons, and said:
"Gather yourselves together, that I may
tell you that which will happen to you in
the days to come.
2 Assemble yourselves, and hear, you sons
of Jacob.
Listen to Israel, your father.

3 "Reuben, you are my firstborn, my
might, and the beginning of my
strength,
excelling in dignity, and excelling in
power.
4 Boiling over like water, you shall not
excel,
because you went up to your father's
bed,
then defiled it. He went up to my
couch.

5 "Simeon and Levi are brothers.
Their swords are weapons of
violence.
6 My soul, don't come into their council.
My glory, don't be united to their
assembly;
for in their anger they killed men.
In their self-will they hamstrung
cattle.
7 Cursed be their anger, for it was fierce;
and their wrath, for it was cruel.
I will divide them in Jacob,
and scatter them in Israel.

8 "Judah, your brothers will praise you.
Your hand will be on the neck of your
enemies.
Your father's sons will bow down
before you.
9 Judah is a lion's cub.
From the prey, my son, you have gone
up.
He stooped down, he crouched as a lion,
as a lioness.
Who will rouse him up?
10 The scepter will not depart from Judah,
nor the ruler's staff from between his
feet,
until he comes to whom it belongs.
The obedience of the peoples will be
to him.
11 Binding his foal to the vine,
his donkey's colt to the choice vine,
he has washed his garments in wine,
his robes in the blood of grapes.
12 His eyes will be red with wine,
his teeth white with milk.

13 "Zebulun will dwell at the haven of the
sea.
He will be for a haven of ships.
His border will be on Sidon.

14 "Issachar is a strong donkey,
lying down between the saddlebags.
15 He saw a resting place, that it was good,
the land, that it was pleasant.
He bows his shoulder to the burden,

and becomes a servant doing forced
labor.

16 “Dan will judge his people,
as one of the tribes of Israel.
17 Dan will be a serpent on the trail,
an adder in the path,
that bites the horse’s heels,
so that his rider falls backward.
18 I have waited for your salvation, LORD.

19 “A troop will press on Gad,
but he will press on their heel.

20 “Asher’s food will be rich.
He will produce royal dainties.

21 “Naphtali is a doe set free,
who bears beautiful fawns.

22 “Joseph is a fruitful vine,
a fruitful vine by a spring.
His branches run over the wall.
23 The archers have severely grieved him,
shot at him, and persecuted him:
24 But his bow remained strong.
The arms of his hands were made
strong,
by the hands of the Mighty One of
Jacob,
(from there is the shepherd, the stone
of Israel),
25 even by the God of your father, who will
help you,
by the Almighty, who will bless you,
with blessings of heaven above,
blessings of the deep that lies below,
blessings of the breasts, and of the
womb.
26 The blessings of your father have
prevailed above the blessings of my
ancestors,
above the boundaries of the ancient
hills.
They will be on the head of Joseph,
on the crown of the head of him who
is separated from his brothers.

27 “Benjamin is a ravenous wolf.
In the morning he will devour the
prey.
At evening he will divide the
plunder.”

28 All these are the twelve tribes of
Israel, and this is what their father spoke
to them, and blessed them. He blessed
everyone according to his own blessing.
29 He instructed them, and said to them,
“I am to be gathered to my people. Bury
me with my fathers in the cave that is in
the field of Ephron the Hittite,
30 in the cave that is in the field of
Machpelah, which is before Mamre, in the
land of Canaan, which Abraham bought
with the field from Ephron the Hittite as a
burial place.
31 There they buried Abraham and
Sarah, his wife. There they buried Isaac
and Rebekah, his wife, and there I buried
Leah:
32 the field and the cave that is therein,
which was purchased from the children
of Heth.”
33 When Jacob finished charging his
sons, he gathered up his feet into the bed,
breathed his last breath, and was
gathered to his people.

50

1 Joseph fell on his father’s face, wept on
him, and kissed him.
2 Joseph commanded his servants, the
physicians, to embalm his father; and the
physicians embalmed Israel.
3 Forty days were used for him, for that
is how many days it takes to embalm. The
Egyptians wept for Israel for seventy days.
4 When the days of weeping for him
were past, Joseph spoke to Pharaoh’s staff,
saying, “If now I have found favor in your
eyes, please speak in the ears of Pharaoh,
saying,
5 ‘My father made me swear, saying,
“Behold, I am dying. Bury me in my grave
which I have dug for myself in the land of
Canaan.” Now therefore, please let me go
up and bury my father, and I will come
again.’ ”
6 Pharaoh said, “Go up, and bury your
father, just like he made you swear.”
7 Joseph went up to bury his father; and
with him went up all the servants of
Pharaoh, the elders of his house, all the
elders of the land of Egypt,

8 all the house of Joseph, his brothers,
and his father's house. Only their little
ones, their flocks, and their herds, they
left in the land of Goshen.
9 Both chariots and horsemen went up
with him. It was a very great company.
10 They came to the threshing floor of
Atad, which is beyond the Jordan, and
there they lamented with a very great and
severe lamentation. He mourned for his
father seven days.
11 When the inhabitants of the land, the
Canaanites, saw the mourning in the floor
of Atad, they said, "This is a grievous
mourning by the Egyptians." Therefore its
name was called Abel Mizraim, which is
beyond the Jordan.
12 His sons did to him just as he
commanded them,
13 for his sons carried him into the land
of Canaan, and buried him in the cave of
the field of Machpelah, which Abraham
bought with the field, as a possession for a
burial site, from Ephron the Hittite, near
Mamre.
14 Joseph returned into Egypt—he, and
his brothers, and all that went up with
him to bury his father, after he had buried
his father.
15 When Joseph's brothers saw that their
father was dead, they said, "It may be that
Joseph will hate us, and will fully pay us
back for all the evil which we did to him."
16 They sent a message to Joseph, saying,
"Your father commanded before he died,
saying,
17 'You shall tell Joseph, "Now please
forgive the disobedience of your brothers,
and their sin, because they did evil to
you." ' Now, please forgive the
disobedience of the servants of the God of
your father." Joseph wept when they
spoke to him.
18 His brothers also went and fell down
before his face; and they said, "Behold, we
are your servants."
19 Joseph said to them, "Don't be afraid,
for am I in the place of God?
20 As for you, you meant evil against me,
but God meant it for good, to save many
people alive, as is happening today.
21 Now therefore don't be afraid. I will
provide for you and your little ones." He
comforted them, and spoke kindly to
them.
22 Joseph lived in Egypt, he, and his
father's house. Joseph lived one hundred
ten years.
23 Joseph saw Ephraim's children to the
third generation. The children also of
Machir, the son of Manasseh, were born
on Joseph's knees.
24 Joseph said to his brothers, "I am
dying, but God will surely visit you, and
bring you up out of this land to the land
which he swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and
to Jacob."
25 Joseph took an oath from the children
of Israel, saying, "God will surely visit you,
and you shall carry up my bones from
here."
26 So Joseph died, being one hundred
ten years old, and they embalmed him,
and he was put in a coffin in Egypt.

The Second Book of Moses, Commonly Called Exodus

1 Now these are the names of the sons of
Israel, who came into Egypt (every man
and his household came with Jacob):
2 Reuben, Simeon, Levi, and Judah,
3 Issachar, Zebulun, and Benjamin,
4 Dan and Naphtali, Gad and Asher.
5 All the souls who came out of Jacob's
body were seventy souls, and Joseph was
in Egypt already.
6 Joseph died, as did all his brothers, and
all that generation.
7 The children of Israel were fruitful,
and increased abundantly, and
multiplied, and grew exceedingly mighty;
and the land was filled with them.
8 Now there arose a new king over
Egypt, who didn't know Joseph.
9 He said to his people, "Behold,† the
people of the children of Israel are more
and mightier than we.
10 Come, let's deal wisely with them, lest
they multiply, and it happen that when
any war breaks out, they also join
themselves to our enemies and fight
against us, and escape out of the land."
11 Therefore they set taskmasters over
them to afflict them with their burdens.
They built storage cities for Pharaoh:
Pithom and Raamses.
12 But the more they afflicted them, the
more they multiplied and the more they
spread out. They started to dread the
children of Israel.
13 The Egyptians ruthlessly made the
children of Israel serve,
14 and they made their lives bitter with
hard service in mortar and in brick, and
in all kinds of service in the field, all their
service, in which they ruthlessly made
them serve.
15 The king of Egypt spoke to the
Hebrew midwives, of whom the name of
the one was Shiphrah, and the name of
the other Puah,
16 and he said, "When you perform the
duty of a midwife to the Hebrew women,
and see them on the birth stool, if it is a
son, then you shall kill him; but if it is a
daughter, then she shall live."
17 But the midwives feared God,‡ and
didn't do what the king of Egypt
commanded them, but saved the baby
boys alive.
18 The king of Egypt called for the
midwives, and said to them, "Why have
you done this thing and saved the boys
alive?"
19 The midwives said to Pharaoh,
"Because the Hebrew women aren't like
the Egyptian women; for they are
vigorous and give birth before the
midwife comes to them."
20 God dealt well with the midwives,
and the people multiplied, and grew very
mighty.
21 Because the midwives feared God, he
gave them families.
22 Pharaoh commanded all his people,
saying, "You shall cast every son who is
born into the river, and every daughter
you shall save alive."

2

1 A man of the house of Levi went and
took a daughter of Levi as his wife.
2 The woman conceived and bore a son.
When she saw that he was a fine child, she
hid him three months.
3 When she could no longer hide him,
she took a papyrus basket for him, and
coated it with tar and with pitch. She put
the child in it, and laid it in the reeds by
the river's bank.
4 His sister stood far off, to see what
would be done to him.
5 Pharaoh's daughter came down to
bathe at the river. Her maidens walked
along by the riverside. She saw the basket
among the reeds, and sent her servant to
get it.
6 She opened it, and saw the child, and
behold, the baby cried. She had

† **1:9** "Behold", from "הִנֵּה", means look at, take notice, observe, see, or gaze at. It is often used as an interjection.

‡ **1:17** The Hebrew word rendered "God" is "אֱלֹהִים" (Elohim).

compassion on him, and said, “This is one of the Hebrews’ children.”

7 Then his sister said to Pharaoh’s daughter, “Should I go and call a nurse for you from the Hebrew women, that she may nurse the child for you?”

8 Pharaoh’s daughter said to her, “Go.”

The young woman went and called the child’s mother.

9 Pharaoh’s daughter said to her, “Take this child away, and nurse him for me, and I will give you your wages.”

The woman took the child, and nursed him.

10 The child grew, and she brought him to Pharaoh’s daughter, and he became her son. She named him Moses,† and said, “Because I drew him out of the water.”

11 In those days, when Moses had grown up, he went out to his brothers and saw their burdens. He saw an Egyptian striking a Hebrew, one of his brothers.

12 He looked this way and that way, and when he saw that there was no one, he killed the Egyptian, and hid him in the sand.

13 He went out the second day, and behold, two men of the Hebrews were fighting with each other. He said to him who did the wrong, “Why do you strike your fellow?”

14 He said, “Who made you a prince and a judge over us? Do you plan to kill me, as you killed the Egyptian?”

Moses was afraid, and said, “Surely this thing is known.”

15 Now when Pharaoh heard this thing, he sought to kill Moses. But Moses fled from the face of Pharaoh, and lived in the land of Midian, and he sat down by a well.

16 Now the priest of Midian had seven daughters. They came and drew water, and filled the troughs to water their father’s flock.

17 The shepherds came and drove them away; but Moses stood up and helped them, and watered their flock.

18 When they came to Reuel, their father, he said, “How is it that you have returned so early today?”

19 They said, “An Egyptian delivered us out of the hand of the shepherds, and moreover he drew water for us, and watered the flock.”

20 He said to his daughters, “Where is he? Why is it that you have left the man? Call him, that he may eat bread.”

21 Moses was content to dwell with the man. He gave Moses Zipporah, his daughter.

22 She bore a son, and he named him Gershom,‡ for he said, “I have lived as a foreigner in a foreign land.”

23 In the course of those many days, the king of Egypt died, and the children of Israel sighed because of the bondage, and they cried, and their cry came up to God because of the bondage.

24 God heard their groaning, and God remembered his covenant with Abraham, with Isaac, and with Jacob.

25 God saw the children of Israel, and God understood.

3

1 Now Moses was keeping the flock of Jethro, his father-in-law, the priest of Midian, and he led the flock to the back of the wilderness, and came to God’s mountain, to Horeb.

2 The LORD’s† angel appeared to him in a flame of fire out of the middle of a bush. He looked, and behold, the bush burned with fire, and the bush was not consumed.

3 Moses said, “I will go now, and see this great sight, why the bush is not burned.”

4 When the LORD saw that he came over to see, God called to him out of the middle of the bush, and said, “Moses! Moses!”

He said, “Here I am.”

5 He said, “Don’t come close. Take off your sandals, for the place you are standing on is holy ground.”

6 Moreover he said, “I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.”

† **2:10** “Moses” sounds like the Hebrew for “draw out”. ‡ **2:22** “Gershom” sounds like the Hebrew for “an alien there”. † **3:2** When rendered in ALL CAPITAL LETTERS, “LORD” or “GOD” is the translation of God’s Proper Name (Hebrew “יהוה”, usually pronounced Yahweh).

Moses hid his face because he was
afraid to look at God.
7 The LORD said, “I have surely seen the
affliction of my people who are in Egypt,
and have heard their cry because of their
taskmasters, for I know their sorrows.
8 I have come down to deliver them out
of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring
them up out of that land to a good and
large land, to a land flowing with milk and
honey; to the place of the Canaanite, the
Hittite, the Amorite, the Perizzite, the
Hivite, and the Jebusite.
9 Now, behold, the cry of the children of
Israel has come to me. Moreover I have
seen the oppression with which the
Egyptians oppress them.
10 Come now therefore, and I will send
you to Pharaoh, that you may bring my
people, the children of Israel, out of
Egypt.”
11 Moses said to God, “Who am I, that I
should go to Pharaoh, and that I should
bring the children of Israel out of Egypt?”
12 He said, “Certainly I will be with you.
This will be the token to you, that I have
sent you: when you have brought the
people out of Egypt, you shall serve God
on this mountain.”
13 Moses said to God, “Behold, when I
come to the children of Israel, and tell
them, ‘The God of your fathers has sent
me to you,’ and they ask me, ‘What is his
name?’ what should I tell them?”
14 God said to Moses, “I AM WHO I AM,”
and he said, “You shall tell the children of
Israel this: ‘I AM has sent me to you.’ ”
15 God said moreover to Moses, “You
shall tell the children of Israel this, ‘The
LORD,‡ the God of your fathers, the God of
Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of
Jacob, has sent me to you.’ This is my
name forever, and this is my memorial to
all generations.
16 Go and gather the elders of Israel
together, and tell them, ‘The LORD, the
God of your fathers, the God of Abraham,
of Isaac, and of Jacob, has appeared to me,
saying, “I have surely visited you, and
seen that which is done to you in Egypt.
17 I have said, I will bring you up out of
the affliction of Egypt to the land of the
Canaanite, the Hittite, the Amorite, the
Perizzite, the Hivite, and the Jebusite, to a
land flowing with milk and honey.” ’
18 They will listen to your voice. You
shall come, you and the elders of Israel, to
the king of Egypt, and you shall tell him,
‘The LORD, the God of the Hebrews, has
met with us. Now please let us go three
days’ journey into the wilderness, that we
may sacrifice to the LORD, our God.’
19 I know that the king of Egypt won’t
give you permission to go, no, not by a
mighty hand.
20 I will reach out my hand and strike
Egypt with all my wonders which I will do
among them, and after that he will let you
go.
21 I will give this people favor in the
sight of the Egyptians, and it will happen
that when you go, you shall not go
empty-handed.
22 But every woman shall ask of her
neighbor, and of her who visits her house,
jewels of silver, jewels of gold, and
clothing. You shall put them on your sons,
and on your daughters. You shall plunder
the Egyptians.”

4

1 Moses answered, “But, behold, they
will not believe me, nor listen to my voice;
for they will say, ‘The LORD has not
appeared to you.’ ”
2 The LORD said to him, “What is that in
your hand?”
He said, “A rod.”
3 He said, “Throw it on the ground.”
He threw it on the ground, and it
became a snake; and Moses ran away
from it.
4 The LORD said to Moses, “Stretch out
your hand, and take it by the tail.”
He stretched out his hand, and took
hold of it, and it became a rod in his hand.
5 “This is so that they may believe that
the LORD, the God of their fathers, the
God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the
God of Jacob, has appeared to you.”

‡ **3:15** LORD or GOD in all caps is from the Hebrew יהוה Yahweh except when otherwise noted as being from the short form יה Yah.

6 The LORD said furthermore to him,
“Now put your hand inside your cloak.”
He put his hand inside his cloak, and
when he took it out, behold, his hand was
leprous, as white as snow.
7 He said, “Put your hand inside your
cloak again.”
He put his hand inside his cloak again,
and when he took it out of his cloak,
behold, it had turned again as his other
flesh.
8 “It will happen, if they will not believe
you or listen to the voice of the first sign,
that they will believe the voice of the
latter sign.
9 It will happen, if they will not believe
even these two signs or listen to your
voice, that you shall take of the water of
the river, and pour it on the dry land. The
water which you take out of the river will
become blood on the dry land.”
10 Moses said to the LORD, “O Lord,† I
am not eloquent, neither before now, nor
since you have spoken to your servant; for
I am slow of speech, and of a slow tongue.”
11 The LORD said to him, “Who made
man’s mouth? Or who makes one mute, or
deaf, or seeing, or blind? Isn’t it I, the
LORD?
12 Now therefore go, and I will be with
your mouth, and teach you what you shall
speak.”
13 Moses said, “Oh, Lord, please send
someone else.”
14 The LORD’s anger burned against
Moses, and he said, “What about Aaron,
your brother, the Levite? I know that he
can speak well. Also, behold, he is coming
out to meet you. When he sees you, he will
be glad in his heart.
15 You shall speak to him, and put the
words in his mouth. I will be with your
mouth, and with his mouth, and will teach
you what you shall do.
16 He will be your spokesman to the
people. It will happen that he will be to
you a mouth, and you will be to him as
God.
17 You shall take this rod in your hand,
with which you shall do the signs.”

18 Moses went and returned to Jethro
his father-in-law, and said to him, “Please
let me go and return to my brothers who
are in Egypt, and see whether they are
still alive.”
Jethro said to Moses, “Go in peace.”
19 The LORD said to Moses in Midian,
“Go, return into Egypt; for all the men
who sought your life are dead.”
20 Moses took his wife and his sons, and
set them on a donkey, and he returned to
the land of Egypt. Moses took God’s rod in
his hand.
21 The LORD said to Moses, “When you
go back into Egypt, see that you do before
Pharaoh all the wonders which I have put
in your hand, but I will harden his heart
and he will not let the people go.
22 You shall tell Pharaoh, ‘The LORD
says, Israel is my son, my firstborn,
23 and I have said to you, “Let my son go,
that he may serve me;” and you have
refused to let him go. Behold, I will kill
your firstborn son.’ ”
24 On the way at a lodging place, the
LORD met Moses and wanted to kill him.
25 Then Zipporah took a flint, and cut off
the foreskin of her son, and cast it at his
feet; and she said, “Surely you are a
bridegroom of blood to me.”
26 So he let him alone. Then she said,
“You are a bridegroom of blood,” because
of the circumcision.
27 The LORD said to Aaron, “Go into the
wilderness to meet Moses.”
He went, and met him on God’s
mountain, and kissed him.
28 Moses told Aaron all the LORD’s
words with which he had sent him, and
all the signs with which he had instructed
him.
29 Moses and Aaron went and gathered
together all the elders of the children of
Israel.
30 Aaron spoke all the words which the
LORD had spoken to Moses, and did the
signs in the sight of the people.
31 The people believed, and when they
heard that the LORD had visited the
children of Israel, and that he had seen

† **4:10** The word translated “Lord” is “Adonai”.

their affliction, then they bowed their heads and worshiped.

5

1 Afterward Moses and Aaron came, and said to Pharaoh, “This is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says, ‘Let my people go, that they may hold a feast to me in the wilderness.’ ”
2 Pharaoh said, “Who is the LORD, that I should listen to his voice to let Israel go? I don’t know the LORD, and moreover I will not let Israel go.”
3 They said, “The God of the Hebrews has met with us. Please let us go three days’ journey into the wilderness, and sacrifice to the LORD, our God, lest he fall on us with pestilence, or with the sword.”
4 The king of Egypt said to them, “Why do you, Moses and Aaron, take the people from their work? Get back to your burdens!”
5 Pharaoh said, “Behold, the people of the land are now many, and you make them rest from their burdens.”
6 The same day Pharaoh commanded the taskmasters of the people and their officers, saying,
7 “You shall no longer give the people straw to make brick, as before. Let them go and gather straw for themselves.
8 You shall require from them the number of the bricks which they made before. You shall not diminish anything of it, for they are idle. Therefore they cry, saying, ‘Let’s go and sacrifice to our God.’
9 Let heavier work be laid on the men, that they may labor in it. Don’t let them pay any attention to lying words.”
10 The taskmasters of the people went out with their officers, and they spoke to the people, saying, “This is what Pharaoh says: ‘I will not give you straw.
11 Go yourselves, get straw where you can find it, for nothing of your work shall be diminished.’ ”
12 So the people were scattered abroad throughout all the land of Egypt to gather stubble for straw.
13 The taskmasters were urgent saying, “Fulfill your work quota daily, as when there was straw!”
14 The officers of the children of Israel, whom Pharaoh’s taskmasters had set over them, were beaten, and were asked, “Why haven’t you fulfilled your quota both yesterday and today, in making brick as before?”
15 Then the officers of the children of Israel came and cried to Pharaoh, saying, “Why do you deal this way with your servants?
16 No straw is given to your servants, and they tell us, ‘Make brick!’ and behold, your servants are beaten; but the fault is in your own people.”
17 But Pharaoh said, “You are idle! You are idle! Therefore you say, ‘Let’s go and sacrifice to the LORD.’
18 Go therefore now, and work; for no straw shall be given to you; yet you shall deliver the same number of bricks!”
19 The officers of the children of Israel saw that they were in trouble when it was said, “You shall not diminish anything from your daily quota of bricks!”
20 They met Moses and Aaron, who stood along the way, as they came out from Pharaoh.
21 They said to them, “May the LORD look at you and judge, because you have made us a stench to be abhorred in the eyes of Pharaoh, and in the eyes of his servants, to put a sword in their hand to kill us!”
22 Moses returned to the LORD, and said, “Lord, why have you brought trouble on this people? Why is it that you have sent me?
23 For since I came to Pharaoh to speak in your name, he has brought trouble on this people. You have not rescued your people at all!”

6

1 The LORD said to Moses, “Now you shall see what I will do to Pharaoh, for by a strong hand he shall let them go, and by a strong hand he shall drive them out of his land.”
2 God spoke to Moses, and said to him, “I am the LORD.

3 I appeared to Abraham, to Isaac, and
to Jacob, as God Almighty; but by my
name the LORD† I was not known to them.
4 I have also established my covenant
with them, to give them the land of
Canaan, the land of their travels, in which
they lived as aliens.
5 Moreover I have heard the groaning of
the children of Israel, whom the
Egyptians keep in bondage, and I have
remembered my covenant.
6 Therefore tell the children of Israel, 'I
am the LORD, and I will bring you out
from under the burdens of the Egyptians,
and I will rid you out of their bondage,
and I will redeem you with an
outstretched arm, and with great
judgments.
7 I will take you to myself for a people. I
will be your God; and you shall know that
I am the LORD your God, who brings you
out from under the burdens of the
Egyptians.
8 I will bring you into the land which I
swore to give to Abraham, to Isaac, and to
Jacob; and I will give it to you for a
heritage: I am the LORD.' "
9 Moses spoke so to the children of
Israel, but they didn't listen to Moses for
anguish of spirit, and for cruel bondage.
10 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
11 "Go in, speak to Pharaoh king of
Egypt, that he let the children of Israel go
out of his land."
12 Moses spoke before the LORD, saying,
"Behold, the children of Israel haven't
listened to me. How then shall Pharaoh
listen to me, when I have uncircumcised
lips?"
13 The LORD spoke to Moses and to
Aaron, and gave them a command to the
children of Israel, and to Pharaoh king of
Egypt, to bring the children of Israel out of
the land of Egypt.
14 These are the heads of their fathers'
houses. The sons of Reuben the firstborn
of Israel: Hanoch, and Pallu, Hezron, and
Carmi; these are the families of Reuben.
15 The sons of Simeon: Jemuel, and
Jamin, and Ohad, and Jachin, and Zohar,
and Shaul the son of a Canaanite woman;
these are the families of Simeon.
16 These are the names of the sons of
Levi according to their generations:
Gershon, and Kohath, and Merari; and the
years of the life of Levi were one hundred
thirty-seven years.
17 The sons of Gershon: Libni and
Shimei, according to their families.
18 The sons of Kohath: Amram, and
Izhar, and Hebron, and Uzziel; and the
years of the life of Kohath were one
hundred thirty-three years.
19 The sons of Merari: Mahli and Mushi.
These are the families of the Levites
according to their generations.
20 Amram took Jochebed his father's
sister to himself as wife; and she bore him
Aaron and Moses. The years of the life of
Amram were one hundred thirty-seven
years.
21 The sons of Izhar: Korah, and Nepheg,
and Zichri.
22 The sons of Uzziel: Mishael,
Elzaphan, and Sithri.
23 Aaron took Elisheba, the daughter of
Amminadab, the sister of Nahshon, as his
wife; and she bore him Nadab and Abihu,
Eleazar and Ithamar.
24 The sons of Korah: Assir, Elkanah,
and Abiasaph; these are the families of
the Korahites.
25 Eleazar Aaron's son took one of the
daughters of Putiel as his wife; and she
bore him Phinehas. These are the heads
of the fathers' houses of the Levites
according to their families.
26 These are that Aaron and Moses to
whom the LORD said, "Bring out the
children of Israel from the land of Egypt
according to their armies."
27 These are those who spoke to
Pharaoh king of Egypt, to bring out the
children of Israel from Egypt. These are
that Moses and Aaron.
28 On the day when the LORD spoke to
Moses in the land of Egypt,
29 The LORD said to Moses, "I am the
LORD. Tell Pharaoh king of Egypt all that I
tell you."
30 Moses said before the LORD, "Behold,

† **6:3** LORD or GOD in all caps is from the Hebrew יהוה Yahweh except when otherwise noted as being from the short form יה Yah.

I am of uncircumcised lips, and how shall Pharaoh listen to me?"

7

1 The LORD said to Moses, "Behold, I have made you as God to Pharaoh; and Aaron your brother shall be your prophet.
2 You shall speak all that I command you; and Aaron your brother shall speak to Pharaoh, that he let the children of Israel go out of his land.
3 I will harden Pharaoh's heart, and multiply my signs and my wonders in the land of Egypt.
4 But Pharaoh will not listen to you, so I will lay my hand on Egypt, and bring out my armies, my people the children of Israel, out of the land of Egypt by great judgments.
5 The Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD when I stretch out my hand on Egypt, and bring the children of Israel out from among them."
6 Moses and Aaron did so. As the LORD commanded them, so they did.
7 Moses was eighty years old, and Aaron eighty-three years old, when they spoke to Pharaoh.
8 The LORD spoke to Moses and to Aaron, saying,
9 "When Pharaoh speaks to you, saying, 'Perform a miracle!' then you shall tell Aaron, 'Take your rod, and cast it down before Pharaoh, and it will become a serpent.' "
10 Moses and Aaron went in to Pharaoh, and they did so, as the LORD had commanded. Aaron cast down his rod before Pharaoh and before his servants, and it became a serpent.
11 Then Pharaoh also called for the wise men and the sorcerers. They also, the magicians of Egypt, did the same thing with their enchantments.
12 For they each cast down their rods, and they became serpents; but Aaron's rod swallowed up their rods.
13 Pharaoh's heart was hardened, and he didn't listen to them, as the LORD had spoken.
14 The LORD said to Moses, "Pharaoh's heart is stubborn. He refuses to let the people go.
15 Go to Pharaoh in the morning. Behold, he is going out to the water. You shall stand by the river's bank to meet him. You shall take the rod which was turned to a serpent in your hand.
16 You shall tell him, 'The LORD, the God of the Hebrews, has sent me to you, saying, "Let my people go, that they may serve me in the wilderness. Behold, until now you haven't listened."
17 The LORD says, "In this you shall know that I am the LORD. Behold: I will strike with the rod that is in my hand on the waters which are in the river, and they shall be turned to blood.
18 The fish that are in the river will die and the river will become foul. The Egyptians will loathe to drink water from the river." ' "
19 The LORD said to Moses, "Tell Aaron, 'Take your rod, and stretch out your hand over the waters of Egypt, over their rivers, over their streams, and over their pools, and over all their ponds of water, that they may become blood. There will be blood throughout all the land of Egypt, both in vessels of wood and in vessels of stone.' "
20 Moses and Aaron did so, as the LORD commanded; and he lifted up the rod, and struck the waters that were in the river, in the sight of Pharaoh, and in the sight of his servants; and all the waters that were in the river were turned to blood.
21 The fish that were in the river died. The river became foul. The Egyptians couldn't drink water from the river. The blood was throughout all the land of Egypt.
22 The magicians of Egypt did the same thing with their enchantments. So Pharaoh's heart was hardened, and he didn't listen to them, as the LORD had spoken.
23 Pharaoh turned and went into his house, and he didn't even take this to heart.
24 All the Egyptians dug around the river for water to drink; for they couldn't drink the river water.

25 Seven days were fulfilled, after the
LORD had struck the river.

8

1 The LORD spoke to Moses, “Go in to
Pharaoh, and tell him, ‘This is what the
LORD says, “Let my people go, that they
may serve me.
2 If you refuse to let them go, behold, I
will plague all your borders with frogs.
3 The river will swarm with frogs, which
will go up and come into your house, and
into your bedroom, and on your bed, and
into the house of your servants, and on
your people, and into your ovens, and into
your kneading troughs.
4 The frogs shall come up both on you,
and on your people, and on all your
servants.” ’ ”
5 The LORD said to Moses, “Tell Aaron,
‘Stretch out your hand with your rod over
the rivers, over the streams, and over the
pools, and cause frogs to come up on the
land of Egypt.’ ”
6 Aaron stretched out his hand over the
waters of Egypt; and the frogs came up,
and covered the land of Egypt.
7 The magicians did the same thing with
their enchantments, and brought up frogs
on the land of Egypt.
8 Then Pharaoh called for Moses and
Aaron, and said, “Entreat the LORD, that
he take away the frogs from me and from
my people; and I will let the people go,
that they may sacrifice to the LORD.”
9 Moses said to Pharaoh, “I give you the
honor of setting the time that I should
pray for you, and for your servants, and
for your people, that the frogs be
destroyed from you and your houses, and
remain in the river only.”
10 Pharaoh said, “Tomorrow.”
Moses said, “Let it be according to your
word, that you may know that there is no
one like the LORD our God.
11 The frogs shall depart from you, and
from your houses, and from your
servants, and from your people. They
shall remain in the river only.”
12 Moses and Aaron went out from
Pharaoh, and Moses cried to the LORD
concerning the frogs which he had
brought on Pharaoh.
13 The LORD did according to the word
of Moses, and the frogs died out of the
houses, out of the courts, and out of the
fields.
14 They gathered them together in
heaps, and the land stank.
15 But when Pharaoh saw that there was
a respite, he hardened his heart, and
didn’t listen to them, as the LORD had
spoken.
16 The LORD said to Moses, “Tell Aaron,
‘Stretch out your rod, and strike the dust
of the earth, that it may become lice
throughout all the land of Egypt.’ ”
17 They did so; and Aaron stretched out
his hand with his rod, and struck the dust
of the earth, and there were lice on man,
and on animal; all the dust of the earth
became lice throughout all the land of
Egypt.
18 The magicians tried with their
enchantments to produce lice, but they
couldn’t. There were lice on man, and on
animal.
19 Then the magicians said to Pharaoh,
“This is God’s finger;” but Pharaoh’s heart
was hardened, and he didn’t listen to
them, as the LORD had spoken.
20 The LORD said to Moses, “Rise up
early in the morning, and stand before
Pharaoh; behold, he comes out to the
water; and tell him, ‘This is what the
LORD says, “Let my people go, that they
may serve me.
21 Else, if you will not let my people go,
behold, I will send swarms of flies on you,
and on your servants, and on your people,
and into your houses. The houses of the
Egyptians shall be full of swarms of flies,
and also the ground they are on.
22 I will set apart in that day the land of
Goshen, in which my people dwell, that no
swarms of flies shall be there, to the end
you may know that I am the LORD on the
earth.
23 I will put a division between my
people and your people. This sign shall
happen by tomorrow.” ’ ”
24 The LORD did so; and there came
grievous swarms of flies into the house of

Pharaoh, and into his servants' houses. In all the land of Egypt the land was corrupted by reason of the swarms of flies.
25 Pharaoh called for Moses and for Aaron, and said, "Go, sacrifice to your God in the land!"
26 Moses said, "It isn't appropriate to do so; for we shall sacrifice the abomination of the Egyptians to the LORD our God. Behold, if we sacrifice the abomination of the Egyptians before their eyes, won't they stone us?
27 We will go three days' journey into the wilderness, and sacrifice to the LORD our God, as he shall command us."
28 Pharaoh said, "I will let you go, that you may sacrifice to the LORD your God in the wilderness, only you shall not go very far away. Pray for me."
29 Moses said, "Behold, I am going out from you. I will pray to the LORD that the swarms of flies may depart from Pharaoh, from his servants, and from his people, tomorrow; only don't let Pharaoh deal deceitfully any more in not letting the people go to sacrifice to the LORD."
30 Moses went out from Pharaoh, and prayed to the LORD.
31 The LORD did according to the word of Moses, and he removed the swarms of flies from Pharaoh, from his servants, and from his people. There remained not one.
32 Pharaoh hardened his heart this time also, and he didn't let the people go.

9

1 Then the LORD said to Moses, "Go in to Pharaoh, and tell him, 'This is what the LORD, the God of the Hebrews, says: "Let my people go, that they may serve me.
2 For if you refuse to let them go, and hold them still,
3 behold, the LORD's hand is on your livestock which are in the field, on the horses, on the donkeys, on the camels, on the herds, and on the flocks with a very grievous pestilence.
4 The LORD will make a distinction between the livestock of Israel and the livestock of Egypt; and nothing shall die of all that belongs to the children of Israel." ' "
5 The LORD appointed a set time, saying, "Tomorrow the LORD shall do this thing in the land."
6 The LORD did that thing on the next day; and all the livestock of Egypt died, but of the livestock of the children of Israel, not one died.
7 Pharaoh sent, and, behold, there was not so much as one of the livestock of the Israelites dead. But the heart of Pharaoh was stubborn, and he didn't let the people go.
8 The LORD said to Moses and to Aaron, "Take handfuls of ashes of the furnace, and let Moses sprinkle it toward the sky in the sight of Pharaoh.
9 It shall become small dust over all the land of Egypt, and shall be boils and blisters breaking out on man and on animal, throughout all the land of Egypt."
10 They took ashes of the furnace, and stood before Pharaoh; and Moses sprinkled it up toward the sky; and it became boils and blisters breaking out on man and on animal.
11 The magicians couldn't stand before Moses because of the boils; for the boils were on the magicians and on all the Egyptians.
12 The LORD hardened the heart of Pharaoh, and he didn't listen to them, as the LORD had spoken to Moses.
13 The LORD said to Moses, "Rise up early in the morning, and stand before Pharaoh, and tell him, 'This is what the LORD, the God of the Hebrews, says: "Let my people go, that they may serve me.
14 For this time I will send all my plagues against your heart, against your officials, and against your people; that you may know that there is no one like me in all the earth.
15 For now I would have stretched out my hand, and struck you and your people with pestilence, and you would have been cut off from the earth;
16 but indeed for this cause I have made you stand: to show you my power, and that my name may be declared throughout all the earth,

17 because you still exalt yourself
against my people, that you won't let them
go.
18 Behold, tomorrow about this time I
will cause it to rain a very grievous hail,
such as has not been in Egypt since the
day it was founded even until now.
19 Now therefore command that all of
your livestock and all that you have in the
field be brought into shelter. The hail will
come down on every man and animal that
is found in the field, and isn't brought
home, and they will die." ' "
20 Those who feared the LORD's word
among the servants of Pharaoh made
their servants and their livestock flee into
the houses.
21 Whoever didn't respect the LORD's
word left his servants and his livestock in
the field.
22 The LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out
your hand toward the sky, that there may
be hail in all the land of Egypt, on man,
and on animal, and on every herb of the
field, throughout the land of Egypt."
23 Moses stretched out his rod toward
the heavens, and the LORD sent thunder
and hail; and lightning flashed down to
the earth. The LORD rained hail on the
land of Egypt.
24 So there was very severe hail, and
lightning mixed with the hail, such as had
not been in all the land of Egypt since it
became a nation.
25 The hail struck throughout all the
land of Egypt all that was in the field, both
man and animal; and the hail struck
every herb of the field, and broke every
tree of the field.
26 Only in the land of Goshen, where the
children of Israel were, there was no hail.
27 Pharaoh sent and called for Moses
and Aaron, and said to them, "I have
sinned this time. The LORD is righteous,
and I and my people are wicked.
28 Pray to the LORD; for there has been
enough of mighty thunderings and hail. I
will let you go, and you shall stay no
longer."
29 Moses said to him, "As soon as I have
gone out of the city, I will spread out my
hands to the LORD. The thunders shall
cease, and there will not be any more hail;
that you may know that the earth is the
LORD's.
30 But as for you and your servants, I
know that you don't yet fear the LORD
God."
31 The flax and the barley were struck,
for the barley had ripened and the flax
was blooming.
32 But the wheat and the spelt were not
struck, for they had not grown up.
33 Moses went out of the city from
Pharaoh, and spread out his hands to the
LORD; and the thunders and hail ceased,
and the rain was not poured on the earth.
34 When Pharaoh saw that the rain and
the hail and the thunders had ceased, he
sinned yet more, and hardened his heart,
he and his servants.
35 The heart of Pharaoh was hardened,
and he didn't let the children of Israel go,
just as the LORD had spoken through
Moses.

10

1 The LORD said to Moses, "Go in to
Pharaoh, for I have hardened his heart
and the heart of his servants, that I may
show these my signs among them;
2 and that you may tell in the hearing of
your son, and of your son's son, what
things I have done to Egypt, and my signs
which I have done among them; that you
may know that I am the LORD."
3 Moses and Aaron went in to Pharaoh,
and said to him, "This is what the LORD,
the God of the Hebrews, says: 'How long
will you refuse to humble yourself before
me? Let my people go, that they may serve
me.
4 Or else, if you refuse to let my people
go, behold, tomorrow I will bring locusts
into your country,
5 and they shall cover the surface of the
earth, so that one won't be able to see the
earth. They shall eat the residue of that
which has escaped, which remains to you
from the hail, and shall eat every tree
which grows for you out of the field.
6 Your houses shall be filled, and the
houses of all your servants, and the
houses of all the Egyptians, as neither
your fathers nor your fathers' fathers

have seen, since the day that they were on the earth to this day.' " He turned, and went out from Pharaoh.
7 Pharaoh's servants said to him, "How long will this man be a snare to us? Let the men go, that they may serve the LORD, their God. Don't you yet know that Egypt is destroyed?"
8 Moses and Aaron were brought again to Pharaoh, and he said to them, "Go, serve the LORD your God; but who are those who will go?"
9 Moses said, "We will go with our young and with our old. We will go with our sons and with our daughters, with our flocks and with our herds; for we must hold a feast to the LORD."
10 He said to them, "The LORD be with you if I let you go with your little ones! See, evil is clearly before your faces.
11 Not so! Go now you who are men, and serve the LORD; for that is what you desire!" Then they were driven out from Pharaoh's presence.
12 The LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the land of Egypt for the locusts, that they may come up on the land of Egypt, and eat every herb of the land, even all that the hail has left."
13 Moses stretched out his rod over the land of Egypt, and the LORD brought an east wind on the land all that day, and all night; and when it was morning, the east wind brought the locusts.
14 The locusts went up over all the land of Egypt, and rested in all the borders of Egypt. They were very grievous. Before them there were no such locusts as they, nor will there ever be again.
15 For they covered the surface of the whole earth, so that the land was darkened, and they ate every herb of the land, and all the fruit of the trees which the hail had left. There remained nothing green, either tree or herb of the field, through all the land of Egypt.
16 Then Pharaoh called for Moses and Aaron in haste, and he said, "I have sinned against the LORD your God, and against you.
17 Now therefore please forgive my sin again, and pray to the LORD your God, that he may also take away from me this death."
18 Moses went out from Pharaoh, and prayed to the LORD.
19 The LORD sent an exceedingly strong west wind, which took up the locusts, and drove them into the Red Sea.† There remained not one locust in all the borders of Egypt.
20 But the LORD hardened Pharaoh's heart, and he didn't let the children of Israel go.
21 The LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand toward the sky, that there may be darkness over the land of Egypt, even darkness which may be felt."
22 Moses stretched out his hand toward the sky, and there was a thick darkness in all the land of Egypt for three days.
23 They didn't see one another, and nobody rose from his place for three days; but all the children of Israel had light in their dwellings.
24 Pharaoh called to Moses, and said, "Go, serve the LORD. Only let your flocks and your herds stay behind. Let your little ones also go with you."
25 Moses said, "You must also give into our hand sacrifices and burnt offerings, that we may sacrifice to the LORD our God.
26 Our livestock also shall go with us. Not a hoof shall be left behind, for of it we must take to serve the LORD our God; and we don't know with what we must serve the LORD, until we come there."
27 But the LORD hardened Pharaoh's heart, and he wouldn't let them go.
28 Pharaoh said to him, "Get away from me! Be careful to see my face no more; for in the day you see my face you shall die!"
29 Moses said, "You have spoken well. I will see your face again no more."

† **10:19** "Red Sea" is the translation for the Hebrew "Yam Suf", which could be more literally translated "Sea of Reeds" or "Sea of Cattails". It refers to the body of water currently known as the Red Sea, or possibly to one of the bodies of water connected to it or near it.

11

1 The LORD said to Moses, “I will bring
yet one more plague on Pharaoh, and on
Egypt; afterwards he will let you go.
When he lets you go, he will surely thrust
you out altogether.
2 Speak now in the ears of the people,
and let every man ask of his neighbor,
and every woman of her neighbor, jewels
of silver, and jewels of gold.”
3 The LORD gave the people favor in the
sight of the Egyptians. Moreover, the man
Moses was very great in the land of Egypt,
in the sight of Pharaoh’s servants, and in
the sight of the people.
4 Moses said, “This is what the LORD
says: ‘About midnight I will go out into the
middle of Egypt,
5 and all the firstborn in the land of
Egypt shall die, from the firstborn of
Pharaoh who sits on his throne, even to
the firstborn of the female servant who is
behind the mill, and all the firstborn of
livestock.
6 There will be a great cry throughout
all the land of Egypt, such as there has not
been, nor will be any more.
7 But against any of the children of Israel
a dog won’t even bark or move its tongue,
against man or animal, that you may
know that the LORD makes a distinction
between the Egyptians and Israel.
8 All these servants of yours will come
down to me, and bow down themselves to
me, saying, “Get out, with all the people
who follow you;” and after that I will go
out.’ ” He went out from Pharaoh in hot
anger.
9 The LORD said to Moses, “Pharaoh
won’t listen to you, that my wonders may
be multiplied in the land of Egypt.”
10 Moses and Aaron did all these
wonders before Pharaoh, but the LORD
hardened Pharaoh’s heart, and he didn’t
let the children of Israel go out of his land.

12

1 The LORD spoke to Moses and Aaron
in the land of Egypt, saying,
2 “This month shall be to you the
beginning of months. It shall be the first
month of the year to you.
3 Speak to all the congregation of Israel,
saying, ‘On the tenth day of this month,
they shall take to them every man a lamb,
according to their fathers’ houses, a lamb
for a household;
4 and if the household is too little for a
lamb, then he and his neighbor next to his
house shall take one according to the
number of the souls. You shall make your
count for the lamb according to what
everyone can eat.
5 Your lamb shall be without defect, a
male a year old. You shall take it from the
sheep or from the goats.
6 You shall keep it until the fourteenth
day of the same month; and the whole
assembly of the congregation of Israel
shall kill it at evening.
7 They shall take some of the blood, and
put it on the two door posts and on the
lintel, on the houses in which they shall
eat it.
8 They shall eat the meat in that night,
roasted with fire, with unleavened bread.
They shall eat it with bitter herbs.
9 Don’t eat it raw, nor boiled at all with
water, but roasted with fire; with its head,
its legs and its inner parts.
10 You shall let nothing of it remain until
the morning; but that which remains of it
until the morning you shall burn with fire.
11 This is how you shall eat it: with your
belt on your waist, your sandals on your
feet, and your staff in your hand; and you
shall eat it in haste: it is the LORD’s
Passover.
12 For I will go through the land of Egypt
in that night, and will strike all the
firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man
and animal. I will execute judgments
against all the gods of Egypt. I am the
LORD.
13 The blood shall be to you for a token
on the houses where you are. When I see
the blood, I will pass over you, and no
plague will be on you to destroy you when
I strike the land of Egypt.
14 This day shall be a memorial for you.
You shall keep it as a feast to the LORD.
You shall keep it as a feast throughout
your generations by an ordinance forever.
15 “ ‘Seven days you shall eat

unleavened bread; even the first day you
shall put away yeast out of your houses,
for whoever eats leavened bread from the
first day until the seventh day, that soul
shall be cut off from Israel.
16 In the first day there shall be to you a
holy convocation, and in the seventh day
a holy convocation; no kind of work shall
be done in them, except that which every
man must eat, only that may be done by
you.
17 You shall observe the feast of
unleavened bread; for in this same day I
have brought your armies out of the land
of Egypt. Therefore you shall observe this
day throughout your generations by an
ordinance forever.
18 In the first month, on the fourteenth
day of the month at evening, you shall eat
unleavened bread, until the twenty first
day of the month at evening.
19 There shall be no yeast found in your
houses for seven days, for whoever eats
that which is leavened, that soul shall be
cut off from the congregation of Israel,
whether he is a foreigner, or one who is
born in the land.
20 You shall eat nothing leavened. In all
your habitations you shall eat unleavened
bread.' "
21 Then Moses called for all the elders of
Israel, and said to them, "Draw out, and
take lambs according to your families,
and kill the Passover.
22 You shall take a bunch of hyssop, and
dip it in the blood that is in the basin, and
strike the lintel and the two door posts
with the blood that is in the basin. None of
you shall go out of the door of his house
until the morning.
23 For the LORD will pass through to
strike the Egyptians; and when he sees the
blood on the lintel, and on the two door
posts, the LORD will pass over the door,
and will not allow the destroyer to come
in to your houses to strike you.
24 You shall observe this thing for an
ordinance to you and to your sons forever.
25 It shall happen when you have come
to the land which the LORD will give you,
as he has promised, that you shall keep
this service.
26 It will happen, when your children
ask you, 'What do you mean by this
service?'
27 that you shall say, 'It is the sacrifice of
the LORD's Passover, who passed over the
houses of the children of Israel in Egypt,
when he struck the Egyptians, and spared
our houses.' "
The people bowed their heads and
worshiped.
28 The children of Israel went and did
so; as the LORD had commanded Moses
and Aaron, so they did.
29 At midnight, the LORD struck all the
firstborn in the land of Egypt, from the
firstborn of Pharaoh who sat on his
throne to the firstborn of the captive who
was in the dungeon, and all the firstborn
of livestock.
30 Pharaoh rose up in the night, he, and
all his servants, and all the Egyptians; and
there was a great cry in Egypt, for there
was not a house where there was not one
dead.
31 He called for Moses and Aaron by
night, and said, "Rise up, get out from
among my people, both you and the
children of Israel; and go, serve the LORD,
as you have said!
32 Take both your flocks and your herds,
as you have said, and be gone; and bless
me also!"
33 The Egyptians were urgent with the
people, to send them out of the land in
haste, for they said, "We are all dead
men."
34 The people took their dough before it
was leavened, their kneading troughs
being bound up in their clothes on their
shoulders.
35 The children of Israel did according to
the word of Moses; and they asked of the
Egyptians jewels of silver, and jewels of
gold, and clothing.
36 The LORD gave the people favor in
the sight of the Egyptians, so that they let
them have what they asked. They
plundered the Egyptians.
37 The children of Israel traveled from
Rameses to Succoth, about six hundred
thousand on foot who were men, in
addition to children.

38 A mixed multitude went up also with
them, with flocks, herds, and even very
much livestock.
39 They baked unleavened cakes of the
dough which they brought out of Egypt;
for it wasn't leavened, because they were
thrust out of Egypt, and couldn't wait, and
they had not prepared any food for
themselves.
40 Now the time that the children of
Israel lived in Egypt was four hundred
thirty years.
41 At the end of four hundred thirty
years, to the day, all of the LORD's armies
went out from the land of Egypt.
42 It is a night to be much observed to
the LORD for bringing them out from the
land of Egypt. This is that night of the
LORD, to be much observed by all the
children of Israel throughout their
generations.

43 The LORD said to Moses and Aaron,
"This is the ordinance of the Passover. No
foreigner shall eat of it,
44 but every man's servant who is
bought for money, when you have
circumcised him, then shall he eat of it.
45 A foreigner and a hired servant shall
not eat of it.
46 It must be eaten in one house. You
shall not carry any of the meat outside of
the house. Do not break any of its bones.
47 All the congregation of Israel shall
keep it.
48 When a stranger lives as a foreigner
with you, and would like to keep the
Passover to the LORD, let all his males be
circumcised, and then let him come near
and keep it. He shall be as one who is born
in the land; but no uncircumcised person
shall eat of it.
49 One law shall be to him who is born at
home, and to the stranger who lives as a
foreigner among you."
50 All the children of Israel did so. As the
LORD commanded Moses and Aaron, so
they did.
51 That same day, the LORD brought the
children of Israel out of the land of Egypt
by their armies.

13

1 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
2 "Sanctify to me all the firstborn,
whatever opens the womb among the
children of Israel, both of man and of
animal. It is mine."
3 Moses said to the people, "Remember
this day, in which you came out of Egypt,
out of the house of bondage; for by
strength of hand the LORD brought you
out from this place. No leavened bread
shall be eaten.
4 Today you go out in the month Abib.
5 It shall be, when the LORD brings you
into 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 you, a land flowing with
milk and honey, that you shall keep this
service in this month.
6 Seven days you shall eat unleavened
bread, and in the seventh day shall be a
feast to the LORD.
7 Unleavened bread shall be eaten
throughout the seven days; and no
leavened bread shall be seen with you. No
yeast shall be seen with you, within all
your borders.
8 You shall tell your son in that day,
saying, 'It is because of that which the
LORD did for me when I came out of
Egypt.'
9 It shall be for a sign to you on your
hand, and for a memorial between your
eyes, that the LORD's law may be in your
mouth; for with a strong hand the LORD
has brought you out of Egypt.
10 You shall therefore keep this
ordinance in its season from year to year.
11 "It shall be, when the LORD brings
you into the land of the Canaanite, as he
swore to you and to your fathers, and will
give it to you,
12 that you shall set apart to the LORD all
that opens the womb, and every firstborn
that comes from an animal which you
have. The males shall be the LORD's.
13 Every firstborn of a donkey you shall
redeem with a lamb; and if you will not
redeem it, then you shall break its neck;
and you shall redeem all the firstborn of
man among your sons.

14 It shall be, when your son asks you in
time to come, saying, 'What is this?' that
you shall tell him, 'By strength of hand the
LORD brought us out from Egypt, from the
house of bondage.
15 When Pharaoh stubbornly refused to
let us go, the LORD killed all the firstborn
in the land of Egypt, both the firstborn of
man, and the firstborn of livestock.
Therefore I sacrifice to the LORD all that
opens the womb, being males; but all the
firstborn of my sons I redeem.'
16 It shall be for a sign on your hand,
and for symbols between your eyes; for
by strength of hand the LORD brought us
out of Egypt."
17 When Pharaoh had let the people go,
God didn't lead them by the way of the
land of the Philistines, although that was
near; for God said, "Lest perhaps the
people change their minds when they see
war, and they return to Egypt";
18 but God led the people around by the
way of the wilderness by the Red Sea; and
the children of Israel went up armed out
of the land of Egypt.
19 Moses took the bones of Joseph with
him, for he had made the children of
Israel swear, saying, "God will surely visit
you, and you shall carry up my bones
away from here with you."
20 They took their journey from Succoth,
and encamped in Etham, in the edge of
the wilderness.
21 The LORD went before them by day in
a pillar of cloud, to lead them on their
way, and by night in a pillar of fire, to give
them light, that they might go by day and
by night:
22 the pillar of cloud by day, and the
pillar of fire by night, didn't depart from
before the people.

14

1 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
2 "Speak to the children of Israel, that
they turn back and encamp before
Pihahiroth, between Migdol and the sea,
before Baal Zephon. You shall encamp
opposite it by the sea.
3 Pharaoh will say of the children of
Israel, 'They are entangled in the land.
The wilderness has shut them in.'
4 I will harden Pharaoh's heart, and he
will follow after them; and I will get honor
over Pharaoh, and over all his armies; and
the Egyptians shall know that I am the
LORD." They did so.
5 The king of Egypt was told that the
people had fled; and the heart of Pharaoh
and of his servants was changed toward
the people, and they said, "What is this we
have done, that we have let Israel go from
serving us?"
6 He prepared his chariot, and took his
army with him;
7 and he took six hundred chosen
chariots, and all the chariots of Egypt,
with captains over all of them.
8 The LORD hardened the heart of
Pharaoh king of Egypt, and he pursued
the children of Israel; for the children of
Israel went out with a high hand.†
9 The Egyptians pursued them. All the
horses and chariots of Pharaoh, his
horsemen, and his army overtook them
encamping by the sea, beside Pihahiroth,
before Baal Zephon.
10 When Pharaoh came near, the
children of Israel lifted up their eyes, and
behold, the Egyptians were marching
after them; and they were very afraid.
The children of Israel cried out to the
LORD.
11 They said to Moses, "Because there
were no graves in Egypt, have you taken
us away to die in the wilderness? Why
have you treated us this way, to bring us
out of Egypt?
12 Isn't this the word that we spoke to
you in Egypt, saying, 'Leave us alone, that
we may serve the Egyptians'? For it would
have been better for us to serve the
Egyptians than to die in the wilderness."
13 Moses said to the people, "Don't be
afraid. Stand still, and see the salvation of
the LORD, which he will work for you
today; for you will never again see the
Egyptians whom you have seen today.
14 The LORD will fight for you, and you
shall be still."

† **14:8** or, defiantly.

15 The LORD said to Moses, “Why do you
cry to me? Speak to the children of Israel,
that they go forward.
16 Lift up your rod, and stretch out your
hand over the sea and divide it. Then the
children of Israel shall go into the middle
of the sea on dry ground.
17 Behold, I myself will harden the
hearts of the Egyptians, and they will go in
after them. I will get myself honor over
Pharaoh, and over all his armies, over his
chariots, and over his horsemen.
18 The Egyptians shall know that I am
the LORD when I have gotten myself
honor over Pharaoh, over his chariots,
and over his horsemen.”
19 The angel of God, who went before
the camp of Israel, moved and went
behind them; and the pillar of cloud
moved from before them, and stood
behind them.
20 It came between the camp of Egypt
and the camp of Israel. There was the
cloud and the darkness, yet it gave light by
night. One didn’t come near the other all
night.
21 Moses stretched out his hand over the
sea, and the LORD caused the sea to go
back by a strong east wind all night, and
made the sea dry land, and the waters
were divided.
22 The children of Israel went into the
middle of the sea on the dry ground; and
the waters were a wall to them on their
right hand and on their left.
23 The Egyptians pursued, and went in
after them into the middle of the sea: all
of Pharaoh’s horses, his chariots, and his
horsemen.
24 In the morning watch, the LORD
looked out on the Egyptian army through
the pillar of fire and of cloud, and
confused the Egyptian army.
25 He took off their chariot wheels, and
they drove them heavily; so that the
Egyptians said, “Let’s flee from the face of
Israel, for the LORD fights for them
against the Egyptians!”
26 The LORD said to Moses, “Stretch out
your hand over the sea, that the waters
may come again on the Egyptians, on
their chariots, and on their horsemen.”
27 Moses stretched out his hand over the
sea, and the sea returned to its strength
when the morning appeared; and the
Egyptians fled against it. The LORD
overthrew the Egyptians in the middle of
the sea.
28 The waters returned, and covered the
chariots and the horsemen, even all
Pharaoh’s army that went in after them
into the sea. There remained not so much
as one of them.
29 But the children of Israel walked on
dry land in the middle of the sea, and the
waters were a wall to them on their right
hand and on their left.
30 Thus the LORD saved Israel that day
out of the hand of the Egyptians; and
Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the
seashore.
31 Israel saw the great work which the
LORD did to the Egyptians, and the people
feared the LORD; and they believed in the
LORD and in his servant Moses.

15

1 Then Moses and the children of Israel
sang this song to the LORD,† and said,
“I will sing to the LORD, for he has
triumphed gloriously.
He has thrown the horse and his rider
into the sea.
2 The LORD‡ is my strength and song.
He has become my salvation.
This is my God, and I will praise him;
my father’s God, and I will exalt him.
3 The LORD is a man of war.
The LORD§ is his name.
4 He has cast Pharaoh’s chariots and his
army into the sea.
His chosen captains are sunk in the
Red Sea.
5 The deeps cover them.
They went down into the depths like a
stone.
6 Your right hand, LORD, is glorious in
power.
Your right hand, LORD, dashes the
enemy in pieces.

† **15:1** LORD or GOD in all caps is from the Hebrew יהוה Yahweh except when otherwise noted as being from the short form יה Yah. ‡ **15:2** Hebrew: יה Yah § **15:3** LORD or GOD in all caps is from the Hebrew יהוה Yahweh except when otherwise noted as being from the short form יה Yah.

7 In the greatness of your excellency, you
overthrow those who rise up
against you.
You send out your wrath. It consumes
them as stubble.
8 With the blast of your nostrils, the
waters were piled up.
The floods stood upright as a heap.
The deeps were congealed in the
heart of the sea.
9 The enemy said, 'I will pursue. I will
overtake. I will divide the plunder.
My desire will be satisfied on them.
I will draw my sword. My hand will
destroy them.'
10 You blew with your wind.
The sea covered them.
They sank like lead in the mighty
waters.
11 Who is like you, LORD, among the gods?
Who is like you, glorious in holiness,
fearful in praises, doing wonders?
12 You stretched out your right hand.
The earth swallowed them.
13 "You, in your loving kindness, have led
the people that you have redeemed.
You have guided them in your
strength to your holy habitation.
14 The peoples have heard.
They tremble.
Pangs have taken hold of the
inhabitants of Philistia.
15 Then the chiefs of Edom were dismayed.
Trembling takes hold of the mighty
men of Moab.
All the inhabitants of Canaan have
melted away.
16 Terror and dread falls on them.
By the greatness of your arm they are
as still as a stone,
until your people pass over, LORD,
until the people you have purchased
pass over.
17 You will bring them in, and plant
them in the mountain of your
inheritance,
the place, LORD, which you have
made for yourself to dwell in:
the sanctuary, Lord, which your
hands have established.
18 The LORD will reign forever and ever."

19 For the horses of Pharaoh went in
with his chariots and with his horsemen
into the sea, and the LORD brought back
the waters of the sea on them; but the
children of Israel walked on dry land in
the middle of the sea.
20 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 dances.
21 Miriam answered them,
"Sing to the LORD, for he has triumphed
gloriously.
He has thrown the horse and his rider
into the sea."
22 Moses led Israel onward from the Red
Sea, and they went out into the wilderness
of Shur; and they went three days in the
wilderness, and found no water.
23 When they came to Marah, they
couldn't drink from the waters of Marah,
for they were bitter. Therefore its name
was called Marah.†
24 The people murmured against Moses,
saying, "What shall we drink?"
25 Then he cried to the LORD. The LORD
showed him a tree, and he threw it into
the waters, and the waters were made
sweet. There he made a statute and an
ordinance for them, and there he tested
them.
26 He said, "If you will diligently listen to
the LORD your God's voice, and will do
that which is right in his eyes, and will pay
attention to his commandments, and keep
all his statutes, I will put none of the
diseases on you which I have put on the
Egyptians; for I am the LORD who heals
you."
27 They came to Elim, where there were
twelve springs of water and seventy palm
trees. They encamped there by the waters.

16

1 They took their journey from Elim,
and all the congregation of the children of
Israel came to the wilderness of Sin,
which is between Elim and Sinai, on the
fifteenth day of the second month after
their departing out of the land of Egypt.
2 The whole congregation of the
children of Israel murmured against

† **15:23** Marah means bitter.

Moses and against Aaron in the
wilderness;
3 and the children of Israel said to them,
"We wish that we had died by the LORD's
hand in the land of Egypt, when we sat by
the meat pots, when we ate our fill of
bread, for you have brought us out into
this wilderness to kill this whole assembly
with hunger."

4 Then the LORD said to Moses, "Behold,
I will rain bread from the sky for you, and
the people shall go out and gather a day's
portion every day, that I may test them,
whether they will walk in my law or not.
5 It shall come to pass on the sixth day,
that they shall prepare that which they
bring in, and it shall be twice as much as
they gather daily."

6 Moses and Aaron said to all the
children of Israel, "At evening, you shall
know that the LORD has brought you out
from the land of Egypt.
7 In the morning, you shall see the
LORD's glory; because he hears your
murmurings against the LORD. Who are
we, that you murmur against us?"
8 Moses said, "Now the LORD will give
you meat to eat in the evening, and in the
morning bread to satisfy you, because the
LORD hears your murmurings which you
murmur against him. And who are we?
Your murmurings are not against us, but
against the LORD."
9 Moses said to Aaron, "Tell all the
congregation of the children of Israel,
'Come close to the LORD, for he has heard
your murmurings.' "
10 As Aaron spoke to the whole
congregation of the children of Israel,
they looked toward the wilderness, and
behold, the LORD's glory appeared in the
cloud.
11 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
12 "I have heard the murmurings of the
children of Israel. Speak to them, saying,
'At evening you shall eat meat, and in the
morning you shall be filled with bread.
Then you will know that I am the LORD
your God.' "

13 In the evening, quail came up and
covered the camp; and in the morning the
dew lay around the camp.
14 When the dew that lay had gone,
behold, on the surface of the wilderness
was a small round thing, small as the frost
on the ground.
15 When the children of Israel saw it,
they said to one another, "What is it?" For
they didn't know what it was. Moses said
to them, "It is the bread which the LORD
has given you to eat.
16 This is the thing which the LORD has
commanded: 'Gather of it everyone
according to his eating; an omer† a head,
according to the number of your persons,
you shall take it, every man for those who
are in his tent.' "
17 The children of Israel did so, and
some gathered more, some less.
18 When they measured it with an omer,
he who gathered much had nothing over,
and he who gathered little had no lack.
They each gathered according to his
eating.
19 Moses said to them, "Let no one leave
of it until the morning."
20 Notwithstanding they didn't listen to
Moses, but some of them left of it until the
morning, so it bred worms and became
foul; and Moses was angry with them.
21 They gathered it morning by
morning, everyone according to his
eating. When the sun grew hot, it melted.
22 On the sixth day, they gathered twice
as much bread, two omers for each one;
and all the rulers of the congregation
came and told Moses.
23 He said to them, "This is that which
the LORD has spoken, 'Tomorrow is a
solemn rest, a holy Sabbath to the LORD.
Bake that which you want to bake, and
boil that which you want to boil; and all
that remains over lay up for yourselves to
be kept until the morning.' "
24 They laid it up until the morning, as
Moses ordered, and it didn't become foul,
and there were no worms in it.
25 Moses said, "Eat that today, for today
is a Sabbath to the LORD. Today you shall

† **16:16** An omer is about 2.2 liters or about 2.3 quarts

not find it in the field.
26 Six days you shall gather it, but on the
seventh day is the Sabbath. In it there
shall be none."
27 On the seventh day, some of the
people went out to gather, and they found
none.
28 The LORD said to Moses, "How long
do you refuse to keep my commandments
and my laws?
29 Behold, because the LORD has given
you the Sabbath, therefore he gives you
on the sixth day the bread of two days.
Everyone stay in his place. Let no one go
out of his place on the seventh day."
30 So the people rested on the seventh
day.
31 The house of Israel called its name
"Manna",‡ and it was like coriander seed,
white; and its taste was like wafers with
honey.
32 Moses said, "This is the thing which
the LORD has commanded, 'Let an
omer-full of it be kept throughout your
generations, that they may see the bread
with which I fed you in the wilderness,
when I brought you out of the land of
Egypt.' "
33 Moses said to Aaron, "Take a pot, and
put an omer-full of manna in it, and lay it
up before the LORD, to be kept
throughout your generations."
34 As the LORD commanded Moses, so
Aaron laid it up before the Testimony, to
be kept.
35 The children of Israel ate the manna
forty years, until they came to an
inhabited land. They ate the manna until
they came to the borders of the land of
Canaan.
36 Now an omer is one tenth of an
ephah.§

17

1 All the congregation of the children of
Israel traveled from the wilderness of Sin,
starting according to the LORD's
commandment, and encamped in
Rephidim; but there was no water for the
people to drink.
2 Therefore the people quarreled with
Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink."
Moses said to them, "Why do you
quarrel with me? Why do you test the
LORD?"
3 The people were thirsty for water
there; so the people murmured against
Moses, and said, "Why have you brought
us up out of Egypt, to kill us, our children,
and our livestock with thirst?"
4 Moses cried to the LORD, saying,
"What shall I do with these people? They
are almost ready to stone me."
5 The LORD said to Moses, "Walk on
before the people, and take the elders of
Israel with you, and take the rod in your
hand with which you struck the Nile, and
go.
6 Behold, I will stand before you there
on the rock in Horeb. You shall strike the
rock, and water will come out of it, that
the people may drink." Moses did so in the
sight of the elders of Israel.
7 He called the name of the place
Massah,† and Meribah,‡ because the
children of Israel quarreled, and because
they tested the LORD, saying, "Is the LORD
among us, or not?"
8 Then Amalek came and fought with
Israel in Rephidim.
9 Moses said to Joshua, "Choose men for
us, and go out to fight with Amalek.
Tomorrow I will stand on the top of the
hill with God's rod in my hand."
10 So Joshua did as Moses had told him,
and fought with Amalek; and Moses,
Aaron, and Hur went up to the top of the
hill.
11 When Moses held up his hand, Israel
prevailed. When he let down his hand,
Amalek prevailed.
12 But Moses' hands were heavy; so they
took a stone, and put it under him, and he
sat on it. Aaron and Hur held up his
hands, the one on the one side, and the
other on the other side. His hands were
steady until sunset.
13 Joshua defeated Amalek and his
people with the edge of the sword.

‡ **16:31** "Manna" means "What is it?" § **16:36** 1 ephah is about 22 liters or about 2/3 of a bushel † **17:7** Massah means testing. ‡ **17:7** Meribah means quarreling.

14 The LORD said to Moses, “Write this
for a memorial in a book, and rehearse it
in the ears of Joshua: that I will utterly
blot out the memory of Amalek from
under the sky.”
15 Moses built an altar, and called its
name “The LORD our Banner”.§
16 He said, “The LORD† has sworn: ‘The
LORD‡ will have war with Amalek from
generation to generation.’ ”

18

1 Now Jethro, the priest of Midian,
Moses’ father-in-law, heard of all that God
had done for Moses and for Israel his
people, how the LORD had brought Israel
out of Egypt.
2 Jethro, Moses’ father-in-law, received
Zipporah, Moses’ wife, after he had sent
her away,
3 and her two sons. The name of one son
was Gershom,† for Moses said, “I have
lived as a foreigner in a foreign land”.
4 The name of the other was Eliezer,‡ for
he said, “My father’s God was my help and
delivered me from Pharaoh’s sword.”
5 Jethro, Moses’ father-in-law, came
with Moses’ sons and his wife to Moses
into the wilderness where he was
encamped, at the Mountain of God.
6 He said to Moses, “I, your father-in-law
Jethro, have come to you with your wife,
and her two sons with her.”
7 Moses went out to meet his
father-in-law, and bowed and kissed him.
They asked each other of their welfare,
and they came into the tent.
8 Moses told his father-in-law all that
the LORD had done to Pharaoh and to the
Egyptians for Israel’s sake, all the
hardships that had come on them on the
way, and how the LORD delivered them.
9 Jethro rejoiced for all the goodness
which the LORD had done to Israel, in that
he had delivered them out of the hand of
the Egyptians.
10 Jethro said, “Blessed be the LORD,
who has delivered you out of the hand of
the Egyptians, and out of the hand of
Pharaoh; who has delivered the people
from under the hand of the Egyptians.
11 Now I know that the LORD is greater
than all gods because of the way that they
treated people arrogantly.”
12 Jethro, Moses’ father-in-law, took a
burnt offering and sacrifices for God.
Aaron came with all the elders of Israel, to
eat bread with Moses’ father-in-law
before God.
13 On the next day, Moses sat to judge
the people, and the people stood around
Moses from the morning to the evening.
14 When Moses’ father-in-law saw all
that he did to the people, he said, “What is
this thing that you do for the people? Why
do you sit alone, and all the people stand
around you from morning to evening?”
15 Moses said to his father-in-law,
“Because the people come to me to
inquire of God.
16 When they have a matter, they come
to me, and I judge between a man and his
neighbor, and I make them know the
statutes of God, and his laws.”
17 Moses’ father-in-law said to him, “The
thing that you do is not good.
18 You will surely wear away, both you,
and this people that is with you; for the
thing is too heavy for you. You are not
able to perform it yourself alone.
19 Listen now to my voice. I will give you
counsel, and God be with you. You
represent the people before God, and
bring the causes to God.
20 You shall teach them the statutes and
the laws, and shall show them the way in
which they must walk, and the work that
they must do.
21 Moreover you shall provide out of all
the people able men which fear God: men
of truth, hating unjust gain; and place
such over them, to be rulers of thousands,
rulers of hundreds, rulers of fifties, and
rulers of tens.
22 Let them judge the people at all times.
It shall be that every great matter they

§ **17:15** Or, The LORD Nissi. LORD or GOD in all caps is from the Hebrew יהוה Yahweh except when otherwise noted as being from the short form יה Yah. † **17:16** Hebrew: יה Yah ‡ **17:16** LORD or GOD in all caps is from the Hebrew יהוה Yahweh except when otherwise noted as being from the short form יה Yah. † **18:3** “Gershom” sounds like the Hebrew for “an alien there”. ‡ **18:4** Eliezer means “God is my helper”.

shall bring to you, but every small matter they shall judge themselves. So shall it be easier for you, and they shall share the load with you.
23 If you will do this thing, and God commands you so, then you will be able to endure, and all these people also will go to their place in peace."
24 So Moses listened to the voice of his father-in-law, and did all that he had said.
25 Moses chose able men out of all Israel, and made them heads over the people, rulers of thousands, rulers of hundreds, rulers of fifties, and rulers of tens.
26 They judged the people at all times. They brought the hard cases to Moses, but every small matter they judged themselves.
27 Moses let his father-in-law depart, and he went his way into his own land.

19

1 In the third month after the children of Israel had gone out of the land of Egypt, on that same day they came into the wilderness of Sinai.
2 When they had departed from Rephidim, and had come to the wilderness of Sinai, they encamped in the wilderness; and there Israel encamped before the mountain.
3 Moses went up to God, and the LORD called to him out of the mountain, saying, "This is what you shall tell the house of Jacob, and tell the children of Israel:
4 'You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles' wings, and brought you to myself.
5 Now therefore, if you will indeed obey my voice and keep my covenant, then you shall be my own possession from among all peoples; for all the earth is mine;
6 and you shall be to me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.' These are the words which you shall speak to the children of Israel."
7 Moses came and called for the elders of the people, and set before them all these words which the LORD commanded him.
8 All the people answered together, and said, "All that the LORD has spoken we will do."

Moses reported the words of the people to the LORD.
9 The LORD said to Moses, "Behold, I come to you in a thick cloud, that the people may hear when I speak with you, and may also believe you forever." Moses told the words of the people to the LORD.
10 The LORD said to Moses, "Go to the people, and sanctify them today and tomorrow, and let them wash their garments,
11 and be ready for the third day; for on the third day the LORD will come down in the sight of all the people on Mount Sinai.
12 You shall set bounds to the people all around, saying, 'Be careful that you don't go up onto the mountain, or touch its border. Whoever touches the mountain shall be surely put to death.
13 No hand shall touch him, but he shall surely be stoned or shot through; whether it is animal or man, he shall not live.' When the trumpet sounds long, they shall come up to the mountain."

14 Moses went down from the mountain to the people, and sanctified the people; and they washed their clothes.
15 He said to the people, "Be ready by the third day. Don't have sexual relations with a woman."

16 On the third day, when it was morning, there were thunders and lightnings, and a thick cloud on the mountain, and the sound of an exceedingly loud trumpet; and all the people who were in the camp trembled.
17 Moses led the people out of the camp to meet God; and they stood at the lower part of the mountain.
18 All of Mount Sinai smoked, because the LORD descended on it in fire; and its smoke ascended like the smoke of a furnace, and the whole mountain quaked greatly.
19 When the sound of the trumpet grew louder and louder, Moses spoke, and God answered him by a voice.
20 The LORD came down on Mount Sinai, to the top of the mountain. The LORD called Moses to the top of the mountain, and Moses went up.

21 The LORD said to Moses, “Go down,
warn the people, lest they break through
to the LORD to gaze, and many of them
perish.
22 Let the priests also, who come near to
the LORD, sanctify themselves, lest the
LORD break out on them.”
23 Moses said to the LORD, “The people
can’t come up to Mount Sinai, for you
warned us, saying, ‘Set bounds around the
mountain, and sanctify it.’ ”
24 The LORD said to him, “Go down! You
shall bring Aaron up with you, but don’t
let the priests and the people break
through to come up to the LORD, lest he
break out against them.”
25 So Moses went down to the people,
and told them.

20

1 God† spoke all these words, saying,
2 “I am the LORD your God, who
brought you out of the land of Egypt, out
of the house of bondage.
3 “You shall have no other gods before
me.
4 “You shall not make for yourselves an
idol, nor any image of anything that is in
the heavens above, or that is on the earth
beneath, or that is in the water under the
earth:
5 you shall not bow yourself down to
them, nor serve them, for I, the LORD
your God, am a jealous God, visiting the
iniquity of the fathers on the children, on
the third and on the fourth generation of
those who hate me,
6 and showing loving kindness to
thousands of those who love me and keep
my commandments.
7 “You shall not misuse the name of the
LORD‡ your God,§ for the LORD will not
hold him guiltless who misuses his name.
8 “Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it
holy.
9 You shall labor six days, and do all
your work,
10 but the seventh day is a Sabbath to
the LORD your God. You shall not do any
work in it, you, nor your son, nor your
daughter, your male servant, nor your
female servant, nor your livestock, nor
your stranger who is within your gates;
11 for in six days the LORD made heaven
and earth, the sea, and all that is in them,
and rested the seventh day; therefore the
LORD blessed the Sabbath day, and made
it holy.
12 “Honor your father and your mother,
that your days may be long in the land
which the LORD your God gives you.
13 “You shall not murder.
14 “You shall not commit adultery.
15 “You shall not steal.
16 “You shall not give false testimony
against your neighbor.
17 “You shall not covet your neighbor’s
house. You shall not covet your neighbor’s
wife, nor his male servant, nor his female
servant, nor his ox, nor his donkey, nor
anything that is your neighbor’s.”
18 All the people perceived the
thunderings, the lightnings, the sound of
the trumpet, and the mountain smoking.
When the people saw it, they trembled,
and stayed at a distance.
19 They said to Moses, “Speak with us
yourself, and we will listen; but don’t let
God speak with us, lest we die.”
20 Moses said to the people, “Don’t be
afraid, for God has come to test you, and
that his fear may be before you, that you
won’t sin.”
21 The people stayed at a distance, and
Moses came near to the thick darkness
where God was.
22 The LORD said to Moses, “This is what
you shall tell the children of Israel: ‘You
yourselves have seen that I have talked
with you from heaven.
23 You shall most certainly not make
gods of silver or gods of gold for
yourselves to be alongside me.
24 You shall make an altar of earth for
me, and shall sacrifice on it your burnt

† **20:1** After “God”, the Hebrew has the two letters “Aleph Tav” (the first and last letters of the Hebrew alphabet), not as a word, but as a grammatical marker. ‡ **20:7** LORD or GOD in all caps is from the Hebrew יהוה Yahweh except when otherwise noted as being from the short form יה Yah. § **20:7** or, You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain

offerings and your peace offerings, your sheep and your cattle. In every place where I record my name I will come to you and I will bless you.
25 If you make me an altar of stone, you shall not build it of cut stones; for if you lift up your tool on it, you have polluted it.
26 You shall not go up by steps to my altar, that your nakedness may not be exposed to it.'

21

1 "Now these are the ordinances which you shall set before them:
2 "If you buy a Hebrew servant, he shall serve six years, and in the seventh he shall go out free without paying anything.
3 If he comes in by himself, he shall go out by himself. If he is married, then his wife shall go out with him.
4 If his master gives him a wife and she bears him sons or daughters, the wife and her children shall be her master's, and he shall go out by himself.
5 But if the servant shall plainly say, 'I love my master, my wife, and my children. I will not go out free;'
6 then his master shall bring him to God, and shall bring him to the door or to the doorpost, and his master shall bore his ear through with an awl, and he shall serve him forever.
7 "If a man sells his daughter to be a female servant, she shall not go out as the male servants do.
8 If she doesn't please her master, who has married her to himself, then he shall let her be redeemed. He shall have no right to sell her to a foreign people, since he has dealt deceitfully with her.
9 If he marries her to his son, he shall deal with her as a daughter.
10 If he takes another wife to himself, he shall not diminish her food, her clothing, and her marital rights.
11 If he doesn't do these three things for her, she may go free without paying any money.
12 "One who strikes a man so that he dies shall surely be put to death,
13 but not if it is unintentional, but God allows it to happen; then I will appoint you a place where he shall flee.
14 If a man schemes and comes presumptuously on his neighbor to kill him, you shall take him from my altar, that he may die.
15 "Anyone who attacks his father or his mother shall be surely put to death.
16 "Anyone who kidnaps someone and sells him, or if he is found in his hand, he shall surely be put to death.
17 "Anyone who curses his father or his mother shall surely be put to death.
18 "If men quarrel and one strikes the other with a stone, or with his fist, and he doesn't die, but is confined to bed;
19 if he rises again and walks around with his staff, then he who struck him shall be cleared; only he shall pay for the loss of his time, and shall provide for his healing until he is thoroughly healed.
20 "If a man strikes his servant or his maid with a rod, and he dies under his hand, the man shall surely be punished.
21 Notwithstanding, if his servant gets up after a day or two, he shall not be punished, for the servant is his property.
22 "If men fight and hurt a pregnant woman so that she gives birth prematurely, and yet no harm follows, he shall be surely fined as much as the woman's husband demands and the judges allow.
23 But if any harm follows, then you must take life for life,
24 eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot,
25 burning for burning, wound for wound, and bruise for bruise.
26 "If a man strikes his servant's eye, or his maid's eye, and destroys it, he shall let him go free for his eye's sake.
27 If he strikes out his male servant's tooth, or his female servant's tooth, he shall let the servant go free for his tooth's sake.
28 "If a bull gores a man or a woman to death, the bull shall surely be stoned, and its meat shall not be eaten; but the owner of the bull shall not be held responsible.

29 But if the bull had a habit of goring in
the past, and this has been testified to its
owner, and he has not kept it in, but it has
killed a man or a woman, the bull shall be
stoned, and its owner shall also be put to
death.
30 If a ransom is imposed on him, then
he shall give for the redemption of his life
whatever is imposed.
31 Whether it has gored a son or has
gored a daughter, according to this
judgment it shall be done to him.
32 If the bull gores a male servant or a
female servant, thirty shekels† of silver
shall be given to their master, and the ox
shall be stoned.
33 "If a man opens a pit, or if a man digs
a pit and doesn't cover it, and a bull or a
donkey falls into it,
34 the owner of the pit shall make it
good. He shall give money to its owner,
and the dead animal shall be his.
35 "If one man's bull injures another's,
so that it dies, then they shall sell the live
bull, and divide its price; and they shall
also divide the dead animal.
36 Or if it is known that the bull was in
the habit of goring in the past, and its
owner has not kept it in, he shall surely
pay bull for bull, and the dead animal
shall be his own.

22

1 "If a man steals an ox or a sheep, and
kills it or sells it, he shall pay five oxen for
an ox, and four sheep for a sheep.
2 If the thief is found breaking in, and is
struck so that he dies, there shall be no
guilt of bloodshed for him.
3 If the sun has risen on him, he is guilty
of bloodshed. He shall make restitution. If
he has nothing, then he shall be sold for
his theft.
4 If the stolen property is found in his
hand alive, whether it is ox, donkey, or
sheep, he shall pay double.
5 "If a man causes a field or vineyard to
be eaten by letting his animal loose, and it
grazes in another man's field, he shall
make restitution from the best of his own
field, and from the best of his own
vineyard.
6 "If fire breaks out, and catches in
thorns so that the shocks of grain, or the
standing grain, or the field are consumed;
he who kindled the fire shall surely make
restitution.
7 "If a man delivers to his neighbor
money or stuff to keep, and it is stolen out
of the man's house, if the thief is found, he
shall pay double.
8 If the thief isn't found, then the master
of the house shall come near to God, to
find out whether or not he has put his
hand on his neighbor's goods.
9 For every matter of trespass, whether
it is for ox, for donkey, for sheep, for
clothing, or for any kind of lost thing,
about which one says, 'This is mine,' the
cause of both parties shall come before
God. He whom God condemns shall pay
double to his neighbor.
10 "If a man delivers to his neighbor a
donkey, an ox, a sheep, or any animal to
keep, and it dies or is injured, or driven
away, no man seeing it;
11 the oath of the LORD shall be between
them both, he has not put his hand on his
neighbor's goods; and its owner shall
accept it, and he shall not make
restitution.
12 But if it is stolen from him, the one
who stole shall make restitution to its
owner.
13 If it is torn in pieces, let him bring it
for evidence. He shall not make good that
which was torn.
14 "If a man borrows anything of his
neighbor's, and it is injured, or dies, its
owner not being with it, he shall surely
make restitution.
15 If its owner is with it, he shall not
make it good. If it is a leased thing, it came
for its lease.
16 "If a man entices a virgin who isn't
pledged to be married, and lies with her,
he shall surely pay a dowry for her to be
his wife.
17 If her father utterly refuses to give
her to him, he shall pay money according
to the dowry of virgins.

† **21:32** A shekel is about 10 grams or about 0.35 ounces, so 30 shekels is about 300 grams or about 10.6 ounces.

18 “You shall not allow a sorceress to
live.
19 “Whoever has sex with an animal
shall surely be put to death.
20 “He who sacrifices to any god, except
to the LORD only, shall be utterly
destroyed.
21 “You shall not wrong an alien or
oppress him, for you were aliens in the
land of Egypt.
22 “You shall not take advantage of any
widow or fatherless child.
23 If you take advantage of them at all,
and they cry at all to me, I will surely hear
their cry;
24 and my wrath will grow hot, and I
will kill you with the sword; and your
wives shall be widows, and your children
fatherless.
25 “If you lend money to any of my
people with you who is poor, you shall not
be to him as a creditor. You shall not
charge him interest.
26 If you take your neighbor’s garment
as collateral, you shall restore it to him
before the sun goes down,
27 for that is his only covering, it is his
garment for his skin. What would he
sleep in? It will happen, when he cries to
me, that I will hear, for I am gracious.
28 “You shall not blaspheme God, nor
curse a ruler of your people.
29 “You shall not delay to offer from
your harvest and from the outflow of your
presses.
“You shall give the firstborn of your
sons to me.
30 You shall do likewise with your cattle
and with your sheep. It shall be with its
mother seven days, then on the eighth day
you shall give it to me.
31 “You shall be holy men to me,
therefore you shall not eat any meat that
is torn by animals in the field. You shall
cast it to the dogs.

23

1 “You shall not spread a false report.
Don’t join your hand with the wicked to
be a malicious witness.
2 “You shall not follow a crowd to do
evil. You shall not testify in court to side
with a multitude to pervert justice.
3 You shall not favor a poor man in his
cause.
4 “If you meet your enemy’s ox or his
donkey going astray, you shall surely
bring it back to him again.
5 If you see the donkey of him who hates
you fallen down under his burden, don’t
leave him. You shall surely help him with
it.
6 “You shall not deny justice to your
poor people in their lawsuits.
7 “Keep far from a false charge, and
don’t kill the innocent and righteous; for I
will not justify the wicked.
8 “You shall take no bribe, for a bribe
blinds those who have sight and perverts
the words of the righteous.
9 “You shall not oppress an alien, for you
know the heart of an alien, since you were
aliens in the land of Egypt.
10 “For six years you shall sow your
land, and shall gather in its increase,
11 but the seventh year you shall let it
rest and lie fallow, that the poor of your
people may eat; and what they leave the
animal of the field shall eat. In the same
way, you shall deal with your vineyard
and with your olive grove.
12 “Six days you shall do your work, and
on the seventh day you shall rest, that
your ox and your donkey may have rest,
and the son of your servant, and the alien
may be refreshed.
13 “Be careful to do all things that I have
said to you; and don’t invoke the name of
other gods or even let them be heard out
of your mouth.
14 “You shall observe a feast to me three
times a year.
15 You shall observe the feast of
unleavened bread. Seven days you shall
eat unleavened bread, as I commanded
you, at the time appointed in the month
Abib (for in it you came out of Egypt), and
no one shall appear before me empty.
16 And the feast of harvest, the first
fruits of your labors, which you sow in the
field; and the feast of ingathering, at the

end of the year, when you gather in your labors out of the field.
17 Three times in the year all your males shall appear before the Lord GOD.
18 "You shall not offer the blood of my sacrifice with leavened bread. The fat of my feast shall not remain all night until the morning.
19 You shall bring the first of the first fruits of your ground into the house of the LORD your God.
"You shall not boil a young goat in its mother's milk.
20 "Behold, I send an angel before you, to keep you by the way, and to bring you into the place which I have prepared.
21 Pay attention to him, and listen to his voice. Don't provoke him, for he will not pardon your disobedience, for my name is in him.
22 But if you indeed listen to his voice, and do all that I speak, then I will be an enemy to your enemies, and an adversary to your adversaries.
23 For my angel shall go before you, and bring you in to the Amorite, the Hittite, the Perizzite, the Canaanite, the Hivite, and the Jebusite; and I will cut them off.
24 You shall not bow down to their gods, nor serve them, nor follow their practices, but you shall utterly overthrow them and demolish their pillars.
25 You shall serve the LORD your God, and he will bless your bread and your water, and I will take sickness away from among you.
26 No one will miscarry or be barren in your land. I will fulfill the number of your days.
27 I will send my terror before you, and will confuse all the people to whom you come, and I will make all your enemies turn their backs to you.
28 I will send the hornet before you, which will drive out the Hivite, the Canaanite, and the Hittite, from before you.
29 I will not drive them out from before you in one year, lest the land become desolate, and the animals of the field multiply against you.
30 Little by little I will drive them out from before you, until you have increased and inherit the land.
31 I will set your border from the Red Sea even to the sea of the Philistines, and from the wilderness to the River; for I will deliver the inhabitants of the land into your hand, and you shall drive them out before you.
32 You shall make no covenant with them, nor with their gods.
33 They shall not dwell in your land, lest they make you sin against me, for if you serve their gods, it will surely be a snare to you."

24

1 He said to Moses, "Come up to the LORD, you, and Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel; and worship from a distance.
2 Moses alone shall come near to the LORD, but they shall not come near. The people shall not go up with him."
3 Moses came and told the people all the LORD's words, and all the ordinances; and all the people answered with one voice, and said, "All the words which the LORD has spoken will we do."
4 Moses wrote all the LORD's words, then rose up early in the morning and built an altar at the base of the mountain, with twelve pillars for the twelve tribes of Israel.
5 He sent young men of the children of Israel, who offered burnt offerings and sacrificed peace offerings of cattle to the LORD.
6 Moses took half of the blood and put it in basins, and half of the blood he sprinkled on the altar.
7 He took the book of the covenant and read it in the hearing of the people, and they said, "We will do all that the LORD has said, and be obedient."
8 Moses took the blood, and sprinkled it on the people, and said, "Look, this is the blood of the covenant, which the LORD has made with you concerning all these words."
9 Then Moses, Aaron, Nadab, Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel went up.

10 They saw the God of Israel. Under his
feet was like a paved work of sapphire†
stone, like the skies for clearness.
11 He didn't lay his hand on the nobles of
the children of Israel. They saw God, and
ate and drank.
12 The LORD said to Moses, "Come up to
me on the mountain, and stay here, and I
will give you the stone tablets with the
law and the commands that I have
written, that you may teach them."
13 Moses rose up with Joshua, his
servant, and Moses went up onto God's
Mountain.
14 He said to the elders, "Wait here for
us, until we come again to you. Behold,
Aaron and Hur are with you. Whoever is
involved in a dispute can go to them."
15 Moses went up on the mountain, and
the cloud covered the mountain.
16 The LORD's glory settled on Mount
Sinai, and the cloud covered it six days.
The seventh day he called to Moses out of
the middle of the cloud.
17 The appearance of the LORD's glory
was like devouring fire on the top of the
mountain in the eyes of the children of
Israel.
18 Moses entered into the middle of the
cloud, and went up on the mountain; and
Moses was on the mountain forty days
and forty nights.

25

1 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
2 "Speak to the children of Israel, that
they take an offering for me. From
everyone whose heart makes him willing
you shall take my offering.
3 This is the offering which you shall
take from them: gold, silver, bronze,
4 blue, purple, scarlet, fine linen, goats'
hair,
5 rams' skins dyed red, sea cow hides,†
acacia wood,
6 oil for the light, spices for the
anointing oil and for the sweet incense,
7 onyx stones, and stones to be set for
the ephod and for the breastplate.
8 Let them make me a sanctuary, that I
may dwell among them.
9 According to all that I show you, the
pattern of the tabernacle, and the pattern
of all of its furniture, even so you shall
make it.
10 "They shall make an ark of acacia
wood. Its length shall be two and a half
cubits,‡ its width a cubit and a half, and a
cubit and a half its height.
11 You shall overlay it with pure gold.
You shall overlay it inside and outside,
and you shall make a gold molding
around it.
12 You shall cast four rings of gold for it,
and put them in its four feet. Two rings
shall be on the one side of it, and two rings
on the other side of it.
13 You shall make poles of acacia wood,
and overlay them with gold.
14 You shall put the poles into the rings
on the sides of the ark to carry the ark.
15 The poles shall be in the rings of the
ark. They shall not be taken from it.
16 You shall put the covenant which I
shall give you into the ark.
17 You shall make a mercy seat of pure
gold. Two and a half cubits shall be its
length, and a cubit and a half its width.
18 You shall make two cherubim of
hammered gold. You shall make them at
the two ends of the mercy seat.
19 Make one cherub at the one end, and
one cherub at the other end. You shall
make the cherubim on its two ends of one
piece with the mercy seat.
20 The cherubim shall spread out their
wings upward, covering the mercy seat
with their wings, with their faces toward
one another. The faces of the cherubim
shall be toward the mercy seat.
21 You shall put the mercy seat on top of
the ark, and in the ark you shall put the
covenant that I will give you.
22 There I will meet with you, and I will
tell you from above the mercy seat, from
between the two cherubim which are on
the ark of the covenant, all that I
command you for the children of Israel.

† **24:10** or, lapis lazuli † **25:5** or, fine leather ‡ **25:10** A cubit is the length from the tip of the middle finger to the elbow on a man's arm, or about 18 inches or 46 centimeters.

23 “You shall make a table of acacia
wood. Its length shall be two cubits, and
its width a cubit, and its height one and a
half cubits.
24 You shall overlay it with pure gold,
and make a gold molding around it.
25 You shall make a rim of a hand width
around it. You shall make a golden
molding on its rim around it.
26 You shall make four rings of gold for
it, and put the rings in the four corners
that are on its four feet.
27 The rings shall be close to the rim, for
places for the poles to carry the table.
28 You shall make the poles of acacia
wood, and overlay them with gold, that
the table may be carried with them.
29 You shall make its dishes, its spoons,
its ladles, and its bowls with which to
pour out offerings. You shall make them
of pure gold.
30 You shall set bread of the presence on
the table before me always.

31 “You shall make a lamp stand of pure
gold. The lamp stand shall be made of
hammered work. Its base, its shaft, its
cups, its buds, and its flowers shall be of
one piece with it.
32 There shall be six branches going out
of its sides: three branches of the lamp
stand out of its one side, and three
branches of the lamp stand out of its other
side;
33 three cups made like almond
blossoms in one branch, a bud and a
flower; and three cups made like almond
blossoms in the other branch, a bud and a
flower, so for the six branches going out of
the lamp stand;
34 and in the lamp stand four cups made
like almond blossoms, its buds and its
flowers;
35 and a bud under two branches of one
piece with it, and a bud under two
branches of one piece with it, and a bud
under two branches of one piece with it,
for the six branches going out of the lamp
stand.
36 Their buds and their branches shall
be of one piece with it, all of it one beaten
work of pure gold.
37 You shall make its lamps seven, and
they shall light its lamps to give light to
the space in front of it.
38 Its snuffers and its snuff dishes shall
be of pure gold.
39 It shall be made of a talent§ of pure
gold, with all these accessories.
40 See that you make them after their
pattern, which has been shown to you on
the mountain.

26

1 “Moreover you shall make the
tabernacle with ten curtains of fine
twined linen, and blue, and purple, and
scarlet, with cherubim. You shall make
them with the work of a skillful workman.
2 The length of each curtain shall be
twenty-eight cubits,† and the width of
each curtain four cubits: all the curtains
shall have one measure.
3 Five curtains shall be coupled together
to one another, and the other five curtains
shall be coupled to one another.
4 You shall make loops of blue on the
edge of the one curtain from the edge in
the coupling, and you shall do likewise on
the edge of the curtain that is outermost
in the second coupling.
5 You shall make fifty loops in the one
curtain, and you shall make fifty loops in
the edge of the curtain that is in the
second coupling. The loops shall be
opposite one another.
6 You shall make fifty clasps of gold, and
couple the curtains to one another with
the clasps. The tabernacle shall be a unit.
7 “You shall make curtains of goats’ hair
for a covering over the tabernacle. You
shall make eleven curtains.
8 The length of each curtain shall be
thirty cubits, and the width of each
curtain four cubits: the eleven curtains
shall have one measure.
9 You shall couple five curtains by
themselves, and six curtains by

§ **25:39** A talent is about 30 kilograms or 66 pounds or 965 Troy ounces † **26:2** A cubit is the length from the tip of the middle finger to the elbow on a man’s arm, or about 18 inches or 46 centimeters.

themselves, and shall double over the sixth curtain in the forefront of the tent.
10 You shall make fifty loops on the edge of the one curtain that is outermost in the coupling, and fifty loops on the edge of the curtain which is outermost in the second coupling.
11 You shall make fifty clasps of bronze, and put the clasps into the loops, and couple the tent together, that it may be one.
12 The overhanging part that remains of the curtains of the tent—the half curtain that remains—shall hang over the back of the tabernacle.
13 The cubit on the one side and the cubit on the other side, of that which remains in the length of the curtains of the tent, shall hang over the sides of the tabernacle on this side and on that side, to cover it.
14 You shall make a covering for the tent of rams' skins dyed red, and a covering of sea cow hides above.
15 "You shall make the boards for the tabernacle of acacia wood, standing upright.
16 Ten cubits shall be the length of a board, and one and a half cubits the width of each board.
17 There shall be two tenons in each board, joined to one another: thus you shall make for all the boards of the tabernacle.
18 You shall make twenty boards for the tabernacle, for the south side southward.
19 You shall make forty sockets of silver under the twenty boards; two sockets under one board for its two tenons, and two sockets under another board for its two tenons.
20 For the second side of the tabernacle, on the north side, twenty boards,
21 and their forty sockets of silver; two sockets under one board, and two sockets under another board.
22 For the far side of the tabernacle westward you shall make six boards.
23 You shall make two boards for the corners of the tabernacle in the far side.
24 They shall be double beneath, and in the same way they shall be whole to its top to one ring: thus shall it be for them both; they shall be for the two corners.
25 There shall be eight boards, and their sockets of silver, sixteen sockets; two sockets under one board, and two sockets under another board.
26 "You shall make bars of acacia wood: five for the boards of the one side of the tabernacle,
27 and five bars for the boards of the other side of the tabernacle, and five bars for the boards of the side of the tabernacle, for the far side westward.
28 The middle bar in the middle of the boards shall pass through from end to end.
29 You shall overlay the boards with gold, and make their rings of gold for places for the bars. You shall overlay the bars with gold.
30 You shall set up the tabernacle according to the way that it was shown to you on the mountain.
31 "You shall make a veil of blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine twined linen, with cherubim. It shall be the work of a skillful workman.
32 You shall hang it on four pillars of acacia overlaid with gold; their hooks shall be of gold, on four sockets of silver.
33 You shall hang up the veil under the clasps, and shall bring the ark of the covenant in there within the veil. The veil shall separate the holy place from the most holy for you.
34 You shall put the mercy seat on the ark of the covenant in the most holy place.
35 You shall set the table outside the veil, and the lamp stand opposite the table on the side of the tabernacle toward the south. You shall put the table on the north side.
36 "You shall make a screen for the door of the Tent, of blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine twined linen, the work of the embroiderer.
37 You shall make for the screen five pillars of acacia, and overlay them with gold. Their hooks shall be of gold. You shall cast five sockets of bronze for them.

† **27:1** A cubit is the length from the tip of the middle finger to the elbow on a man's arm, or about 18 inches or 46 centimeters.

27

1 "You shall make the altar of acacia
wood, five cubits† long, and five cubits
wide. The altar shall be square. Its height
shall be three cubits.‡
2 You shall make its horns on its four
corners. Its horns shall be of one piece
with it. You shall overlay it with bronze.
3 You shall make its pots to take away its
ashes; and its shovels, its basins, its meat
hooks, and its fire pans. You shall make all
its vessels of bronze.
4 You shall make a grating for it of
network of bronze. On the net you shall
make four bronze rings in its four corners.
5 You shall put it under the ledge around
the altar beneath, that the net may reach
halfway up the altar.
6 You shall make poles for the altar,
poles of acacia wood, and overlay them
with bronze.
7 Its poles shall be put into the rings, and
the poles shall be on the two sides of the
altar when carrying it.
8 You shall make it hollow with planks.
They shall make it as it has been shown
you on the mountain.

9 "You shall make the court of the
tabernacle: for the south side southward
there shall be hangings for the court of
fine twined linen one hundred cubits long
for one side.
10 Its pillars shall be twenty, and their
sockets twenty, of bronze. The hooks of
the pillars and their fillets shall be of
silver.
11 Likewise for the length of the north
side, there shall be hangings one hundred
cubits long, and its pillars twenty, and
their sockets twenty, of bronze; the hooks
of the pillars, and their fillets, of silver.
12 For the width of the court on the west
side shall be hangings of fifty cubits; their
pillars ten, and their sockets ten.
13 The width of the court on the east side
eastward shall be fifty cubits.
14 The hangings for the one side of the
gate shall be fifteen cubits; their pillars
three, and their sockets three.
15 For the other side shall be hangings of
fifteen cubits; their pillars three, and their
sockets three.
16 For the gate of the court shall be a
screen of twenty cubits, of blue, and
purple, and scarlet, and fine twined linen,
the work of the embroiderer; their pillars
four, and their sockets four.
17 All the pillars of the court around
shall be filleted with silver; their hooks of
silver, and their sockets of bronze.
18 The length of the court shall be one
hundred cubits, and the width fifty
throughout, and the height five cubits, of
fine twined linen, and their sockets of
bronze.
19 All the instruments of the tabernacle
in all its service, and all its pins, and all
the pins of the court, shall be of bronze.
20 "You shall command the children of
Israel, that they bring to you pure olive oil
beaten for the light, to cause a lamp to
burn continually.
21 In the Tent of Meeting, outside the
veil which is before the covenant, Aaron
and his sons shall keep it in order from
evening to morning before the LORD: it
shall be a statute forever throughout their
generations on the behalf of the children
of Israel.

28

1 "Bring Aaron your brother, and his
sons with him, near to you from among
the children of Israel, that he may
minister to me in the priest's office:
Aaron, with Nadab, Abihu, Eleazar, and
Ithamar, Aaron's sons.
2 You shall make holy garments for
Aaron your brother, for glory and for
beauty.
3 You shall speak to all who are
wise-hearted, whom I have filled with the
spirit of wisdom, that they make Aaron's
garments to sanctify him, that he may
minister to me in the priest's office.
4 These are the garments which they
shall make: a breastplate, an ephod, a
robe, a fitted tunic, a turban, and a sash.
They shall make holy garments for Aaron

‡ **27:1** The altar was to be about 2.3×2.3×1.4 meters or about 7½×7½×4½ feet.

your brother and his sons, that he may minister to me in the priest's office.
5 They shall use the gold, and the blue, and the purple, and the scarlet, and the fine linen.
6 "They shall make the ephod of gold, blue, purple, scarlet, and fine twined linen, the work of the skillful workman.
7 It shall have two shoulder straps joined to the two ends of it, that it may be joined together.
8 The skillfully woven band, which is on it, shall be like its work and of the same piece; of gold, blue, purple, scarlet, and fine twined linen.
9 You shall take two onyx stones, and engrave on them the names of the children of Israel.
10 Six of their names on the one stone, and the names of the six that remain on the other stone, in the order of their birth.
11 With the work of an engraver in stone, like the engravings of a signet, you shall engrave the two stones, according to the names of the children of Israel. You shall make them to be enclosed in settings of gold.
12 You shall put the two stones on the shoulder straps of the ephod, to be stones of memorial for the children of Israel. Aaron shall bear their names before the LORD on his two shoulders for a memorial.
13 You shall make settings of gold,
14 and two chains of pure gold; you shall make them like cords of braided work. You shall put the braided chains on the settings.
15 "You shall make a breastplate of judgment, the work of the skillful workman; like the work of the ephod you shall make it; of gold, of blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine twined linen, you shall make it.
16 It shall be square and folded double; a span† shall be its length, and a span its width.
17 You shall set in it settings of stones, four rows of stones: a row of ruby, topaz, and beryl shall be the first row;
18 and the second row a turquoise, a sapphire,‡ and an emerald;
19 and the third row a jacinth, an agate, and an amethyst;
20 and the fourth row a chrysolite, an onyx, and a jasper. They shall be enclosed in gold in their settings.
21 The stones shall be according to the names of the children of Israel, twelve, according to their names; like the engravings of a signet, everyone according to his name, they shall be for the twelve tribes.
22 You shall make on the breastplate chains like cords, of braided work of pure gold.
23 You shall make on the breastplate two rings of gold, and shall put the two rings on the two ends of the breastplate.
24 You shall put the two braided chains of gold in the two rings at the ends of the breastplate.
25 The other two ends of the two braided chains you shall put on the two settings, and put them on the shoulder straps of the ephod in its forepart.
26 You shall make two rings of gold, and you shall put them on the two ends of the breastplate, on its edge, which is toward the side of the ephod inward.
27 You shall make two rings of gold, and shall put them on the two shoulder straps of the ephod underneath, in its forepart, close by its coupling, above the skillfully woven band of the ephod.
28 They shall bind the breastplate by its rings to the rings of the ephod with a lace of blue, that it may be on the skillfully woven band of the ephod, and that the breastplate may not swing out from the ephod.
29 Aaron shall bear the names of the children of Israel in the breastplate of judgment on his heart, when he goes in to the holy place, for a memorial before the LORD continually.
30 You shall put in the breastplate of judgment the Urim and the Thummim;

† **28:16** A span is the length from the tip of a man's thumb to the tip of his little finger when his hand is stretched out (about half a cubit, or 9 inches, or 22.8 cm.) ‡ **28:18** or, lapis lazuli

and they shall be on Aaron's heart, when he goes in before the LORD. Aaron shall bear the judgment of the children of Israel on his heart before the LORD continually.
31 "You shall make the robe of the ephod all of blue.
32 It shall have a hole for the head in the middle of it. It shall have a binding of woven work around its hole, as it were the hole of a coat of mail, that it not be torn.
33 On its hem you shall make pomegranates of blue, and of purple, and of scarlet, all around its hem; with bells of gold between and around them:
34 a golden bell and a pomegranate, a golden bell and a pomegranate, around the hem of the robe.
35 It shall be on Aaron to minister: and its sound shall be heard when he goes in to the holy place before the LORD, and when he comes out, that he not die.
36 "You shall make a plate of pure gold, and engrave on it, like the engravings of a signet, 'HOLY TO THE LORD.'
37 You shall put it on a lace of blue, and it shall be on the sash. It shall be on the front of the sash.
38 It shall be on Aaron's forehead, and Aaron shall bear the iniquity of the holy things, which the children of Israel shall make holy in all their holy gifts; and it shall be always on his forehead, that they may be accepted before the LORD.
39 You shall weave the tunic with fine linen. You shall make a turban of fine linen. You shall make a sash, the work of the embroiderer.
40 "You shall make tunics for Aaron's sons. You shall make sashes for them. You shall make headbands for them, for glory and for beauty.
41 You shall put them on Aaron your brother, and on his sons with him, and shall anoint them, and consecrate them, and sanctify them, that they may minister to me in the priest's office.
42 You shall make them linen pants to cover their naked flesh. They shall reach from the waist even to the thighs.
43 They shall be on Aaron and on his sons, when they go in to the Tent of Meeting, or when they come near to the altar to minister in the holy place, that they don't bear iniquity, and die. This shall be a statute forever to him and to his offspring after him.

29

1 "This is the thing that you shall do to them to make them holy, to minister to me in the priest's office: take one young bull and two rams without defect,
2 unleavened bread, unleavened cakes mixed with oil, and unleavened wafers anointed with oil. You shall make them of fine wheat flour.
3 You shall put them into one basket, and bring them in the basket, with the bull and the two rams.
4 You shall bring Aaron and his sons to the door of the Tent of Meeting, and shall wash them with water.
5 You shall take the garments, and put on Aaron the tunic, the robe of the ephod, the ephod, and the breastplate, and clothe him with the skillfully woven band of the ephod.
6 You shall set the turban on his head, and put the holy crown on the turban.
7 Then you shall take the anointing oil, and pour it on his head, and anoint him.
8 You shall bring his sons, and put tunics on them.
9 You shall clothe them with belts, Aaron and his sons, and bind headbands on them. They shall have the priesthood by a perpetual statute. You shall consecrate Aaron and his sons.
10 "You shall bring the bull before the Tent of Meeting; and Aaron and his sons shall lay their hands on the head of the bull.
11 You shall kill the bull before the LORD at the door of the Tent of Meeting.
12 You shall take of the blood of the bull, and put it on the horns of the altar with your finger; and you shall pour out all the blood at the base of the altar.
13 You shall take all the fat that covers the innards, the cover of the liver, the two kidneys, and the fat that is on them, and burn them on the altar.
14 But the meat of the bull, and its skin, and its dung, you shall burn with fire outside of the camp. It is a sin offering.

15 “You shall also take the one ram, and
Aaron and his sons shall lay their hands
on the head of the ram.
16 You shall kill the ram, and you shall
take its blood, and sprinkle it around on
the altar.
17 You shall cut the ram into its pieces,
and wash its innards, and its legs, and put
them with its pieces, and with its head.
18 You shall burn the whole ram on the
altar: it is a burnt offering to the LORD; it
is a pleasant aroma, an offering made by
fire to the LORD.

19 “You shall take the other ram, and
Aaron and his sons shall lay their hands
on the head of the ram.
20 Then you shall kill the ram, and take
some of its blood, and put it on the tip of
the right ear of Aaron, and on the tip of
the right ear of his sons, and on the thumb
of their right hand, and on the big toe of
their right foot; and sprinkle the blood
around on the altar.
21 You shall take of the blood that is on
the altar, and of the anointing oil, and
sprinkle it on Aaron, and on his garments,
and on his sons, and on the garments of
his sons with him: and he shall be made
holy, and his garments, and his sons, and
his sons’ garments with him.
22 Also you shall take some of the ram’s
fat, the fat tail, the fat that covers the
innards, the cover of the liver, the two
kidneys, the fat that is on them, and the
right thigh (for it is a ram of consecration),
23 and one loaf of bread, one cake of
oiled bread, and one wafer out of the
basket of unleavened bread that is before
the LORD.
24 You shall put all of this in Aaron’s
hands, and in his sons’ hands, and shall
wave them for a wave offering before the
LORD.
25 You shall take them from their hands,
and burn them on the altar on the burnt
offering, for a pleasant aroma before the
LORD: it is an offering made by fire to the
LORD.

26 “You shall take the breast of Aaron’s
ram of consecration, and wave it for a
wave offering before the LORD. It shall be
your portion.
27 You shall sanctify the breast of the
wave offering and the thigh of the wave
offering, which is waved, and which is
raised up, of the ram of consecration,
even of that which is for Aaron, and of
that which is for his sons.
28 It shall be for Aaron and his sons as
their portion forever from the children of
Israel; for it is a wave offering. It shall be a
wave offering from the children of Israel
of the sacrifices of their peace offerings,
even their wave offering to the LORD.

29 “The holy garments of Aaron shall be
for his sons after him, to be anointed in
them, and to be consecrated in them.
30 Seven days shall the son who is priest
in his place put them on, when he comes
into the Tent of Meeting to minister in the
holy place.

31 “You shall take the ram of
consecration and boil its meat in a holy
place.
32 Aaron and his sons shall eat the meat
of the ram, and the bread that is in the
basket, at the door of the Tent of Meeting.
33 They shall eat those things with which
atonement was made, to consecrate and
sanctify them; but a stranger shall not eat
of it, because they are holy.
34 If anything of the meat of the
consecration, or of the bread, remains to
the morning, then you shall burn the
remainder with fire. It shall not be eaten,
because it is holy.

35 “You shall do so to Aaron and to his
sons, according to all that I have
commanded you. You shall consecrate
them seven days.
36 Every day you shall offer the bull of
sin offering for atonement. You shall
cleanse the altar when you make
atonement for it. You shall anoint it, to
sanctify it.
37 Seven days you shall make atonement
for the altar, and sanctify it; and the altar
shall be most holy. Whatever touches the
altar shall be holy.

38 “Now this is that which you shall offer
on the altar: two lambs a year old day by
day continually.

39 The one lamb you shall offer in the
morning; and the other lamb you shall
offer at evening;
40 and with the one lamb a tenth part of
an ephah† of fine flour mixed with the
fourth part of a hin‡ of beaten oil, and the
fourth part of a hin of wine for a drink
offering.
41 The other lamb you shall offer at
evening, and shall do to it according to the
meal offering of the morning and
according to its drink offering, for a
pleasant aroma, an offering made by fire
to the LORD.
42 It shall be a continual burnt offering
throughout your generations at the door
of the Tent of Meeting before the LORD,
where I will meet with you, to speak there
to you.
43 There I will meet with the children of
Israel; and the place shall be sanctified by
my glory.
44 I will sanctify the Tent of Meeting and
the altar. I will also sanctify Aaron and his
sons to minister to me in the priest's office.
45 I will dwell among the children of
Israel, and will be their God.
46 They shall know that I am the LORD
their God, who brought them out of the
land of Egypt, that I might dwell among
them: I am the LORD their God.

30

1 "You shall make an altar to burn
incense on. You shall make it of acacia
wood.
2 Its length shall be a cubit,† and its
width a cubit. It shall be square, and its
height shall be two cubits. Its horns shall
be of one piece with it.
3 You shall overlay it with pure gold, its
top, its sides around it, and its horns; and
you shall make a gold molding around it.
4 You shall make two golden rings for it
under its molding; on its two ribs, on its
two sides you shall make them; and they
shall be for places for poles with which to
bear it.
5 You shall make the poles of acacia
wood, and overlay them with gold.
6 You shall put it before the veil that is
by the ark of the covenant, before the
mercy seat that is over the covenant,
where I will meet with you.
7 Aaron shall burn incense of sweet
spices on it every morning. When he
tends the lamps, he shall burn it.
8 When Aaron lights the lamps at
evening, he shall burn it, a perpetual
incense before the LORD throughout your
generations.
9 You shall offer no strange incense on
it, nor burnt offering, nor meal offering;
and you shall pour no drink offering on it.
10 Aaron shall make atonement on its
horns once in the year; with the blood of
the sin offering of atonement once in the
year he shall make atonement for it
throughout your generations. It is most
holy to the LORD."

11 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
12 "When you take a census of the
children of Israel, according to those who
are counted among them, then each man
shall give a ransom for his soul to the
LORD when you count them, that there be
no plague among them when you count
them.
13 They shall give this, everyone who
passes over to those who are counted, half
a shekel according to the shekel‡ of the
sanctuary (the shekel is twenty gerahs§);
half a shekel for an offering to the LORD.
14 Everyone who passes over to those
who are counted, from twenty years old
and upward, shall give the offering to the
LORD.
15 The rich shall not give more, and the
poor shall not give less, than the half
shekel,† when they give the offering of the
LORD, to make atonement for your souls.
16 You shall take the atonement money

† **29:40** 1 ephah is about 22 liters or about 2/3 of a bushel ‡ **29:40** A hin is about 6.5 liters or 1.7 gallons, so a fourth of a hin is about 1.6 liters. † **30:2** A cubit is the length from the tip of the middle finger to the elbow on a man's arm, or about 18 inches or 46 centimeters. ‡ **30:13** A shekel is about 10 grams or about 0.35 ounces. § **30:13** a gerah is about 0.5 grams or about 7.7 grains † **30:15** A shekel is about 10 grams or about 0.35 ounces.

from the children of Israel, and shall appoint it for the service of the Tent of Meeting; that it may be a memorial for the children of Israel before the LORD, to make atonement for your souls."

17 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
18 "You shall also make a basin of bronze, and its base of bronze, in which to wash. You shall put it between the Tent of Meeting and the altar, and you shall put water in it.
19 Aaron and his sons shall wash their hands and their feet in it.
20 When they go into the Tent of Meeting, they shall wash with water, that they don't die; or when they come near to the altar to minister, to burn an offering made by fire to the LORD.
21 So they shall wash their hands and their feet, that they not die. This shall be a statute forever to them, even to him and to his descendants throughout their generations."

22 Moreover the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
23 "Also take fine spices: of liquid myrrh, five hundred shekels;‡ and of fragrant cinnamon half as much, even two hundred and fifty; and of fragrant cane, two hundred and fifty;
24 and of cassia five hundred, according to the shekel of the sanctuary; and a hin§ of olive oil.
25 You shall make it into a holy anointing oil, a perfume compounded after the art of the perfumer: it shall be a holy anointing oil.
26 You shall use it to anoint the Tent of Meeting, the ark of the covenant,
27 the table and all its articles, the lamp stand and its accessories, the altar of incense,
28 the altar of burnt offering with all its utensils, and the basin with its base.
29 You shall sanctify them, that they may be most holy. Whatever touches them shall be holy.
30 You shall anoint Aaron and his sons, and sanctify them, that they may minister to me in the priest's office.
31 You shall speak to the children of Israel, saying, 'This shall be a holy anointing oil to me throughout your generations.
32 It shall not be poured on man's flesh, and do not make any like it, according to its composition. It is holy. It shall be holy to you.
33 Whoever compounds any like it, or whoever puts any of it on a stranger, he shall be cut off from his people.' "

34 The LORD said to Moses, "Take to yourself sweet spices, gum resin, onycha, and galbanum: sweet spices with pure frankincense. There shall be an equal weight of each.
35 You shall make incense of it, a perfume after the art of the perfumer, seasoned with salt, pure and holy.
36 You shall beat some of it very small, and put some of it before the covenant in the Tent of Meeting, where I will meet with you. It shall be to you most holy.
37 You shall not make this incense, according to its composition, for yourselves: it shall be to you holy for the LORD.
38 Whoever shall make any like that, to smell of it, he shall be cut off from his people."

31

1 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
2 "Behold, I have called by name Bezalel the son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah.
3 I have filled him with the Spirit of God, in wisdom, and in understanding, and in knowledge, and in all kinds of workmanship,
4 to devise skillful works, to work in gold, and in silver, and in bronze,
5 and in cutting of stones for setting, and in carving of wood, to work in all kinds of workmanship.
6 Behold, I myself have appointed with him Oholiab, the son of Ahisamach, of the tribe of Dan; and in the heart of all who

‡ **30:23** A shekel is about 10 grams or about 0.35 ounces, so 500 shekels is about 5 kilograms or about 11 pounds.
§ **30:24** A hin is about 6.5 liters or 1.7 gallons.

are wise-hearted I have put wisdom, that
they may make all that I have
commanded you:
7 the Tent of Meeting, the ark of the
covenant, the mercy seat that is on it, all
the furniture of the Tent,
8 the table and its vessels, the pure lamp
stand with all its vessels, the altar of
incense,
9 the altar of burnt offering with all its
vessels, the basin and its base,
10 the finely worked garments—the holy
garments for Aaron the priest, the
garments of his sons to minister in the
priest's office—
11 the anointing oil, and the incense of
sweet spices for the holy place: according
to all that I have commanded you they
shall do."

12 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
13 "Speak also to the children of Israel,
saying, 'Most certainly you shall keep my
Sabbaths; for it is a sign between me and
you throughout your generations, that
you may know that I am the LORD who
sanctifies you.
14 You shall keep the Sabbath therefore,
for it is holy to you. Everyone who
profanes it shall surely be put to death; for
whoever does any work therein, that soul
shall be cut off from among his people.
15 Six days shall work be done, but on
the seventh day is a Sabbath of solemn
rest, holy to the LORD. Whoever does any
work on the Sabbath day shall surely be
put to death.
16 Therefore the children of Israel shall
keep the Sabbath, to observe the Sabbath
throughout their generations, for a
perpetual covenant.
17 It is a sign between me and the
children of Israel forever; for in six days
the LORD made heaven and earth, and on
the seventh day he rested, and was
refreshed.' "

18 When he finished speaking with him
on Mount Sinai, he gave Moses the two
tablets of the covenant, stone tablets,
written with God's finger.

32

1 When the people saw that Moses
delayed coming down from the mountain,
the people gathered themselves together
to Aaron, and said to him, "Come, make us
gods, which shall go before us; for as for
this Moses, the man who brought us up
out of the land of Egypt, we don't know
what has become of him."
2 Aaron said to them, "Take off the
golden rings, which are in the ears of your
wives, of your sons, and of your
daughters, and bring them to me."
3 All the people took off the golden rings
which were in their ears, and brought
them to Aaron.
4 He received what they handed him,
fashioned it with an engraving tool, and
made it a molded calf. Then they said,
"These are your gods, Israel, which
brought you up out of the land of Egypt."
5 When Aaron saw this, he built an altar
before it; and Aaron made a
proclamation, and said, "Tomorrow shall
be a feast to the LORD."
6 They rose up early on the next day,
and offered burnt offerings, and brought
peace offerings; and the people sat down
to eat and to drink, and rose up to play.
7 The LORD spoke to Moses, "Go, get
down; for your people, whom you
brought up out of the land of Egypt, have
corrupted themselves!
8 They have turned away quickly out of
the way which I commanded them. They
have made themselves a molded calf, and
have worshiped it, and have sacrificed to
it, and said, 'These are your gods, Israel,
which brought you up out of the land of
Egypt.' "
9 The LORD said to Moses, "I have seen
these people, and behold, they are a
stiff-necked people.
10 Now therefore leave me alone, that
my wrath may burn hot against them, and
that I may consume them; and I will make
of you a great nation."
11 Moses begged the LORD his God, and
said, "LORD, why does your wrath burn
hot against your people, that you have

brought out of the land of Egypt with
great power and with a mighty hand?
12 Why should the Egyptians talk,
saying, 'He brought them out for evil, to
kill them in the mountains, and to
consume them from the surface of the
earth'? Turn from your fierce wrath, and
turn away from this evil against your
people.
13 Remember Abraham, Isaac, and
Israel, your servants, to whom you swore
by your own self, and said to them, 'I will
multiply your offspring† as the stars of the
sky, and all this land that I have spoken of
I will give to your offspring, and they shall
inherit it forever.' "
14 So the LORD turned away from the
evil which he said he would do to his
people.
15 Moses turned, and went down from
the mountain, with the two tablets of the
covenant in his hand; tablets that were
written on both their sides. They were
written on one side and on the other.
16 The tablets were the work of God, and
the writing was the writing of God,
engraved on the tablets.
17 When Joshua heard the noise of the
people as they shouted, he said to Moses,
"There is the noise of war in the camp."
18 He said, "It isn't the voice of those
who shout for victory. It is not the voice of
those who cry for being overcome; but the
noise of those who sing that I hear."
19 As soon as he came near to the camp,
he saw the calf and the dancing. Then
Moses' anger grew hot, and he threw the
tablets out of his hands, and broke them
beneath the mountain.
20 He took the calf which they had
made, and burned it with fire, ground it to
powder, and scattered it on the water, and
made the children of Israel drink it.
21 Moses said to Aaron, "What did these
people do to you, that you have brought a
great sin on them?"
22 Aaron said, "Don't let the anger of my
lord grow hot. You know the people, that
they are set on evil.
23 For they said to me, 'Make us gods,
which shall go before us. As for this
Moses, the man who brought us up out of
the land of Egypt, we don't know what has
become of him.'
24 I said to them, 'Whoever has any gold,
let them take it off.' So they gave it to me;
and I threw it into the fire, and out came
this calf."
25 When Moses saw that the people
were out of control, (for Aaron had let
them lose control, causing derision
among their enemies),
26 then Moses stood in the gate of the
camp, and said, "Whoever is on the
LORD's side, come to me!"

All the sons of Levi gathered themselves
together to him.
27 He said to them, "The LORD, the God
of Israel, says, 'Every man put his sword
on his thigh, and go back and forth from
gate to gate throughout the camp, and
every man kill his brother, and every man
his companion, and every man his
neighbor.' "
28 The sons of Levi did according to the
word of Moses. About three thousand
men fell of the people that day.
29 Moses said, "Consecrate yourselves
today to the LORD, for every man was
against his son and against his brother,
that he may give you a blessing today."

30 On the next day, Moses said to the
people, "You have sinned a great sin. Now
I will go up to the LORD. Perhaps I shall
make atonement for your sin."

31 Moses returned to the LORD, and said,
"Oh, this people have sinned a great sin,
and have made themselves gods of gold.
32 Yet now, if you will, forgive their
sin—and if not, please blot me out of your
book which you have written."

33 The LORD said to Moses, "Whoever
has sinned against me, I will blot him out
of my book.
34 Now go, lead the people to the place of
which I have spoken to you. Behold, my
angel shall go before you. Nevertheless, in
the day when I punish, I will punish them
for their sin."

† **32:13** or, seed

35 The LORD struck the people, because
of what they did with the calf, which
Aaron made.

33

1 The LORD spoke to Moses, “Depart, go
up from here, you and the people that you
have brought up out of the land of Egypt,
to the land of which I swore to Abraham,
to Isaac, and to Jacob, saying, ‘I will give it
to your offspring.’
2 I will send an angel before you; and I
will drive out the Canaanite, the Amorite,
and the Hittite, and the Perizzite, the
Hivite, and the Jebusite.
3 Go to a land flowing with milk and
honey; but I will not go up among you, for
you are a stiff-necked people, lest I
consume you on the way.”
4 When the people heard this evil news,
they mourned; and no one put on his
jewelry.
5 The LORD had said to Moses, “Tell the
children of Israel, ‘You are a stiff-necked
people. If I were to go up among you for
one moment, I would consume you.
Therefore now take off your jewelry from
you, that I may know what to do to you.’ ”
6 The children of Israel stripped
themselves of their jewelry from Mount
Horeb onward.
7 Now Moses used to take the tent and
pitch it outside the camp, far away from
the camp, and he called it “The Tent of
Meeting.” Everyone who sought the LORD
went out to the Tent of Meeting, which
was outside the camp.
8 When Moses went out to the Tent, all
the people rose up, and stood, everyone at
their tent door, and watched Moses, until
he had gone into the Tent.
9 When Moses entered into the Tent, the
pillar of cloud descended, stood at the
door of the Tent, and the LORD spoke with
Moses.
10 All the people saw the pillar of cloud
stand at the door of the Tent, and all the
people rose up and worshiped, everyone
at their tent door.
11 The LORD spoke to Moses face to face,
as a man speaks to his friend. He turned
again into the camp, but his servant
Joshua, the son of Nun, a young man,
didn’t depart from the Tent.

12 Moses said to the LORD, “Behold, you
tell me, ‘Bring up this people;’ and you
haven’t let me know whom you will send
with me. Yet you have said, ‘I know you by
name, and you have also found favor in
my sight.’
13 Now therefore, if I have found favor
in your sight, please show me your way,
now, that I may know you, so that I may
find favor in your sight; and consider that
this nation is your people.”

14 He said, “My presence will go with
you, and I will give you rest.”

15 Moses said to him, “If your presence
doesn’t go with me, don’t carry us up from
here.
16 For how would people know that I
have found favor in your sight, I and your
people? Isn’t it that you go with us, so that
we are separated, I and your people, from
all the people who are on the surface of
the earth?”

17 The LORD said to Moses, “I will do this
thing also that you have spoken; for you
have found favor in my sight, and I know
you by name.”

18 Moses said, “Please show me your
glory.”

19 He said, “I will make all my goodness
pass before you, and will proclaim the
LORD’s name before you. I will be
gracious to whom I will be gracious, and
will show mercy on whom I will show
mercy.”
20 He said, “You cannot see my face, for
man may not see me and live.”
21 The LORD also said, “Behold, there is
a place by me, and you shall stand on the
rock.
22 It will happen, while my glory passes
by, that I will put you in a cleft of the rock,
and will cover you with my hand until I
have passed by;
23 then I will take away my hand, and
you will see my back; but my face shall
not be seen.”

34

1 The LORD said to Moses, “Chisel two
stone tablets like the first. I will write on
the tablets the words that were on the first
tablets, which you broke.
2 Be ready by the morning, and come up
in the morning to Mount Sinai, and
present yourself there to me on the top of
the mountain.
3 No one shall come up with you or be
seen anywhere on the mountain. Do not
let the flocks or herds graze in front of
that mountain.”
4 He chiseled two tablets of stone like
the first; then Moses rose up early in the
morning, and went up to Mount Sinai, as
the LORD had commanded him, and took
in his hand two stone tablets.
5 The LORD descended in the cloud, and
stood with him there, and proclaimed the
LORD’s† name.
6 The LORD passed by before him, and
proclaimed, “The LORD! The LORD, a
merciful and gracious God, slow to anger,
and abundant in loving kindness and
truth,
7 keeping loving kindness for
thousands, forgiving iniquity and
disobedience and sin; and who will by no
means clear the guilty, visiting the
iniquity of the fathers on the children,
and on the children’s children, on the
third and on the fourth generation.”
8 Moses hurried and bowed his head
toward the earth, and worshiped.
9 He said, “If now I have found favor in
your sight, Lord, please let the Lord go
among us, even though this is a
stiff-necked people; pardon our iniquity
and our sin, and take us for your
inheritance.”
10 He said, “Behold, I make a covenant:
before all your people I will do marvels,
such as have not been worked in all the
earth, nor in any nation; and all the
people among whom you are shall see the
work of the LORD; for it is an awesome
thing that I do with you.
11 Observe that which I command you
today. Behold, I will drive out before you
the Amorite, the Canaanite, the Hittite, the
Perizzite, the Hivite, and the Jebusite.
12 Be careful, lest you make a covenant
with the inhabitants of the land where
you are going, lest it be for a snare among
you;
13 but you shall break down their altars,
and dash in pieces their pillars, and you
shall cut down their Asherah poles;
14 for you shall worship no other god;
for the LORD, whose name is Jealous, is a
jealous God.
15 “Don’t make a covenant with the
inhabitants of the land, lest they play the
prostitute after their gods, and sacrifice to
their gods, and one call you and you eat of
his sacrifice;
16 and you take of their daughters to
your sons, and their daughters play the
prostitute after their gods, and make your
sons play the prostitute after their gods.
17 “You shall make no cast idols for
yourselves.
18 “You shall keep the feast of
unleavened bread. Seven days you shall
eat unleavened bread, as I commanded
you, at the time appointed in the month
Abib; for in the month Abib you came out
of Egypt.
19 “All that opens the womb is mine; and
all your livestock that is male, the
firstborn of cow and sheep.
20 You shall redeem the firstborn of a
donkey with a lamb. If you will not
redeem it, then you shall break its neck.
You shall redeem all the firstborn of your
sons. No one shall appear before me
empty.
21 “Six days you shall work, but on the
seventh day you shall rest: in plowing
time and in harvest you shall rest.
22 “You shall observe the feast of weeks
with the first fruits of wheat harvest, and
the feast of harvest at the year’s end.
23 Three times in the year all your males
shall appear before the Lord GOD, the God
of Israel.
24 For I will drive out nations before you
and enlarge your borders; neither shall
any man desire your land when you go up

† **34:5** LORD or GOD in all caps is from the Hebrew יהוה Yahweh except when otherwise noted as being from the short form יה Yah.

to appear before the LORD, your God, three times in the year.
25 “You shall not offer the blood of my sacrifice with leavened bread. The sacrifice of the feast of the Passover shall not be left to the morning.
26 “You shall bring the first of the first fruits of your ground to the house of the LORD your God.
“You shall not boil a young goat in its mother’s milk.”
27 The LORD said to Moses, “Write these words; for in accordance with these words I have made a covenant with you and with Israel.”
28 He was there with the LORD forty days and forty nights; he neither ate bread, nor drank water. He wrote on the tablets the words of the covenant, the ten commandments.
29 When Moses came down from Mount Sinai with the two tablets of the covenant in Moses’ hand, when he came down from the mountain, Moses didn’t know that the skin of his face shone by reason of his speaking with him.
30 When Aaron and all the children of Israel saw Moses, behold, the skin of his face shone; and they were afraid to come near him.
31 Moses called to them, and Aaron and all the rulers of the congregation returned to him; and Moses spoke to them.
32 Afterward all the children of Israel came near, and he gave them all the commandments that the LORD had spoken with him on Mount Sinai.
33 When Moses was done speaking with them, he put a veil on his face.
34 But when Moses went in before the LORD to speak with him, he took the veil off, until he came out; and he came out, and spoke to the children of Israel that which he was commanded.
35 The children of Israel saw Moses’ face, that the skin of Moses’ face shone; so Moses put the veil on his face again, until he went in to speak with him.

35

1 Moses assembled all the congregation of the children of Israel, and said to them, “These are the words which the LORD has commanded, that you should do them.
2 ‘Six days shall work be done, but on the seventh day there shall be a holy day for you, a Sabbath of solemn rest to the LORD: whoever does any work in it shall be put to death.
3 You shall kindle no fire throughout your habitations on the Sabbath day.’ ”
4 Moses spoke to all the congregation of the children of Israel, saying, “This is the thing which the LORD commanded, saying,
5 ‘Take from among you an offering to the LORD. Whoever is of a willing heart, let him bring it as the LORD’s offering: gold, silver, bronze,
6 blue, purple, scarlet, fine linen, goats’ hair,
7 rams’ skins dyed red, sea cow hides, acacia wood,
8 oil for the light, spices for the anointing oil and for the sweet incense,
9 onyx stones, and stones to be set for the ephod and for the breastplate.
10 “ ‘Let every wise-hearted man among you come, and make all that the LORD has commanded:
11 the tabernacle, its outer covering, its roof, its clasps, its boards, its bars, its pillars, and its sockets;
12 the ark, and its poles, the mercy seat, the veil of the screen;
13 the table with its poles and all its vessels, and the show bread;
14 the lamp stand also for the light, with its vessels, its lamps, and the oil for the light;
15 and the altar of incense with its poles, the anointing oil, the sweet incense, the screen for the door, at the door of the tabernacle;
16 the altar of burnt offering, with its grating of bronze, its poles, and all its vessels, the basin and its base;
17 the hangings of the court, its pillars, their sockets, and the screen for the gate of the court;
18 the pins of the tabernacle, the pins of the court, and their cords;
19 the finely worked garments for ministering in the holy place—the holy garments for Aaron the priest, and the

garments of his sons—to minister in the priest's office.' "

20 All the congregation of the children of Israel departed from the presence of Moses.
21 They came, everyone whose heart stirred him up, and everyone whom his spirit made willing, and brought the LORD's offering for the work of the Tent of Meeting, and for all of its service, and for the holy garments.
22 They came, both men and women, as many as were willing-hearted, and brought brooches, earrings, signet rings, and armlets, all jewels of gold; even every man who offered an offering of gold to the LORD.
23 Everyone with whom was found blue, purple, scarlet, fine linen, goats' hair, rams' skins dyed red, and sea cow hides, brought them.
24 Everyone who offered an offering of silver and bronze brought the LORD's offering; and everyone with whom was found acacia wood for any work of the service, brought it.
25 All the women who were wise-hearted spun with their hands, and brought that which they had spun: the blue, the purple, the scarlet, and the fine linen.
26 All the women whose heart stirred them up in wisdom spun the goats' hair.
27 The rulers brought the onyx stones and the stones to be set for the ephod and for the breastplate;
28 with the spice and the oil for the light, for the anointing oil, and for the sweet incense.
29 The children of Israel brought a free will offering to the LORD; every man and woman whose heart made them willing to bring for all the work, which the LORD had commanded to be made by Moses.

30 Moses said to the children of Israel, "Behold, the LORD has called by name Bezalel the son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah.
31 He has filled him with the Spirit of God, in wisdom, in understanding, in knowledge, and in all kinds of workmanship;
32 and to make skillful works, to work in gold, in silver, in bronze,
33 in cutting of stones for setting, and in carving of wood, to work in all kinds of skillful workmanship.
34 He has put in his heart that he may teach, both he and Oholiab, the son of Ahisamach, of the tribe of Dan.
35 He has filled them with wisdom of heart to work all kinds of workmanship, of the engraver, of the skillful workman, and of the embroiderer, in blue, in purple, in scarlet, and in fine linen, and of the weaver, even of those who do any workmanship, and of those who make skillful works.

36

1 "Bezalel and Oholiab shall work with every wise-hearted man, in whom the LORD has put wisdom and understanding to know how to do all the work for the service of the sanctuary, according to all that the LORD has commanded."
2 Moses called Bezalel and Oholiab, and every wise-hearted man, in whose heart the LORD had put wisdom, even everyone whose heart stirred him up to come to the work to do it.
3 They received from Moses all the offering which the children of Israel had brought for the work of the service of the sanctuary, with which to make it. They kept bringing free will offerings to him every morning.
4 All the wise men, who performed all the work of the sanctuary, each came from his work which he did.
5 They spoke to Moses, saying, "The people have brought much more than enough for the service of the work which the LORD commanded to make."
6 Moses gave a commandment, and they caused it to be proclaimed throughout the camp, saying, "Let neither man nor woman make anything else for the offering for the sanctuary." So the people were restrained from bringing.
7 For the stuff they had was sufficient to do all the work, and too much.

8 All the wise-hearted men among those
who did the work made the tabernacle
with ten curtains of fine twined linen,
blue, purple, and scarlet. They made them
with cherubim, the work of a skillful
workman.
9 The length of each curtain was
twenty-eight cubits,† and the width of
each curtain four cubits. All the curtains
had one measure.
10 He coupled five curtains to one
another, and the other five curtains he
coupled to one another.
11 He made loops of blue on the edge of
the one curtain from the edge in the
coupling. Likewise he made in the edge of
the curtain that was outermost in the
second coupling.
12 He made fifty loops in the one curtain,
and he made fifty loops in the edge of the
curtain that was in the second coupling.
The loops were opposite to one another.
13 He made fifty clasps of gold, and
coupled the curtains to one another with
the clasps: so the tabernacle was a unit.
14 He made curtains of goats' hair for a
covering over the tabernacle. He made
them eleven curtains.
15 The length of each curtain was thirty
cubits, and four cubits the width of each
curtain. The eleven curtains had one
measure.
16 He coupled five curtains by
themselves, and six curtains by
themselves.
17 He made fifty loops on the edge of the
curtain that was outermost in the
coupling, and he made fifty loops on the
edge of the curtain which was outermost
in the second coupling.
18 He made fifty clasps of bronze to
couple the tent together, that it might be a
unit.
19 He made a covering for the tent of
rams' skins dyed red, and a covering of
sea cow hides above.
20 He made the boards for the
tabernacle of acacia wood, standing up.
21 Ten cubits was the length of a board,
and a cubit and a half the width of each
board.
22 Each board had two tenons, joined to
one another. He made all the boards of
the tabernacle this way.
23 He made the boards for the
tabernacle, twenty boards for the south
side southward.
24 He made forty sockets of silver under
the twenty boards: two sockets under one
board for its two tenons, and two sockets
under another board for its two tenons.
25 For the second side of the tabernacle,
on the north side, he made twenty boards
26 and their forty sockets of silver: two
sockets under one board, and two sockets
under another board.
27 For the far part of the tabernacle
westward he made six boards.
28 He made two boards for the corners
of the tabernacle in the far part.
29 They were double beneath, and in the
same way they were all the way to its top
to one ring. He did this to both of them in
the two corners.
30 There were eight boards and their
sockets of silver, sixteen sockets—under
every board two sockets.
31 He made bars of acacia wood: five for
the boards of the one side of the
tabernacle,
32 and five bars for the boards of the
other side of the tabernacle, and five bars
for the boards of the tabernacle for the
hinder part westward.
33 He made the middle bar to pass
through in the middle of the boards from
the one end to the other.
34 He overlaid the boards with gold, and
made their rings of gold as places for the
bars, and overlaid the bars with gold.
35 He made the veil of blue, purple,
scarlet, and fine twined linen, with
cherubim. He made it the work of a
skillful workman.
36 He made four pillars of acacia for it,
and overlaid them with gold. Their hooks
were of gold. He cast four sockets of silver
for them.
37 He made a screen for the door of the
tent, of blue, purple, scarlet, and fine
twined linen, the work of an embroiderer;
38 and the five pillars of it with their
hooks. He overlaid their capitals and their

† **36:9** A cubit is the length from the tip of the middle finger to the elbow on a man's arm, or about 18 inches or 46 centimeters.

fillets with gold, and their five sockets were of bronze.

37

1 Bezalel made the ark of acacia wood. Its length was two and a half cubits,† and its width a cubit and a half, and a cubit and a half its height.
2 He overlaid it with pure gold inside and outside, and made a molding of gold for it around it.
3 He cast four rings of gold for it in its four feet—two rings on its one side, and two rings on its other side.
4 He made poles of acacia wood and overlaid them with gold.
5 He put the poles into the rings on the sides of the ark, to bear the ark.
6 He made a mercy seat of pure gold. Its length was two and a half cubits, and a cubit and a half its width.
7 He made two cherubim of gold. He made them of beaten work, at the two ends of the mercy seat:
8 one cherub at the one end, and one cherub at the other end. He made the cherubim of one piece with the mercy seat at its two ends.
9 The cherubim spread out their wings above, covering the mercy seat with their wings, with their faces toward one another. The faces of the cherubim were toward the mercy seat.
10 He made the table of acacia wood. Its length was two cubits, and its width was a cubit, and its height was a cubit and a half.
11 He overlaid it with pure gold, and made a gold molding around it.
12 He made a border of a hand's width around it, and made a golden molding on its border around it.
13 He cast four rings of gold for it, and put the rings in the four corners that were on its four feet.
14 The rings were close by the border, the places for the poles to carry the table.
15 He made the poles of acacia wood, and overlaid them with gold, to carry the table.
16 He made the vessels which were on the table, its dishes, its spoons, its bowls, and its pitchers with which to pour out, of pure gold.
17 He made the lamp stand of pure gold. He made the lamp stand of beaten work. Its base, its shaft, its cups, its buds, and its flowers were of one piece with it.
18 There were six branches going out of its sides: three branches of the lamp stand out of its one side, and three branches of the lamp stand out of its other side:
19 three cups made like almond blossoms in one branch, a bud and a flower, and three cups made like almond blossoms in the other branch, a bud and a flower; so for the six branches going out of the lamp stand.
20 In the lamp stand were four cups made like almond blossoms, its buds and its flowers;
21 and a bud under two branches of one piece with it, and a bud under two branches of one piece with it, and a bud under two branches of one piece with it, for the six branches going out of it.
22 Their buds and their branches were of one piece with it. The whole thing was one beaten work of pure gold.
23 He made its seven lamps, and its snuffers, and its snuff dishes, of pure gold.
24 He made it of a talent‡ of pure gold, with all its vessels.
25 He made the altar of incense of acacia wood. It was square: its length was a cubit, and its width a cubit. Its height was two cubits. Its horns were of one piece with it.
26 He overlaid it with pure gold: its top, its sides around it, and its horns. He made a gold molding around it.
27 He made two golden rings for it under its molding crown, on its two ribs, on its two sides, for places for poles with which to carry it.
28 He made the poles of acacia wood, and overlaid them with gold.
29 He made the holy anointing oil and the pure incense of sweet spices, after the

† **37:1** A cubit is the length from the tip of the middle finger to the elbow on a man's arm, or about 18 inches or 46 centimeters. ‡ **37:24** A talent is about 30 kilograms or 66 pounds or 965 Troy ounces

art of the perfumer.

38

1 He made the altar of burnt offering of
acacia wood. It was square. Its length was
five cubits,† its width was five cubits, and
its height was three cubits.
2 He made its horns on its four corners.
Its horns were of one piece with it, and he
overlaid it with bronze.
3 He made all the vessels of the altar: the
pots, the shovels, the basins, the forks,
and the fire pans. He made all its vessels
of bronze.
4 He made for the altar a grating of a
network of bronze, under the ledge
around it beneath, reaching halfway up.
5 He cast four rings for the four corners
of bronze grating, to be places for the
poles.
6 He made the poles of acacia wood, and
overlaid them with bronze.
7 He put the poles into the rings on the
sides of the altar, with which to carry it.
He made it hollow with planks.
8 He made the basin of bronze, and its
base of bronze, out of the mirrors of the
ministering women who ministered at the
door of the Tent of Meeting.
9 He made the court: for the south side
southward the hangings of the court were
of fine twined linen, one hundred cubits;
10 their pillars were twenty, and their
sockets twenty, of bronze; the hooks of the
pillars and their fillets were of silver.
11 For the north side one hundred
cubits, their pillars twenty, and their
sockets twenty, of bronze; the hooks of the
pillars, and their fillets, of silver.
12 For the west side were hangings of
fifty cubits, their pillars ten, and their
sockets ten; the hooks of the pillars, and
their fillets, of silver.
13 For the east side eastward fifty cubits,
14 the hangings for the one side were
fifteen cubits; their pillars three, and their
sockets three;
15 and so for the other side: on this hand
and that hand by the gate of the court
were hangings of fifteen cubits; their
pillars three, and their sockets three.
16 All the hangings around the court
were of fine twined linen.
17 The sockets for the pillars were of
bronze. The hooks of the pillars and their
fillets were of silver. Their capitals were
overlaid with silver. All the pillars of the
court had silver bands.
18 The screen for the gate of the court
was the work of the embroiderer, of blue,
purple, scarlet, and fine twined linen.
Twenty cubits was the length, and the
height along the width was five cubits,
like the hangings of the court.
19 Their pillars were four, and their
sockets four, of bronze; their hooks of
silver, and the overlaying of their capitals,
and their fillets, of silver.
20 All the pins of the tabernacle, and
around the court, were of bronze.
21 These are the amounts of materials
used for the tabernacle, even the
Tabernacle of the Testimony, as they were
counted, according to the commandment
of Moses, for the service of the Levites, by
the hand of Ithamar, the son of Aaron the
priest.
22 Bezalel the son of Uri, the son of Hur,
of the tribe of Judah, made all that the
LORD commanded Moses.
23 With him was Oholiab, the son of
Ahisamach, of the tribe of Dan, an
engraver, and a skillful workman, and an
embroiderer in blue, in purple, in scarlet,
and in fine linen.
24 All the gold that was used for the
work in all the work of the sanctuary,
even the gold of the offering, was
twenty-nine talents‡ and seven hundred
thirty shekels, according to the shekel§ of
the sanctuary.
25 The silver of those who were counted
of the congregation was one hundred
talents† and one thousand seven hundred

† **38:1** A cubit is the length from the tip of the middle finger to the elbow on a man's arm, or about 18 inches or 46 centimeters. ‡ **38:24** A talent is about 30 kilograms or 66 pounds or 965 Troy ounces. § **38:24** A shekel is about 10 grams or about 0.32 Troy ounces. † **38:25** A talent is about 30 kilograms or 66 pounds ‡ **38:25** A shekel is about 10 grams or about 0.35 ounces.

seventy-five shekels,‡ according to the
shekel of the sanctuary:
26 a beka§ a head, that is, half a shekel,
according to the shekel† of the sanctuary,
for everyone who passed over to those
who were counted, from twenty years old
and upward, for six hundred three
thousand five hundred fifty men.
27 The one hundred talents‡ of silver
were for casting the sockets of the
sanctuary and the sockets of the veil: one
hundred sockets for the one hundred
talents, one talent per socket.
28 From the one thousand seven
hundred seventy-five shekels§ he made
hooks for the pillars, overlaid their
capitals, and made fillets for them.
29 The bronze of the offering was
seventy talents† and two thousand four
hundred shekels.‡
30 With this he made the sockets to the
door of the Tent of Meeting, the bronze
altar, the bronze grating for it, all the
vessels of the altar,
31 the sockets around the court, the
sockets of the gate of the court, all the pins
of the tabernacle, and all the pins around
the court.

39

1 Of the blue, purple, and scarlet, they
made finely worked garments for
ministering in the holy place, and made
the holy garments for Aaron, as the LORD
commanded Moses.
2 He made the ephod of gold, blue,
purple, scarlet, and fine twined linen.
3 They beat the gold into thin plates, and
cut it into wires, to work it in with the
blue, the purple, the scarlet, and the fine
linen, the work of the skillful workman.
4 They made shoulder straps for it,
joined together. It was joined together at
the two ends.
5 The skillfully woven band that was on
it, with which to fasten it on, was of the
same piece, like its work: of gold, of blue,
purple, scarlet, and fine twined linen, as
the LORD commanded Moses.
6 They worked the onyx stones,
enclosed in settings of gold, engraved
with the engravings of a signet, according
to the names of the children of Israel.
7 He put them on the shoulder straps of
the ephod, to be stones of memorial for
the children of Israel, as the LORD
commanded Moses.
8 He made the breastplate, the work of a
skillful workman, like the work of the
ephod: of gold, of blue, purple, scarlet,
and fine twined linen.
9 It was square. They made the
breastplate double. Its length was a span,†
and its width a span, being double.
10 They set in it four rows of stones. A
row of ruby, topaz, and beryl was the first
row;
11 and the second row, a turquoise, a
sapphire,‡ and an emerald;
12 and the third row, a jacinth, an agate,
and an amethyst;
13 and the fourth row, a chrysolite, an
onyx, and a jasper. They were enclosed in
gold settings.
14 The stones were according to the
names of the children of Israel, twelve,
according to their names; like the
engravings of a signet, everyone
according to his name, for the twelve
tribes.
15 They made on the breastplate chains
like cords, of braided work of pure gold.
16 They made two settings of gold, and
two gold rings, and put the two rings on
the two ends of the breastplate.
17 They put the two braided chains of
gold in the two rings at the ends of the
breastplate.
18 The other two ends of the two braided
chains they put on the two settings, and
put them on the shoulder straps of the
ephod, in its front.

§ **38:26** a beka is about 5 grams or about 0.175 ounces † **38:26** A shekel is about 10 grams or about 0.35 ounces. ‡ **38:27** A talent is about 30 kilograms or 66 pounds. § **38:28** A shekel is about 10 grams or about 0.35 ounces, so 1775 shekels is about 17.75 kilograms or about 39 pounds. † **38:29** A talent is about 30 kilograms or 66 pounds ‡ **38:29** 70 talents + 2400 shekels is about 2124 kilograms, or 2.124 metric tons. † **39:9** A span is the length from the tip of a man's thumb to the tip of his little finger when his hand is stretched out (about half a cubit, or 9 inches, or 22.8 cm.) ‡ **39:11** or, lapis lazuli

19 They made two rings of gold, and put
them on the two ends of the breastplate,
on its edge, which was toward the side of
the ephod inward.
20 They made two more rings of gold,
and put them on the two shoulder straps
of the ephod underneath, in its front,
close by its coupling, above the skillfully
woven band of the ephod.
21 They bound the breastplate by its
rings to the rings of the ephod with a lace
of blue, that it might be on the skillfully
woven band of the ephod, and that the
breastplate might not come loose from the
ephod, as the LORD commanded Moses.
22 He made the robe of the ephod of
woven work, all of blue.
23 The opening of the robe in the middle
of it was like the opening of a coat of mail,
with a binding around its opening, that it
should not be torn.
24 They made on the skirts of the robe
pomegranates of blue, purple, scarlet, and
twined linen.
25 They made bells of pure gold, and put
the bells between the pomegranates
around the skirts of the robe, between the
pomegranates;
26 a bell and a pomegranate, a bell and a
pomegranate, around the skirts of the
robe, to minister in, as the LORD
commanded Moses.
27 They made the tunics of fine linen of
woven work for Aaron and for his sons,
28 the turban of fine linen, the linen
headbands of fine linen, the linen
trousers of fine twined linen,
29 the sash of fine twined linen, blue,
purple, and scarlet, the work of the
embroiderer, as the LORD commanded
Moses.
30 They made the plate of the holy
crown of pure gold, and wrote on it an
inscription, like the engravings of a signet:
“HOLY TO THE LORD”.
31 They tied to it a lace of blue, to fasten
it on the turban above, as the LORD
commanded Moses.
32 Thus all the work of the tabernacle of
the Tent of Meeting was finished. The
children of Israel did according to all that
the LORD commanded Moses; so they did.
33 They brought the tabernacle to
Moses: the tent, with all its furniture, its
clasps, its boards, its bars, its pillars, its
sockets,
34 the covering of rams’ skins dyed red,
the covering of sea cow hides, the veil of
the screen,
35 the ark of the covenant with its poles,
the mercy seat,
36 the table, all its vessels, the show
bread,
37 the pure lamp stand, its lamps, even
the lamps to be set in order, all its vessels,
the oil for the light,
38 the golden altar, the anointing oil, the
sweet incense, the screen for the door of
the Tent,
39 the bronze altar, its grating of bronze,
its poles, all of its vessels, the basin and its
base,
40 the hangings of the court, its pillars,
its sockets, the screen for the gate of the
court, its cords, its pins, and all the
instruments of the service of the
tabernacle, for the Tent of Meeting,
41 the finely worked garments for
ministering in the holy place, the holy
garments for Aaron the priest, and the
garments of his sons, to minister in the
priest’s office.
42 According to all that the LORD
commanded Moses, so the children of
Israel did all the work.
43 Moses saw all the work, and behold,
they had done it as the LORD had
commanded. They had done so; and
Moses blessed them.

40

1 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
2 “On the first day of the first month you
shall raise up the tabernacle of the Tent of
Meeting.
3 You shall put the ark of the covenant in
it, and you shall screen the ark with the
veil.
4 You shall bring in the table, and set in
order the things that are on it. You shall
bring in the lamp stand, and light its
lamps.
5 You shall set the golden altar for
incense before the ark of the covenant,

and put the screen of the door to the tabernacle.
6 "You shall set the altar of burnt offering before the door of the tabernacle of the Tent of Meeting.
7 You shall set the basin between the Tent of Meeting and the altar, and shall put water therein.
8 You shall set up the court around it, and hang up the screen of the gate of the court.
9 "You shall take the anointing oil, and anoint the tabernacle and all that is in it, and shall make it holy, and all its furniture, and it will be holy.
10 You shall anoint the altar of burnt offering, with all its vessels, and sanctify the altar, and the altar will be most holy.
11 You shall anoint the basin and its base, and sanctify it.
12 "You shall bring Aaron and his sons to the door of the Tent of Meeting, and shall wash them with water.
13 You shall put on Aaron the holy garments; and you shall anoint him, and sanctify him, that he may minister to me in the priest's office.
14 You shall bring his sons, and put tunics on them.
15 You shall anoint them, as you anointed their father, that they may minister to me in the priest's office. Their anointing shall be to them for an everlasting priesthood throughout their generations."
16 Moses did so. According to all that the LORD commanded him, so he did.
17 In the first month in the second year, on the first day of the month, the tabernacle was raised up.
18 Moses raised up the tabernacle, and laid its sockets, and set up its boards, and put in its bars, and raised up its pillars.
19 He spread the covering over the tent, and put the roof of the tabernacle above on it, as the LORD commanded Moses.
20 He took and put the covenant into the ark, and set the poles on the ark, and put the mercy seat above on the ark.
21 He brought the ark into the tabernacle, and set up the veil of the screen, and screened the ark of the covenant, as the LORD commanded Moses.
22 He put the table in the Tent of Meeting, on the north side of the tabernacle, outside of the veil.
23 He set the bread in order on it before the LORD, as the LORD commanded Moses.
24 He put the lamp stand in the Tent of Meeting, opposite the table, on the south side of the tabernacle.
25 He lit the lamps before the LORD, as the LORD commanded Moses.
26 He put the golden altar in the Tent of Meeting before the veil;
27 and he burned incense of sweet spices on it, as the LORD commanded Moses.
28 He put up the screen of the door to the tabernacle.
29 He set the altar of burnt offering at the door of the tabernacle of the Tent of Meeting, and offered on it the burnt offering and the meal offering, as the LORD commanded Moses.
30 He set the basin between the Tent of Meeting and the altar, and put water therein, with which to wash.
31 Moses, Aaron, and his sons washed their hands and their feet there.
32 When they went into the Tent of Meeting, and when they came near to the altar, they washed, as the LORD commanded Moses.
33 He raised up the court around the tabernacle and the altar, and set up the screen of the gate of the court. So Moses finished the work.
34 Then the cloud covered the Tent of Meeting, and the LORD's glory filled the tabernacle.
35 Moses wasn't able to enter into the Tent of Meeting, because the cloud stayed on it, and the LORD's glory filled the tabernacle.
36 When the cloud was taken up from over the tabernacle, the children of Israel went onward, throughout all their journeys;
37 but if the cloud wasn't taken up, then they didn't travel until the day that it was taken up.
38 For the cloud of the LORD was on the tabernacle by day, and there was fire in the cloud by night, in the sight of all the

house of Israel, throughout all their journeys.

The Third Book of Moses, Commonly Called Leviticus

1 The LORD† called to Moses, and spoke
to him from the Tent of Meeting, saying,
2 "Speak to the children of Israel, and
tell them, 'When anyone of you offers an
offering to the LORD, you shall offer your
offering of the livestock, from the herd
and from the flock.
3 " 'If his offering is a burnt offering
from the herd, he shall offer a male
without defect. He shall offer it at the
door of the Tent of Meeting, that he may
be accepted before the LORD.
4 He shall lay his hand on the head of the
burnt offering, and it shall be accepted for
him to make atonement for him.
5 He shall kill the bull before the LORD.
Aaron's sons, the priests, shall present the
blood and sprinkle the blood around on
the altar that is at the door of the Tent of
Meeting.
6 He shall skin the burnt offering and
cut it into pieces.
7 The sons of Aaron the priest shall put
fire on the altar, and lay wood in order on
the fire;
8 and Aaron's sons, the priests, shall lay
the pieces, the head, and the fat in order
on the wood that is on the fire which is on
the altar;
9 but he shall wash its innards and its
legs with water. The priest shall burn all
of it on the altar, for a burnt offering, an
offering made by fire, of a pleasant aroma
to the LORD.
10 " 'If his offering is from the flock,
from the sheep or from the goats, for a
burnt offering, he shall offer a male
without defect.
11 He shall kill it on the north side of the
altar before the LORD. Aaron's sons, the
priests, shall sprinkle its blood around on
the altar.
12 He shall cut it into its pieces, with its
head and its fat. The priest shall lay them
in order on the wood that is on the fire
which is on the altar,
13 but the innards and the legs he shall
wash with water. The priest shall offer
the whole, and burn it on the altar. It is a
burnt offering, an offering made by fire,
of a pleasant aroma to the LORD.
14 " 'If his offering to the LORD is a burnt
offering of birds, then he shall offer his
offering from turtledoves or of young
pigeons.
15 The priest shall bring it to the altar,
and wring off its head, and burn it on the
altar; and its blood shall be drained out on
the side of the altar;
16 and he shall take away its crop and its
feathers, and cast it beside the altar on the
east part, in the place of the ashes.
17 He shall tear it by its wings, but shall
not divide it apart. The priest shall burn it
on the altar, on the wood that is on the
fire. It is a burnt offering, an offering
made by fire, of a pleasant aroma to the
LORD.

2

1 " 'When anyone offers an offering of a
meal offering to the LORD, his offering
shall be of fine flour. He shall pour oil on
it, and put frankincense on it.
2 He shall bring it to Aaron's sons, the
priests. He shall take his handful of its
fine flour, and of its oil, with all its
frankincense, and the priest shall burn its
memorial on the altar, an offering made
by fire, of a pleasant aroma to the LORD.
3 That which is left of the meal offering
shall be Aaron's and his sons'. It is a most
holy part of the offerings of the LORD
made by fire.
4 " 'When you offer an offering of a meal
offering baked in the oven, it shall be
unleavened cakes of fine flour mixed with
oil, or unleavened wafers anointed with
oil.
5 If your offering is a meal offering
made on a griddle, it shall be of
unleavened fine flour, mixed with oil.
6 You shall cut it in pieces, and pour oil
on it. It is a meal offering.

† **1:1** When rendered in ALL CAPITAL LETTERS, "LORD" or "GOD" is the translation of God's Proper Name (Hebrew "יהוה", usually pronounced Yahweh).

7 If your offering is a meal offering of
the pan, it shall be made of fine flour with
oil.
8 You shall bring the meal offering that
is made of these things to the LORD. It
shall be presented to the priest, and he
shall bring it to the altar.
9 The priest shall take from the meal
offering its memorial, and shall burn it on
the altar, an offering made by fire, of a
pleasant aroma to the LORD.
10 That which is left of the meal offering
shall be Aaron's and his sons'. It is a most
holy part of the offerings of the LORD
made by fire.
11 " 'No meal offering which you shall
offer to the LORD shall be made with
yeast; for you shall burn no yeast, nor any
honey, as an offering made by fire to the
LORD.
12 As an offering of first fruits you shall
offer them to the LORD, but they shall not
rise up as a pleasant aroma on the altar.
13 Every offering of your meal offering
you shall season with salt. You shall not
allow the salt of the covenant of your God†
to be lacking from your meal offering.
With all your offerings you shall offer salt.
14 " 'If you offer a meal offering of first
fruits to the LORD, you shall offer for the
meal offering of your first fruits fresh
heads of grain parched with fire and
crushed.
15 You shall put oil on it and lay
frankincense on it. It is a meal offering.
16 The priest shall burn as its memorial
part of its crushed grain and part of its oil,
along with all its frankincense. It is an
offering made by fire to the LORD.

3

1 " 'If his offering is a sacrifice of peace
offerings, if he offers it from the herd,
whether male or female, he shall offer it
without defect before the LORD.
2 He shall lay his hand on the head of his
offering, and kill it at the door of the Tent
of Meeting. Aaron's sons, the priests, shall
sprinkle the blood around on the altar.
3 He shall offer of the sacrifice of peace
offerings an offering made by fire to the
LORD. The fat that covers the innards, and
all the fat that is on the innards,
4 and the two kidneys, and the fat that is
on them, which is by the loins, and the
cover on the liver, with the kidneys, he
shall take away.
5 Aaron's sons shall burn it on the altar
on the burnt offering, which is on the
wood that is on the fire: it is an offering
made by fire, of a pleasant aroma to the
LORD.
6 " 'If his offering for a sacrifice of peace
offerings to the LORD is from the flock,
either male or female, he shall offer it
without defect.
7 If he offers a lamb for his offering,
then he shall offer it before the LORD;
8 and he shall lay his hand on the head
of his offering, and kill it before the Tent
of Meeting. Aaron's sons shall sprinkle its
blood around on the altar.
9 He shall offer from the sacrifice of
peace offerings an offering made by fire
to the LORD; its fat, the entire tail fat, he
shall take away close to the backbone; and
the fat that covers the entrails, and all the
fat that is on the entrails,
10 and the two kidneys, and the fat that
is on them, which is by the loins, and the
cover on the liver, with the kidneys, he
shall take away.
11 The priest shall burn it on the altar: it
is the food of the offering made by fire to
the LORD.
12 " 'If his offering is a goat, then he shall
offer it before the LORD.
13 He shall lay his hand on its head, and
kill it before the Tent of Meeting; and the
sons of Aaron shall sprinkle its blood
around on the altar.
14 He shall offer from it as his offering,
an offering made by fire to the LORD; the
fat that covers the innards, and all the fat
that is on the innards,
15 and the two kidneys, and the fat that
is on them, which is by the loins, and the
cover on the liver, with the kidneys, he
shall take away.

† **2:13** The Hebrew word rendered "God" is "אֱלֹהִים" (Elohim).

16 The priest shall burn them on the
altar: it is the food of the offering made by
fire, for a pleasant aroma; all the fat is the
LORD's.
17 " 'It shall be a perpetual statute
throughout your generations in all your
dwellings, that you shall eat neither fat
nor blood.' "

4

1 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
2 "Speak to the children of Israel, saying,
'If anyone sins unintentionally, in any of
the things which the LORD has
commanded not to be done, and does any
one of them,
3 if the anointed priest sins so as to bring
guilt on the people, then let him offer for
his sin which he has sinned a young bull
without defect to the LORD for a sin
offering.
4 He shall bring the bull to the door of
the Tent of Meeting before the LORD; and
he shall lay his hand on the head of the
bull, and kill the bull before the LORD.
5 The anointed priest shall take some of
the blood of the bull, and bring it to the
Tent of Meeting.
6 The priest shall dip his finger in the
blood, and sprinkle some of the blood
seven times before the LORD, before the
veil of the sanctuary.
7 The priest shall put some of the blood
on the horns of the altar of sweet incense
before the LORD, which is in the Tent of
Meeting; and he shall pour out the rest of
the blood of the bull at the base of the
altar of burnt offering, which is at the
door of the Tent of Meeting.
8 He shall take all the fat of the bull of
the sin offering from it: the fat that covers
the innards, and all the fat that is on the
innards,
9 and the two kidneys, and the fat that is
on them, which is by the loins, and the
cover on the liver, with the kidneys, he
shall remove,
10 as it is removed from the bull of the
sacrifice of peace offerings. The priest
shall burn them on the altar of burnt
offering.
11 He shall carry the bull's skin, all its
meat, with its head, and with its legs, its
innards, and its dung
12 —all the rest of the bull—outside of the
camp to a clean place where the ashes are
poured out, and burn it on wood with fire.
It shall be burned where the ashes are
poured out.
13 " 'If the whole congregation of Israel
sins, and the thing is hidden from the eyes
of the assembly, and they have done any
of the things which the LORD has
commanded not to be done, and are
guilty;
14 when the sin in which they have
sinned is known, then the assembly shall
offer a young bull for a sin offering, and
bring it before the Tent of Meeting.
15 The elders of the congregation shall
lay their hands on the head of the bull
before the LORD; and the bull shall be
killed before the LORD.
16 The anointed priest shall bring some
of the blood of the bull to the Tent of
Meeting.
17 The priest shall dip his finger in the
blood and sprinkle it seven times before
the LORD, before the veil.
18 He shall put some of the blood on the
horns of the altar which is before the
LORD, that is in the Tent of Meeting; and
the rest of the blood he shall pour out at
the base of the altar of burnt offering,
which is at the door of the Tent of Meeting.
19 All its fat he shall take from it, and
burn it on the altar.
20 He shall do this with the bull; as he
did with the bull of the sin offering, so he
shall do with this; and the priest shall
make atonement for them, and they shall
be forgiven.
21 He shall carry the bull outside the
camp, and burn it as he burned the first
bull. It is the sin offering for the assembly.
22 " 'When a ruler sins, and unwittingly
does any one of all the things which the
LORD his God has commanded not to be
done, and is guilty,
23 if his sin in which he has sinned is
made known to him, he shall bring as his
offering a goat, a male without defect.

24 He shall lay his hand on the head of
the goat, and kill it in the place where they
kill the burnt offering before the LORD. It
is a sin offering.
25 The priest shall take some of the
blood of the sin offering with his finger,
and put it on the horns of the altar of
burnt offering. He shall pour out the rest
of its blood at the base of the altar of burnt
offering.
26 All its fat he shall burn on the altar,
like the fat of the sacrifice of peace
offerings; and the priest shall make
atonement for him concerning his sin,
and he will be forgiven.

27 " 'If anyone of the common people
sins unwittingly, in doing any of the
things which the LORD has commanded
not to be done, and is guilty,
28 if his sin which he has sinned is made
known to him, then he shall bring for his
offering a goat, a female without defect,
for his sin which he has sinned.
29 He shall lay his hand on the head of
the sin offering, and kill the sin offering in
the place of burnt offering.
30 The priest shall take some of its blood
with his finger, and put it on the horns of
the altar of burnt offering; and the rest of
its blood he shall pour out at the base of
the altar.
31 All its fat he shall take away, like the
fat is taken away from the sacrifice of
peace offerings; and the priest shall burn
it on the altar for a pleasant aroma to the
LORD; and the priest shall make
atonement for him, and he will be
forgiven.

32 " 'If he brings a lamb as his offering
for a sin offering, he shall bring a female
without defect.
33 He shall lay his hand on the head of
the sin offering, and kill it for a sin
offering in the place where they kill the
burnt offering.
34 The priest shall take some of the
blood of the sin offering with his finger,
and put it on the horns of the altar of
burnt offering; and all the rest of its blood
he shall pour out at the base of the altar.
35 He shall remove all its fat, like the fat
of the lamb is removed from the sacrifice
of peace offerings. The priest shall burn
them on the altar, on the offerings of the
LORD made by fire. The priest shall make
atonement for him concerning his sin that
he has sinned, and he will be forgiven.

5

1 " 'If anyone sins, in that he hears a
public adjuration to testify, he being a
witness, whether he has seen or known, if
he doesn't report it, then he shall bear his
iniquity.
2 " 'Or if anyone touches any unclean
thing, whether it is the carcass of an
unclean animal, or the carcass of unclean
livestock, or the carcass of unclean
creeping things, and it is hidden from him,
and he is unclean, then he shall be guilty.
3 " 'Or if he touches the uncleanness of
man, whatever his uncleanness is with
which he is unclean, and it is hidden from
him; when he knows of it, then he shall be
guilty.
4 " 'Or if anyone swears rashly with his
lips to do evil or to do good—whatever it is
that a man might utter rashly with an
oath, and it is hidden from him—when he
knows of it, then he will be guilty of one of
these.
5 It shall be, when he is guilty of one of
these, he shall confess that in which he
has sinned;
6 and he shall bring his trespass offering
to the LORD for his sin which he has
sinned: a female from the flock, a lamb or
a goat, for a sin offering; and the priest
shall make atonement for him concerning
his sin.
7 " 'If he can't afford a lamb, then he
shall bring his trespass offering for that in
which he has sinned, two turtledoves, or
two young pigeons, to the LORD; one for a
sin offering, and the other for a burnt
offering.
8 He shall bring them to the priest, who
shall first offer the one which is for the sin
offering. He shall wring off its head from
its neck, but shall not sever it completely.
9 He shall sprinkle some of the blood of
the sin offering on the side of the altar;

and the rest of the blood shall be drained out at the base of the altar. It is a sin offering.
10 He shall offer the second for a burnt offering, according to the ordinance; and the priest shall make atonement for him concerning his sin which he has sinned, and he shall be forgiven.
11 " 'But if he can't afford two turtledoves or two young pigeons, then he shall bring as his offering for that in which he has sinned, one tenth of an ephah† of fine flour for a sin offering. He shall put no oil on it, and he shall not put any frankincense on it, for it is a sin offering.
12 He shall bring it to the priest, and the priest shall take his handful of it as the memorial portion, and burn it on the altar, on the offerings of the LORD made by fire. It is a sin offering.
13 The priest shall make atonement for him concerning his sin that he has sinned in any of these things, and he will be forgiven; and the rest shall be the priest's, as the meal offering.' "
14 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
15 "If anyone commits a trespass, and sins unwittingly regarding the LORD's holy things, then he shall bring his trespass offering to the LORD: a ram without defect from the flock, according to your estimation in silver by shekels, according to the shekel‡ of the sanctuary, for a trespass offering.
16 He shall make restitution for that which he has done wrong regarding the holy thing, and shall add a fifth part to it, and give it to the priest; and the priest shall make atonement for him with the ram of the trespass offering, and he will be forgiven.
17 "If anyone sins, doing any of the things which the LORD has commanded not to be done, though he didn't know it, he is still guilty, and shall bear his iniquity.
18 He shall bring a ram without defect from of the flock, according to your estimation, for a trespass offering, to the priest; and the priest shall make atonement for him concerning the thing in which he sinned and didn't know it, and he will be forgiven.
19 It is a trespass offering. He is certainly guilty before the LORD."

6

1 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
2 "If anyone sins, and commits a trespass against the LORD, and deals falsely with his neighbor in a matter of deposit, or of bargain, or of robbery, or has oppressed his neighbor,
3 or has found that which was lost, and lied about it, and swearing to a lie—in any of these things that a man sins in his actions—
4 then it shall be, if he has sinned, and is guilty, he shall restore that which he took by robbery, or the thing which he has gotten by oppression, or the deposit which was committed to him, or the lost thing which he found,
5 or any thing about which he has sworn falsely: he shall restore it in full, and shall add a fifth part more to it. He shall return it to him to whom it belongs in the day of his being found guilty.
6 He shall bring his trespass offering to the LORD: a ram without defect from the flock, according to your estimation, for a trespass offering, to the priest.
7 The priest shall make atonement for him before the LORD, and he will be forgiven concerning whatever he does to become guilty."
8 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
9 "Command Aaron and his sons, saying, 'This is the law of the burnt offering: the burnt offering shall be on the hearth on the altar all night until the morning; and the fire of the altar shall be kept burning on it.
10 The priest shall put on his linen garment, and he shall put on his linen trousers upon his body; and he shall remove the ashes from where the fire has

† **5:11** 1 ephah is about 22 liters or about 2/3 of a bushel
‡ **5:15** A shekel is about 10 grams or about 0.35 ounces.

consumed the burnt offering on the altar,
and he shall put them beside the altar.
11 He shall take off his garments, and
put on other garments, and carry the
ashes outside the camp to a clean place.
12 The fire on the altar shall be kept
burning on it, it shall not go out; and the
priest shall burn wood on it every
morning. He shall lay the burnt offering
in order upon it, and shall burn on it the
fat of the peace offerings.
13 Fire shall be kept burning on the altar
continually; it shall not go out.

14 " 'This is the law of the meal offering:
the sons of Aaron shall offer it before the
LORD, before the altar.
15 He shall take from there his handful
of the fine flour of the meal offering, and
of its oil, and all the frankincense which is
on the meal offering, and shall burn it on
the altar for a pleasant aroma, as its
memorial portion, to the LORD.
16 That which is left of it Aaron and his
sons shall eat. It shall be eaten without
yeast in a holy place. They shall eat it in
the court of the Tent of Meeting.
17 It shall not be baked with yeast. I have
given it as their portion of my offerings
made by fire. It is most holy, as are the sin
offering and the trespass offering.
18 Every male among the children of
Aaron shall eat of it, as their portion
forever throughout your generations,
from the offerings of the LORD made by
fire. Whoever touches them shall be
holy.' "

19 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
20 "This is the offering of Aaron and of
his sons, which they shall offer to the
LORD in the day when he is anointed: one
tenth of an ephah† of fine flour for a meal
offering perpetually, half of it in the
morning, and half of it in the evening.
21 It shall be made with oil in a griddle.
When it is soaked, you shall bring it in.
You shall offer the meal offering in baked
pieces for a pleasant aroma to the LORD.
22 The anointed priest that will be in his
place from among his sons shall offer it.
By a statute forever, it shall be wholly
burned to the LORD.
23 Every meal offering of a priest shall
be wholly burned. It shall not be eaten."
24 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
25 "Speak to Aaron and to his sons,
saying, 'This is the law of the sin offering:
in the place where the burnt offering is
killed, the sin offering shall be killed
before the LORD. It is most holy.
26 The priest who offers it for sin shall
eat it. It shall be eaten in a holy place, in
the court of the Tent of Meeting.
27 Whatever shall touch its flesh shall be
holy. When there is any of its blood
sprinkled on a garment, you shall wash
that on which it was sprinkled in a holy
place.
28 But the earthen vessel in which it is
boiled shall be broken; and if it is boiled in
a bronze vessel, it shall be scoured, and
rinsed in water.
29 Every male among the priests shall
eat of it. It is most holy.
30 No sin offering, of which any of the
blood is brought into the Tent of Meeting
to make atonement in the Holy Place,
shall be eaten. It shall be burned with fire.

7

1 " 'This is the law of the trespass
offering: It is most holy.
2 In the place where they kill the burnt
offering, he shall kill the trespass offering;
and its blood he shall sprinkle around on
the altar.
3 He shall offer all of its fat: the fat tail,
and the fat that covers the innards,
4 and he shall take away the two
kidneys, and the fat that is on them, which
is by the loins, and the cover on the liver,
with the kidneys;
5 and the priest shall burn them on the
altar for an offering made by fire to the
LORD: it is a trespass offering.
6 Every male among the priests may eat
of it. It shall be eaten in a holy place. It is
most holy.
7 " 'As is the sin offering, so is the
trespass offering; there is one law for

† **6:20** 1 ephah is about 22 liters or about 2/3 of a bushel

them. The priest who makes atonement with them shall have it.
8 The priest who offers any man's burnt offering shall have for himself the skin of the burnt offering which he has offered.
9 Every meal offering that is baked in the oven, and all that is prepared in the pan and on the griddle, shall be the priest's who offers it.
10 Every meal offering, mixed with oil or dry, belongs to all the sons of Aaron, one as well as another.
11 " 'This is the law of the sacrifice of peace offerings, which one shall offer to the LORD:
12 If he offers it for a thanksgiving, then he shall offer with the sacrifice of thanksgiving unleavened cakes mixed with oil, and unleavened wafers anointed with oil, and cakes mixed with oil.
13 He shall offer his offering with the sacrifice of his peace offerings for thanksgiving with cakes of leavened bread.
14 Of it he shall offer one out of each offering for a heave offering to the LORD. It shall be the priest's who sprinkles the blood of the peace offerings.
15 The flesh of the sacrifice of his peace offerings for thanksgiving shall be eaten on the day of his offering. He shall not leave any of it until the morning.
16 " 'But if the sacrifice of his offering is a vow, or a free will offering, it shall be eaten on the day that he offers his sacrifice. On the next day what remains of it shall be eaten,
17 but what remains of the meat of the sacrifice on the third day shall be burned with fire.
18 If any of the meat of the sacrifice of his peace offerings is eaten on the third day, it will not be accepted, and it shall not be credited to him who offers it. It will be an abomination, and the soul who eats any of it will bear his iniquity.
19 " 'The meat that touches any unclean thing shall not be eaten. It shall be burned with fire. As for the meat, everyone who is clean may eat it;
20 but the soul who eats of the meat of the sacrifice of peace offerings that belongs to the LORD, having his uncleanness on him, that soul shall be cut off from his people.
21 When anyone touches any unclean thing, the uncleanness of man, or an unclean animal, or any unclean abomination, and eats some of the meat of the sacrifice of peace offerings which belong to the LORD, that soul shall be cut off from his people.' "
22 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
23 "Speak to the children of Israel, saying, 'You shall eat no fat, of bull, or sheep, or goat.
24 The fat of that which dies of itself, and the fat of that which is torn of animals, may be used for any other service, but you shall in no way eat of it.
25 For whoever eats the fat of the animal which men offer as an offering made by fire to the LORD, even the soul who eats it shall be cut off from his people.
26 You shall not eat any blood, whether it is of bird or of animal, in any of your dwellings.
27 Whoever it is who eats any blood, that soul shall be cut off from his people.' "
28 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
29 "Speak to the children of Israel, saying, 'He who offers the sacrifice of his peace offerings to the LORD shall bring his offering to the LORD out of the sacrifice of his peace offerings.
30 With his own hands he shall bring the offerings of the LORD made by fire. He shall bring the fat with the breast, that the breast may be waved for a wave offering before the LORD.
31 The priest shall burn the fat on the altar, but the breast shall be Aaron's and his sons'.
32 The right thigh you shall give to the priest for a heave offering out of the sacrifices of your peace offerings.
33 He among the sons of Aaron who offers the blood of the peace offerings, and the fat, shall have the right thigh for a portion.
34 For the waved breast and the heaved thigh I have taken from the children of Israel out of the sacrifices of their peace

offerings, and have given them to Aaron the priest and to his sons as their portion forever from the children of Israel.' "
35 This is the consecrated portion of Aaron, and the consecrated portion of his sons, out of the offerings of the LORD made by fire, in the day when he presented them to minister to the LORD in the priest's office;
36 which the LORD commanded to be given them of the children of Israel, in the day that he anointed them. It is their portion forever throughout their generations.
37 This is the law of the burnt offering, the meal offering, the sin offering, the trespass offering, the consecration, and the sacrifice of peace offerings
38 which the LORD commanded Moses in Mount Sinai in the day that he commanded the children of Israel to offer their offerings to the LORD, in the wilderness of Sinai.

8

1 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
2 "Take Aaron and his sons with him, and the garments, and the anointing oil, and the bull of the sin offering, and the two rams, and the basket of unleavened bread;
3 and assemble all the congregation at the door of the Tent of Meeting."
4 Moses did as the LORD commanded him; and the congregation was assembled at the door of the Tent of Meeting.
5 Moses said to the congregation, "This is the thing which the LORD has commanded to be done."
6 Moses brought Aaron and his sons, and washed them with water.
7 He put the tunic on him, tied the sash on him, clothed him with the robe, put the ephod on him, and he tied the skillfully woven band of the ephod on him and fastened it to him with it.
8 He placed the breastplate on him. He put the Urim and Thummim in the breastplate.
9 He set the turban on his head. He set the golden plate, the holy crown, on the front of the turban, as the LORD commanded Moses.
10 Moses took the anointing oil, and anointed the tabernacle and all that was in it, and sanctified them.
11 He sprinkled it on the altar seven times, and anointed the altar and all its vessels, and the basin and its base, to sanctify them.
12 He poured some of the anointing oil on Aaron's head, and anointed him, to sanctify him.
13 Moses brought Aaron's sons, and clothed them with tunics, and tied sashes on them, and put headbands on them, as the LORD commanded Moses.
14 He 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.
15 He killed it; and Moses took the blood, and put it around on the horns of the altar with his finger, and purified the altar, and poured out the blood at the base of the altar, and sanctified it, to make atonement for it.
16 He took all the fat that was on the innards, and the cover of the liver, and the two kidneys, and their fat; and Moses burned it on the altar.
17 But the bull, and its skin, and its meat, and its dung, he burned with fire outside the camp, as the LORD commanded Moses.
18 He presented the ram of the burnt offering. Aaron and his sons laid their hands on the head of the ram.
19 He killed it; and Moses sprinkled the blood around on the altar.
20 He cut the ram into its pieces; and Moses burned the head, and the pieces, and the fat.
21 He washed the innards and the legs with water; and Moses burned the whole ram on the altar. It was a burnt offering for a pleasant aroma. It was an offering made by fire to the LORD, as the LORD commanded Moses.
22 He presented the other ram, the ram of consecration. Aaron and his sons laid their hands on the head of the ram.
23 He killed it; and Moses 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 great toe of his right foot.

24 He brought Aaron's sons; 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 great toe of their right
foot; and Moses sprinkled the blood
around on the altar.
25 He took the fat, the fat tail, all the fat
that was on the innards, the cover of the
liver, the two kidneys and their fat, and
the right thigh;
26 and out of the basket of unleavened
bread that was before the LORD, he took
one unleavened cake, one cake of oiled
bread, and one wafer, and placed them on
the fat and on the right thigh.
27 He put all these in Aaron's hands and
in his sons' hands, and waved them for a
wave offering before the LORD.
28 Moses took them from their hands,
and burned them on the altar on the
burnt offering. They were a consecration
offering for a pleasant aroma. It was an
offering made by fire to the LORD.
29 Moses took the breast, and waved it
for a wave offering before the LORD. It
was Moses' portion of the ram of
consecration, as the LORD commanded
Moses.
30 Moses took some of the anointing oil,
and some of the blood which was on the
altar, and sprinkled it on Aaron, on his
garments, and on his sons, and on his
sons' garments with him, and sanctified
Aaron, his garments, and his sons, and his
sons' garments with him.
31 Moses said to Aaron and to his sons,
"Boil the meat at the door of the Tent of
Meeting, and there eat it and the bread
that is in the basket of consecration, as I
commanded, saying, 'Aaron and his sons
shall eat it.'
32 What remains of the meat and of the
bread you shall burn with fire.
33 You shall not go out from the door of
the Tent of Meeting for seven days, until
the days of your consecration are fulfilled:
for he shall consecrate you seven days.
34 What has been done today, so the
LORD has commanded to do, to make
atonement for you.
35 You shall stay at the door of the Tent
of Meeting day and night seven days, and
keep the LORD's command, that you don't
die: for so I am commanded."
36 Aaron and his sons did all the things
which the LORD commanded by Moses.

9

1 On the eighth day, Moses called Aaron
and his sons, and the elders of Israel;
2 and he said to Aaron, "Take a calf from
the herd for a sin offering, and a ram for a
burnt offering, without defect, and offer
them before the LORD.
3 You shall speak to the children of
Israel, saying, 'Take a male goat for a sin
offering; and a calf and a lamb, both a
year old, without defect, for a burnt
offering;
4 and a bull and a ram for peace
offerings, to sacrifice before the LORD;
and a meal offering mixed with oil: for
today the LORD appears to you.' "
5 They brought what Moses
commanded before the Tent of Meeting.
All the congregation came near and stood
before the LORD.
6 Moses said, "This is the thing which
the LORD commanded that you should do;
and the LORD's glory shall appear to you."
7 Moses said to Aaron, "Draw 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 offering of the people, and make
atonement for them, as the LORD
commanded."
8 So Aaron came near to the altar, and
killed the calf of the sin offering, which
was for himself.
9 The sons of Aaron presented the blood
to him; and he dipped his finger in the
blood, and put it on the horns of the altar,
and poured out the blood at the base of
the altar;
10 but the fat, and the kidneys, and the
cover from the liver of the sin offering, he
burned upon the altar, as the LORD
commanded Moses.
11 The meat and the skin he burned with
fire outside the camp.
12 He killed the burnt offering; and
Aaron's sons delivered the blood to him,
and he sprinkled it around on the altar.

13 They delivered the burnt offering to
him, piece by piece, and the head. He
burned them upon the altar.
14 He washed the innards and the legs,
and burned them on the burnt offering on
the altar.
15 He presented the people's offering,
and took the goat of the sin offering which
was for the people, and killed it, and
offered it for sin, like the first.
16 He presented the burnt offering, and
offered it according to the ordinance.
17 He presented the meal offering, and
filled his hand from there, and burned it
upon the altar, in addition to the burnt
offering of the morning.
18 He also killed the bull and the ram,
the sacrifice of peace offerings, which was
for the people. Aaron's sons delivered to
him the blood, which he sprinkled around
on the altar;
19 and the fat of the bull and of the ram,
the fat tail, and that which covers the
innards, and the kidneys, and the cover of
the liver;
20 and they put the fat upon the breasts,
and he burned the fat on the altar.
21 Aaron waved the breasts and the
right thigh for a wave offering before the
LORD, as Moses commanded.
22 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.
23 Moses and Aaron went into the Tent
of Meeting, and came out, and blessed the
people; and the LORD's glory appeared to
all the people.
24 Fire came out from before the LORD,
and consumed the burnt offering and the
fat upon the altar. When all the people
saw it, they shouted, and fell on their
faces.

10

1 Nadab and Abihu, the sons of Aaron,
each took his censer, and put fire in it, and
laid incense on it, and offered strange fire
before the LORD, which he had not
commanded them.
2 Fire came out from before the LORD,
and devoured them, and they died before
the LORD.
3 Then Moses said to Aaron, "This is
what the LORD spoke of, saying,
'I will show myself holy to those who
come near me,
and before all the people I will be
glorified.' "
Aaron held his peace.
4 Moses called Mishael and Elzaphan,
the sons of Uzziel the uncle of Aaron, and
said to them, "Draw near, carry your
brothers from before the sanctuary out of
the camp."
5 So they came near, and carried them
in their tunics out of the camp, as Moses
had said.
6 Moses said to Aaron, and to Eleazar
and to Ithamar, his sons, "Don't let the
hair of your heads go loose, and don't tear
your clothes, so that you don't die, and so
that he will not be angry with all the
congregation; but let your brothers, the
whole house of Israel, bewail the burning
which the LORD has kindled.
7 You shall not go out from the door of
the Tent of Meeting, lest you die; for the
anointing oil of the LORD is on you." They
did according to the word of Moses.
8 Then the LORD said to Aaron,
9 "You and your sons are not to drink
wine or strong drink whenever you go
into the Tent of Meeting, or you will die.
This shall be a statute forever throughout
your generations.
10 You are to make a distinction between
the holy and the common, and between
the unclean and the clean.
11 You are to teach the children of Israel
all the statutes which the LORD has
spoken to them by Moses."
12 Moses spoke to Aaron, and to Eleazar
and to Ithamar, his sons who were left,
"Take the meal offering that remains of
the offerings of the LORD made by fire,
and eat it without yeast beside the altar;
for it is most holy;
13 and you shall eat it in a holy place,
because it is your portion, and your sons'
portion, of the offerings of the LORD
made by fire; for so I am commanded.

14 The waved breast and the heaved
thigh you shall eat in a clean place, you,
and your sons, and your daughters with
you: for they are given as your portion,
and your sons' portion, out of the
sacrifices of the peace offerings of the
children of Israel.
15 They shall bring the heaved thigh and
the waved breast with the offerings made
by fire of the fat, to wave it for a wave
offering before the LORD. It shall be
yours, and your sons' with you, as a
portion forever, as the LORD has
commanded."
16 Moses diligently inquired about the
goat of the sin offering, and, behold,† it
was burned. He was angry with Eleazar
and with Ithamar, the sons of Aaron who
were left, saying,
17 "Why haven't you eaten the sin
offering in the place of the sanctuary,
since it is most holy, and he has given it to
you to bear the iniquity of the
congregation, to make atonement for
them before the LORD?
18 Behold, its blood was not brought into
the inner part of the sanctuary. You
certainly should have eaten it in the
sanctuary, as I commanded."
19 Aaron spoke to Moses, "Behold, today
they have offered their sin offering and
their burnt offering before the LORD; and
such things as these have happened to me.
If I had eaten the sin offering today, would
it have been pleasing in the LORD's sight?"
20 When Moses heard that, it was
pleasing in his sight.

11

1 The LORD spoke to Moses and to
Aaron, saying to them,
2 "Speak to the children of Israel, saying,
'These are the living things which you
may eat among all the animals that are on
the earth.
3 Whatever parts the hoof, and is
cloven-footed, and chews the cud among
the animals, that you may eat.
4 " 'Nevertheless these you shall not eat
of those that chew the cud, or of those
who part the hoof: the camel, because it
chews the cud but doesn't have a parted
hoof, is unclean to you.
5 The hyrax,† because it chews the cud
but doesn't have a parted hoof, is unclean
to you.
6 The hare, because it chews the cud but
doesn't have a parted hoof, is unclean to
you.
7 The pig, because it has a split hoof, and
is cloven-footed, but doesn't chew the cud,
is unclean to you.
8 You shall not eat their meat. You shall
not touch their carcasses. They are
unclean to you.
9 " 'You may eat of all these that are in
the waters: whatever has fins and scales
in the waters, in the seas, and in the
rivers, that you may eat.
10 All that don't have fins and scales in
the seas and rivers, all that move in the
waters, and all the living creatures that
are in the waters, they are an
abomination to you,
11 and you shall detest them. You shall
not eat of their meat, and you shall detest
their carcasses.
12 Whatever has no fins nor scales in the
waters is an abomination to you.
13 " 'You shall detest these among the
birds; they shall not be eaten because they
are an abomination: the eagle, the
vulture, the black vulture,
14 the red kite, any kind of black kite,
15 any kind of raven,
16 the horned owl, the screech owl, the
gull, any kind of hawk,
17 the little owl, the cormorant, the great
owl,
18 the white owl, the desert owl, the
osprey,
19 the stork, any kind of heron, the
hoopoe, and the bat.
20 " 'All flying insects that walk on all
fours are an abomination to you.
21 Yet you may eat these: of all winged
creeping things that go on all fours, which

† **10:16** "Behold", from "הִנֵּה", means look at, take notice, observe, see, or gaze at. It is often used as an interjection.
† **11:5** or rock badger, or cony

have long, jointed legs for hopping on the earth.
22 Even of these you may eat: any kind of locust, any kind of katydid, any kind of cricket, and any kind of grasshopper.
23 But all winged creeping things which have four feet are an abomination to you.
24 “ ‘By these you will become unclean: whoever touches their carcass shall be unclean until the evening.
25 Whoever carries any part of their carcass shall wash his clothes, and be unclean until the evening.
26 “ ‘Every animal which has a split hoof that isn’t completely divided, or doesn’t chew the cud, is unclean to you. Everyone who touches them shall be unclean.
27 Whatever goes on its paws, among all animals that go on all fours, they are unclean to you. Whoever touches their carcass shall be unclean until the evening.
28 He who carries their carcass shall wash his clothes, and be unclean until the evening. They are unclean to you.
29 “ ‘These are they which are unclean to you among the creeping things that creep on the earth: the weasel, the rat, any kind of great lizard,
30 the gecko, and the monitor lizard, the wall lizard, the skink, and the chameleon.
31 These are they which are unclean to you among all that creep. Whoever touches them when they are dead shall be unclean until the evening.
32 Anything they fall on when they are dead shall be unclean; whether it is any vessel of wood, or clothing, or skin, or sack, whatever vessel it is, with which any work is done, it must be put into water, and it shall be unclean until the evening. Then it will be clean.
33 Every earthen vessel into which any of them falls and all that is in it shall be unclean. You shall break it.
34 All food which may be eaten which is soaked in water shall be unclean. All drink that may be drunk in every such vessel shall be unclean.
35 Everything whereupon part of their carcass falls shall be unclean; whether oven, or range for pots, it shall be broken in pieces. They are unclean, and shall be unclean to you.
36 Nevertheless a spring or a cistern in which water is gathered shall be clean, but that which touches their carcass shall be unclean.
37 If part of their carcass falls on any sowing seed which is to be sown, it is clean.
38 But if water is put on the seed, and part of their carcass falls on it, it is unclean to you.
39 “ ‘If any animal of which you may eat dies, he who touches its carcass shall be unclean until the evening.
40 He who eats of its carcass shall wash his clothes, and be unclean until the evening. He also who carries its carcass shall wash his clothes, and be unclean until the evening.
41 “ ‘Every creeping thing that creeps on the earth is an abomination. It shall not be eaten.
42 Whatever goes on its belly, and whatever goes on all fours, or whatever has many feet, even all creeping things that creep on the earth, them you shall not eat; for they are an abomination.
43 You shall not make yourselves abominable with any creeping thing that creeps. You shall not make yourselves unclean with them, that you should be defiled by them.
44 For I am the LORD your God. Sanctify yourselves therefore, and be holy; for I am holy. You shall not defile yourselves with any kind of creeping thing that moves on the earth.
45 For I am the LORD who brought you up out of the land of Egypt, to be your God. You shall therefore be holy, for I am holy.
46 “ ‘This is the law of the animal, and of the bird, and of every living creature that moves in the waters, and of every creature that creeps on the earth,
47 to 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.’ ”

12

1 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying,

2 “Speak to the children of Israel, saying,
‘If a woman conceives, and bears a male
child, then she shall be unclean seven
days; as in the days of her monthly period
she shall be unclean.
3 In the eighth day the flesh of his
foreskin shall be circumcised.
4 She shall continue in the blood of
purification thirty-three days. She shall
not touch any holy thing, nor come into
the sanctuary, until the days of her
purifying are completed.
5 But if she bears a female child, then
she shall be unclean two weeks, as in her
period; and she shall continue in the
blood of purification sixty-six days.
6 “ ‘When the days of her purification
are completed for a son or for a daughter,
she shall bring to the priest at the door of
the Tent of Meeting, a year old lamb for a
burnt offering, and a young pigeon or a
turtledove, for a sin offering.
7 He shall offer it before the LORD, and
make atonement for her; then she shall be
cleansed from the fountain of her blood.
“ ‘This is the law for her who bears,
whether a male or a female.
8 If she cannot afford a lamb, then she
shall take two turtledoves or two young
pigeons: the one for a burnt offering, and
the other for a sin offering. The priest
shall make atonement for her, and she
shall be clean.’ ”

13

1 The LORD spoke to Moses and to
Aaron, saying,
2 “When a man shall have a swelling in
his body’s skin, or a scab, or a bright spot,
and it becomes in the skin of his body the
plague of leprosy, then he shall be
brought to Aaron the priest or to one of
his sons, the priests.
3 The priest shall examine the plague in
the skin of the body. If the hair in the
plague has turned white, and the
appearance of the plague is deeper than
the body’s skin, it is the plague of leprosy;
so the priest shall examine him and
pronounce him unclean.
4 If the bright spot is white in the skin of
his body, and its appearance isn’t deeper
than the skin, and its hair hasn’t turned
white, then the priest shall isolate the
infected person for seven days.
5 The priest shall examine him on the
seventh day. Behold, if in his eyes the
plague is arrested and the plague hasn’t
spread in the skin, then the priest shall
isolate him for seven more days.
6 The priest shall examine him again on
the seventh day. Behold, if the plague has
faded and the plague hasn’t spread in the
skin, then the priest shall pronounce him
clean. It is a scab. He shall wash his
clothes, and be clean.
7 But if the scab spreads on the skin
after he has shown himself to the priest
for his cleansing, he shall show himself to
the priest again.
8 The priest shall examine him; and
behold, if the scab has spread on the skin,
then the priest shall pronounce him
unclean. It is leprosy.
9 “When the plague of leprosy is in a
man, then he shall be brought to the
priest;
10 and the priest shall examine him.
Behold, if there is a white swelling in the
skin, and it has turned the hair white, and
there is raw flesh in the swelling,
11 it is a chronic leprosy in the skin of his
body, and the priest shall pronounce him
unclean. He shall not isolate him, for he is
already unclean.
12 “If the leprosy breaks out all over the
skin, and the leprosy covers all the skin of
the infected person from his head even to
his feet, as far as it appears to the priest,
13 then the priest shall examine him.
Behold, if the leprosy has covered all his
flesh, he shall pronounce him clean of the
plague. It has all turned white: he is clean.
14 But whenever raw flesh appears in
him, he shall be unclean.
15 The priest shall examine the raw
flesh, and pronounce him unclean: the
raw flesh is unclean. It is leprosy.
16 Or if the raw flesh turns again, and is
changed to white, then he shall come to
the priest.
17 The priest shall examine him. Behold,
if the plague has turned white, then the

priest shall pronounce him clean of the plague. He is clean.
18 “When the body has a boil on its skin, and it has healed,
19 and in the place of the boil there is a white swelling, or a bright spot, reddish-white, then it shall be shown to the priest.
20 The priest shall examine it. Behold, if its appearance is deeper than the skin, and its hair has turned white, then the priest shall pronounce him unclean. It is the plague of leprosy. It has broken out in the boil.
21 But if the priest examines it, and behold, there are no white hairs in it, and it isn’t deeper than the skin, but is dim, then the priest shall isolate him seven days.
22 If it spreads in the skin, then the priest shall pronounce him unclean. It is a plague.
23 But if the bright spot stays in its place, and hasn’t spread, it is the scar from the boil; and the priest shall pronounce him clean.
24 “Or when the body has a burn from fire on its skin, and the raw flesh of the burn becomes a bright spot, reddish-white, or white,
25 then the priest shall examine it; and behold, if the hair in the bright spot has turned white, and its appearance is deeper than the skin, it is leprosy. It has broken out in the burning, and the priest shall pronounce him unclean. It is the plague of leprosy.
26 But if the priest examines it, and behold, there is no white hair in the bright spot, and it isn’t deeper than the skin, but has faded, then the priest shall isolate him seven days.
27 The priest shall examine him on the seventh day. If it has spread in the skin, then the priest shall pronounce him unclean. It is the plague of leprosy.
28 If the bright spot stays in its place, and hasn’t spread in the skin, but is faded, it is the swelling from the burn, and the priest shall pronounce him clean, for it is the scar from the burn.
29 “When a man or woman has a plague on the head or on the beard,
30 then the priest shall examine the plague; and behold, if its appearance is deeper than the skin, and the hair in it is yellow and thin, then the priest shall pronounce him unclean. It is an itch. It is leprosy of the head or of the beard.
31 If the priest examines the plague of itching, and behold, its appearance isn’t deeper than the skin, and there is no black hair in it, then the priest shall isolate the person infected with itching seven days.
32 On the seventh day the priest shall examine the plague; and behold, if the itch hasn’t spread, and there is no yellow hair in it, and the appearance of the itch isn’t deeper than the skin,
33 then he shall be shaved, but he shall not shave the itch. Then the priest shall isolate the one who has the itch seven more days.
34 On the seventh day, the priest shall examine the itch; and behold, if the itch hasn’t spread in the skin, and its appearance isn’t deeper than the skin, then the priest shall pronounce him clean. He shall wash his clothes and be clean.
35 But if the itch spreads in the skin after his cleansing,
36 then the priest shall examine him; and behold, if the itch has spread in the skin, the priest shall not look for the yellow hair; he is unclean.
37 But if in his eyes the itch is arrested and black hair has grown in it, then the itch is healed. He is clean. The priest shall pronounce him clean.
38 “When a man or a woman has bright spots in the skin of the body, even white bright spots,
39 then the priest shall examine them. Behold, if the bright spots on the skin of their body are a dull white, it is a harmless rash. It has broken out in the skin. He is clean.
40 “If a man’s hair has fallen from his head, he is bald. He is clean.
41 If his hair has fallen off from the front part of his head, his forehead is bald. He is clean.

42 But if a reddish-white plague is in the
bald head or the bald forehead, it is
leprosy breaking out in his bald head or
his bald forehead.
43 Then the priest shall examine him.
Behold, if the swelling of the plague is
reddish-white in his bald head, or in his
bald forehead, like the appearance of
leprosy in the skin of the body,
44 he is a leprous man. He is unclean.
The priest shall surely pronounce him
unclean. His plague is on his head.

45 "The leper in whom the plague is shall
wear torn clothes, and the hair of his head
shall hang loose. He shall cover his upper
lip, and shall cry, 'Unclean! Unclean!'
46 All the days in which the plague is in
him he shall be unclean. He is unclean.
He shall dwell alone. His dwelling shall be
outside of the camp.

47 "The garment also that the plague of
leprosy is in, whether it is a woolen
garment, or a linen garment;
48 whether it is in warp or woof;† of
linen or of wool; whether in leather, or in
anything made of leather;
49 if the plague is greenish or reddish in
the garment, or in the leather, or in the
warp, or in the woof, or in anything made
of leather; it is the plague of leprosy, and
shall be shown to the priest.
50 The priest shall examine the plague,
and isolate the plague seven days.
51 He shall examine the plague on the
seventh day. If the plague has spread in
the garment, either in the warp, or in the
woof, or in the skin, whatever use the skin
is used for, the plague is a destructive
mildew. It is unclean.
52 He shall burn the garment, whether
the warp or the woof, in wool or in linen,
or anything of leather, in which the
plague is, for it is a destructive mildew. It
shall be burned in the fire.

53 "If the priest examines it, and behold,
the plague hasn't spread in the garment,
either in the warp, or in the woof, or in
anything of skin;
54 then the priest shall command that
they wash the thing that the plague is in,
and he shall isolate it seven more days.
55 Then the priest shall examine it, after
the plague is washed; and behold, if the
plague hasn't changed its color, and the
plague hasn't spread, it is unclean; you
shall burn it in the fire. It is a mildewed
spot, whether the bareness is inside or
outside.
56 If the priest looks, and behold, the
plague has faded after it is washed, then
he shall tear it out of the garment, or out
of the skin, or out of the warp, or out of
the woof;
57 and if it appears again in the garment,
either in the warp, or in the woof, or in
anything of skin, it is spreading. You shall
burn what the plague is in with fire.
58 The garment, either the warp, or the
woof, or whatever thing of skin it is, which
you shall wash, if the plague has departed
from them, then it shall be washed the
second time, and it will be clean."
59 This is the law of the plague of
mildew in a garment of wool or linen,
either in the warp, or the woof, or in
anything of skin, to pronounce it clean, or
to pronounce it unclean.

14

1 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
2 "This shall be the law of the leper in
the day of his cleansing: He shall be
brought to the priest,
3 and the priest shall go out of the camp.
The priest shall examine him. Behold, if
the plague of leprosy is healed in the
leper,
4 then the priest shall command them to
take for him who is to be cleansed two
living clean birds, cedar wood, scarlet,
and hyssop.
5 The priest shall command them to kill
one of the birds in an earthen vessel over
running water.
6 As for the living bird, he shall take it,
the cedar wood, the scarlet, and the
hyssop, and shall dip them and the living

† **13:48** warp and woof are the vertical and horizontal threads in woven cloth

bird in the blood of the bird that was killed over the running water.
7 He shall sprinkle on him who is to be cleansed from the leprosy seven times, and shall pronounce him clean, and shall let the living bird go into the open field.

8 "He who is to be cleansed shall wash his clothes, and shave off all his hair, and bathe himself in water; and he shall be clean. After that he shall come into the camp, but shall dwell outside his tent seven days.
9 It shall be on the seventh day, that he shall shave all his hair off his head and his beard and his eyebrows. He shall shave off all his hair. He shall wash his clothes, and he shall bathe his body in water. Then he shall be clean.

10 "On the eighth day he shall take two male lambs without defect, one ewe lamb a year old without defect, three tenths of an ephah† of fine flour for a meal offering, mixed with oil, and one log‡ of oil.
11 The priest who cleanses him shall set the man who is to be cleansed, and those things, before the LORD, at the door of the Tent of Meeting.

12 "The priest shall take one of the male lambs, and offer him for a trespass offering, with the log of oil, and wave them for a wave offering before the LORD.
13 He shall kill the male lamb in the place where they kill the sin offering and the burnt offering, in the place of the sanctuary; for as the sin offering is the priest's, so is the trespass offering. It is most holy.
14 The priest shall take some of the blood of the trespass offering, and the priest shall put it on the tip of the right ear of him who is to be cleansed, and on the thumb of his right hand, and on the big toe of his right foot.
15 The priest shall take some of the log of oil, and pour it into the palm of his own left hand.
16 The priest shall dip his right finger in the oil that is in his left hand, and shall sprinkle some of the oil with his finger seven times before the LORD.
17 The priest shall put some of the rest of the oil that is in his hand on the tip of the right ear of him who is to be cleansed, and on the thumb of his right hand, and on the big toe of his right foot, upon the blood of the trespass offering.
18 The rest of the oil that is in the priest's hand he shall put on the head of him who is to be cleansed, and the priest shall make atonement for him before the LORD.
19 "The priest shall offer the sin offering, and make atonement for him who is to be cleansed because of his uncleanness. Afterward he shall kill the burnt offering;
20 then the priest shall offer the burnt offering and the meal offering on the altar. The priest shall make atonement for him, and he shall be clean.

21 "If he is poor, and can't afford so much, then he shall take one male lamb for a trespass offering to be waved, to make atonement for him, and one tenth of an ephah§ of fine flour mixed with oil for a meal offering, and a log† of oil;
22 and two turtledoves, or two young pigeons, such as he is able to afford; and the one shall be a sin offering, and the other a burnt offering.

23 "On the eighth day he shall bring them for his cleansing to the priest, to the door of the Tent of Meeting, before the LORD.
24 The priest shall take the lamb of the trespass offering, and the log of oil, and the priest shall wave them for a wave offering before the LORD.
25 He shall kill the lamb of the trespass offering. The priest shall take some of the blood of the trespass offering and put it on the tip of the right ear of him who is to be cleansed, and on the thumb of his right hand, and on the big toe of his right foot.
26 The priest shall pour some of the oil into the palm of his own left hand;
27 and the priest shall sprinkle with his right finger some of the oil that is in his

† **14:10** 1 ephah is about 22 liters or about 2/3 of a bushel ‡ **14:10** a log is a liquid measure of about 300 ml or 10 ounces § **14:21** 1 ephah is about 22 liters or about 2/3 of a bushel † **14:21** a log is a liquid measure of about 300 ml or 10 ounces

left hand seven times before the LORD.
28 Then the priest shall put some of the
oil that is in his hand on the tip of the right
ear of him who is to be cleansed, and on
the thumb of his right hand, and on the
big toe of his right foot, on the place of the
blood of the trespass offering.
29 The rest of the oil that is in the priest's
hand he shall put on the head of him who
is to be cleansed, to make atonement for
him before the LORD.
30 He shall offer one of the turtledoves,
or of the young pigeons, which ever he is
able to afford,
31 of the kind he is able to afford, the
one for a sin offering, and the other for a
burnt offering, with the meal offering.
The priest shall make atonement for him
who is to be cleansed before the LORD."
32 This is the law for him in whom is the
plague of leprosy, who is not able to
afford the sacrifice for his cleansing.
33 The LORD spoke to Moses and to
Aaron, saying,
34 "When you have come into the land
of Canaan, which I give to you for a
possession, and I put a spreading mildew
in a house in the land of your possession,
35 then he who owns the house shall
come and tell the priest, saying, 'There
seems to me to be some sort of plague in
the house.'
36 The priest shall command that they
empty the house, before the priest goes in
to examine the plague, that all that is in
the house not be made unclean.
Afterward the priest shall go in to inspect
the house.
37 He shall examine the plague; and
behold, if the plague is in the walls of the
house with hollow streaks, greenish or
reddish, and it appears to be deeper than
the wall,
38 then the priest shall go out of the
house to the door of the house, and shut
up the house seven days.
39 The priest shall come again on the
seventh day, and look. If the plague has
spread in the walls of the house,
40 then the priest shall command that
they take out the stones in which is the
plague, and cast them into an unclean
place outside of the city.
41 He shall cause the inside of the house
to be scraped all over. They shall pour out
the mortar that they scraped off outside of
the city into an unclean place.
42 They shall take other stones, and put
them in the place of those stones; and he
shall take other mortar, and shall plaster
the house.
43 "If the plague comes again, and
breaks out in the house after he has taken
out the stones, and after he has scraped
the house, and after it was plastered,
44 then the priest shall come in and look;
and behold, if the plague has spread in the
house, it is a destructive mildew in the
house. It is unclean.
45 He shall break down the house, its
stones, and its timber, and all the house's
mortar. He shall carry them out of the city
into an unclean place.
46 "Moreover he who goes into the
house while it is shut up shall be unclean
until the evening.
47 He who lies down in the house shall
wash his clothes; and he who eats in the
house shall wash his clothes.
48 "If the priest shall come in, and
examine it, and behold, the plague hasn't
spread in the house, after the house was
plastered, then the priest shall pronounce
the house clean, because the plague is
healed.
49 To cleanse the house he shall take two
birds, cedar wood, scarlet, and hyssop.
50 He shall kill one of the birds in an
earthen vessel over running water.
51 He shall take the cedar wood, the
hyssop, the scarlet, and the living bird,
and dip them in the blood of the slain
bird, and in the running water, and
sprinkle the house seven times.
52 He shall cleanse the house with the
blood of the bird, and with the running
water, with the living bird, with the cedar
wood, with the hyssop, and with the
scarlet;
53 but he shall let the living bird go out
of the city into the open field. So shall he
make atonement for the house; and it
shall be clean."

54 This is the law for any plague of
leprosy, and for an itch,
55 and for the destructive mildew of a
garment, and for a house,
56 and for a swelling, and for a scab, and
for a bright spot;
57 to teach when it is unclean, and when
it is clean.
This is the law of leprosy.

15

1 The LORD spoke to Moses and to
Aaron, saying,
2 "Speak to the children of Israel, and
tell them, 'When any man has a discharge
from his body, because of his discharge he
is unclean.
3 This shall be his uncleanness in his
discharge: whether his body runs with his
discharge, or his body has stopped from
his discharge, it is his uncleanness.
4 " 'Every bed on which he who has the
discharge lies shall be unclean; and
everything he sits on shall be unclean.
5 Whoever touches his bed shall wash
his clothes, and bathe himself in water,
and be unclean until the evening.
6 He who sits on anything on which the
man who has the discharge sat shall wash
his clothes, and bathe himself in water,
and be unclean until the evening.
7 " 'He who touches the body of him who
has the discharge shall wash his clothes,
and bathe himself in water, and be
unclean until the evening.
8 " 'If he who has the discharge spits on
him who is clean, then he shall wash his
clothes, and bathe himself in water, and
be unclean until the evening.
9 " 'Whatever saddle he who has the
discharge rides on shall be unclean.
10 Whoever touches anything that was
under him shall be unclean until the
evening. He who carries those things shall
wash his clothes, and bathe himself in
water, and be unclean until the evening.
11 " 'Whomever he who has the
discharge touches, without having rinsed
his hands in water, he shall wash his
clothes, and bathe himself in water, and
be unclean until the evening.
12 " 'The earthen vessel, which he who
has the discharge touches, shall be
broken; and every vessel of wood shall be
rinsed in water.
13 " 'When he who has a discharge is
cleansed of his discharge, then he shall
count to himself seven days for his
cleansing, and wash his clothes; and he
shall bathe his flesh in running water, and
shall be clean.
14 " 'On the eighth day he shall take two
turtledoves, or two young pigeons, and
come before the LORD to the door of the
Tent of Meeting, and give them to the
priest.
15 The priest shall offer them, the one
for a sin offering, and the other for a burnt
offering. The priest shall make atonement
for him before the LORD for his discharge.
16 " 'If any man has an emission of
semen, then he shall bathe all his flesh in
water, and be unclean until the evening.
17 Every garment and every skin which
the semen is on shall be washed with
water, and be unclean until the evening.
18 If a man lies with a woman and there
is an emission of semen, they shall both
bathe themselves in water, and be
unclean until the evening.
19 " 'If a woman has a discharge, and her
discharge in her flesh is blood, she shall
be in her impurity seven days. Whoever
touches her shall be unclean until the
evening.
20 " 'Everything that she lies on in her
impurity shall be unclean. Everything
also that she sits on shall be unclean.
21 Whoever touches her bed shall wash
his clothes, and bathe himself in water,
and be unclean until the evening.
22 Whoever touches anything that she
sits on shall wash his clothes, and bathe
himself in water, and be unclean until the
evening.
23 If it is on the bed, or on anything she
sits on, when he touches it, he shall be
unclean until the evening.
24 " 'If any man lies with her, and her
monthly flow is on him, he shall be
unclean seven days; and every bed he lies
on shall be unclean.

25 “ ‘If a woman has a discharge of her
blood many days not in the time of her
period, or if she has a discharge beyond
the time of her period, all the days of the
discharge of her uncleanness shall be as
in the days of her period. She is unclean.
26 Every bed she lies on all the days of
her discharge shall be to her as the bed of
her period. Everything she sits on shall be
unclean, as the uncleanness of her period.
27 Whoever touches these things shall
be unclean, and shall wash his clothes and
bathe himself in water, and be unclean
until the evening.
28 “ ‘But if she is cleansed of her
discharge, then she shall count to herself
seven days, and after that she shall be
clean.
29 On the eighth day she shall take two
turtledoves, or two young pigeons, and
bring them to the priest, to the door of the
Tent of Meeting.
30 The priest shall offer the one for a sin
offering, and the other for a burnt
offering; and the priest shall make
atonement for her before the LORD for
the uncleanness of her discharge.
31 “ ‘Thus you shall separate the
children of Israel from their uncleanness,
so they will not die in their uncleanness
when they defile my tabernacle that is
among them.’ ”
32 This is the law of him who has a
discharge, and of him who has an
emission of semen, so that he is unclean
by it;
33 and of her who has her period, and of
a man or woman who has a discharge,
and of him who lies with her who is
unclean.

16

1 The LORD spoke to Moses after the
death of the two sons of Aaron, when they
came near before the LORD, and died;
2 and the LORD said to Moses, “Tell
Aaron your brother not to come at just
any time into the Most Holy Place within
the veil, before the mercy seat which is on
the ark; lest he die; for I will appear in the
cloud on the mercy seat.
3 “Aaron shall come into the sanctuary
with a young bull for a sin offering, and a
ram for a burnt offering.
4 He shall put on the holy linen tunic. He
shall have the linen trousers on his body,
and shall put on the linen sash, and he
shall be clothed with the linen turban.
They are the holy garments. He shall
bathe his body in water, and put them on.
5 He shall take from the congregation of
the children of Israel two male goats for a
sin offering, and one ram for a burnt
offering.
6 “Aaron shall offer the bull of the sin
offering, which is for himself, and make
atonement for himself and for his house.
7 He shall take the two goats, and set
them before the LORD at the door of the
Tent of Meeting.
8 Aaron shall cast lots for the two goats:
one lot for the LORD, and the other lot for
the scapegoat.
9 Aaron shall present the goat on which
the lot fell for the LORD, and offer him for
a sin offering.
10 But the goat on which the lot fell for
the scapegoat shall be presented alive
before the LORD, to make atonement for
him, to send him away as the scapegoat
into the wilderness.
11 “Aaron shall present the bull of the
sin offering, which is for himself, and
shall make atonement for himself and for
his house, and shall kill the bull of the sin
offering which is for himself.
12 He shall take a censer full of coals of
fire from off the altar before the LORD,
and two handfuls of sweet incense beaten
small, and bring it within the veil.
13 He shall put the incense on the fire
before the LORD, that the cloud of the
incense may cover the mercy seat that is
on the covenant, so that he will not die.
14 He shall take some of the blood of the
bull, and sprinkle it with his finger on the
mercy seat on the east; and before the
mercy seat he shall sprinkle some of the
blood with his finger seven times.
15 “Then he shall kill the goat of the sin
offering that is for the people, and bring
his blood within the veil, and do with his
blood as he did with the blood of the bull,

and sprinkle it on the mercy seat and before the mercy seat.
16 He shall make atonement for the Holy Place, because of the uncleanness of the children of Israel, and because of their transgressions, even all their sins; and so he shall do for the Tent of Meeting that dwells with them in the middle of their uncleanness.
17 No one shall 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 household, and for all the assembly of Israel.
18 "He shall go out to the altar that is before the LORD and make atonement for it, and shall take some of the bull's blood, and some of the goat's blood, and put it around on the horns of the altar.
19 He shall sprinkle some of the blood on it with his finger seven times, and cleanse it, and make it holy from the uncleanness of the children of Israel.
20 "When he has finished atoning for the Holy Place, the Tent of Meeting, and the altar, he shall present the live goat.
21 Aaron shall lay both his hands on the head of the live goat, and confess over him all the iniquities of the children of Israel, and all their transgressions, even all their sins; and he shall put them on the head of the goat, and shall send him away into the wilderness by the hand of a man who is ready.
22 The goat shall carry all their iniquities on himself to a solitary land, and he shall release the goat in the wilderness.
23 "Aaron shall come into the Tent of Meeting, and shall take off the linen garments which he put on when he went into the Holy Place, and shall leave them there.
24 Then he shall bathe himself in water in a holy place, put on his garments, and come out and offer his burnt offering and the burnt offering of the people, and make atonement for himself and for the people.
25 The fat of the sin offering he shall burn on the altar.
26 "He who lets the goat go as the scapegoat shall wash his clothes, and bathe his flesh in water, and afterward he shall come into the camp.
27 The bull for the sin offering, and the goat for the sin offering, whose blood was brought in to make atonement in the Holy Place, shall be carried outside the camp; and they shall burn their skins, their flesh, and their dung with fire.
28 He who burns them shall wash his clothes, and bathe his flesh in water, and afterward he shall come into the camp.
29 "It shall be a statute to you forever: in the seventh month, on the tenth day of the month, you shall afflict your souls, and shall do no kind of work, whether native-born or a stranger who lives as a foreigner among you;
30 for on this day shall atonement be made for you, to cleanse you. You shall be clean from all your sins before the LORD.
31 It is a Sabbath of solemn rest to you, and you shall afflict your souls. It is a statute forever.
32 The priest, who is anointed and who is consecrated to be priest in his father's place, shall make the atonement, and shall put on the linen garments, even the holy garments.
33 Then he shall make atonement for the Holy Sanctuary; and he shall make atonement for the Tent of Meeting and for the altar; and he shall make atonement for the priests and for all the people of the assembly.
34 "This shall be an everlasting statute for you, to make atonement for the children of Israel once in the year because of all their sins."
It was done as the LORD commanded Moses.

17

1 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
2 "Speak to Aaron, and to his sons, and to all the children of Israel, and say to them, 'This is the thing which the LORD has commanded:
3 Whatever man there is of the house of Israel who kills a bull, or lamb, or goat in the camp, or who kills it outside the camp,
4 and hasn't brought it to the door of the Tent of Meeting to offer it as an offering to

the LORD before the LORD's tabernacle: blood shall be imputed to that man. He has shed blood. That man shall be cut off from among his people.
5 This is to the end that the children of Israel may bring their sacrifices, which they sacrifice in the open field, that they may bring them to the LORD, to the door of the Tent of Meeting, to the priest, and sacrifice them for sacrifices of peace offerings to the LORD.
6 The priest shall sprinkle the blood on the LORD's altar at the door of the Tent of Meeting, and burn the fat for a pleasant aroma to the LORD.
7 They shall no more sacrifice their sacrifices to the goat idols, after which they play the prostitute. This shall be a statute forever to them throughout their generations.'
8 "You shall say to them, 'Any man there is of the house of Israel, or of the strangers who live as foreigners among them, who offers a burnt offering or sacrifice,
9 and doesn't bring it to the door of the Tent of Meeting to sacrifice it to the LORD, that man shall be cut off from his people.
10 " 'Any man of the house of Israel, or of the strangers who live as foreigners among them, who eats any kind of blood, I will set my face against that soul who eats blood, and will cut him off from among his people.
11 For the life of the flesh is in the blood. I have given it to you on the altar to make atonement for your souls; for it is the blood that makes atonement by reason of the life.
12 Therefore I have said to the children of Israel, "No person among you may eat blood, nor may any stranger who lives as a foreigner among you eat blood."
13 " 'Whatever man there is of the children of Israel, or of the strangers who live as foreigners among them, who takes in hunting any animal or bird that may be eaten, he shall pour out its blood, and cover it with dust.
14 For as to the life of all flesh, its blood is with its life. Therefore I said to the children of Israel, "You shall not eat the blood of any kind of flesh; for the life of all flesh is its blood. Whoever eats it shall be cut off."
15 " 'Every person that eats what dies of itself, or that which is torn by animals, whether he is native-born or a foreigner, shall wash his clothes, and bathe himself in water, and be unclean until the evening. Then he shall be clean.
16 But if he doesn't wash them, or bathe his flesh, then he shall bear his iniquity.' "

18

1 The LORD said to Moses,
2 "Speak to the children of Israel, and say to them, 'I am the LORD your God.
3 You shall not do as they do in the land of Egypt, where you lived. You shall not do as they do in the land of Canaan, where I am bringing you. You shall not follow their statutes.
4 You shall do my ordinances. You shall keep my statutes and walk in them. I am the LORD your God.
5 You shall therefore keep my statutes and my ordinances, which if a man does, he shall live in them. I am the LORD.
6 " 'None of you shall approach any close relatives, to uncover their nakedness: I am the LORD.
7 " 'You shall not uncover the nakedness of your father, nor the nakedness of your mother: she is your mother. You shall not uncover her nakedness.
8 " 'You shall not uncover the nakedness of your father's wife. It is your father's nakedness.
9 " 'You shall not uncover the nakedness of your sister, the daughter of your father, or the daughter of your mother, whether born at home or born abroad.
10 " 'You shall not uncover the nakedness of your son's daughter, or of your daughter's daughter, even their nakedness; for theirs is your own nakedness.
11 " 'You shall not uncover the nakedness of your father's wife's daughter, conceived by your father, since she is your sister.
12 " 'You shall not uncover the nakedness of your father's sister. She is your father's near kinswoman.

13 “ ‘You shall not uncover the
nakedness of your mother’s sister, for she
is your mother’s near kinswoman.
14 “ ‘You shall not uncover the
nakedness of your father’s brother. You
shall not approach his wife. She is your
aunt.
15 “ ‘You shall not uncover the
nakedness of your daughter-in-law. She is
your son’s wife. You shall not uncover her
nakedness.
16 “ ‘You shall not uncover the
nakedness of your brother’s wife. It is
your brother’s nakedness.
17 “ ‘You shall not uncover the
nakedness of a woman and her daughter.
You shall not take her son’s daughter, or
her daughter’s daughter, to uncover her
nakedness. They are near kinswomen. It
is wickedness.
18 “ ‘You shall not take a wife in addition
to her sister, to be a rival, to uncover her
nakedness, while her sister is still alive.
19 “ ‘You shall not approach a woman to
uncover her nakedness, as long as she is
impure by her uncleanness.
20 “ ‘You shall not lie carnally with your
neighbor’s wife, and defile yourself with
her.
21 “ ‘You shall not give any of your
children as a sacrifice to Molech. You shall
not profane the name of your God. I am
the LORD.†
22 “ ‘You shall not lie with a man as with
a woman. That is detestable.
23 “ ‘You shall not lie with any animal to
defile yourself with it. No woman may
give herself to an animal, to lie down with
it: it is a perversion.
24 “ ‘Don’t defile yourselves in any of
these things; for in all these the nations
which I am casting out before you were
defiled.
25 The land was defiled. Therefore I
punished its iniquity, and the land
vomited out her inhabitants.
26 You therefore shall keep my statutes
and my ordinances, and shall not do any
of these abominations; neither the
native-born, nor the stranger who lives as
a foreigner among you
27 (for the men of the land that were
before you had done all these
abominations, and the land became
defiled),
28 that the land not vomit you out also,
when you defile it, as it vomited out the
nation that was before you.
29 “ ‘For whoever shall do any of these
abominations, even the souls that do them
shall be cut off from among their people.
30 Therefore you shall keep my
requirements, that you do not practice
any of these abominable customs which
were practiced before you, and that you
do not defile yourselves with them. I am
the LORD your God.’ ”

19

1 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
2 “Speak to all the congregation of the
children of Israel, and tell them, ‘You shall
be holy; for I, the LORD your God, am holy.
3 “ ‘Each one of you shall respect his
mother and his father. You shall keep my
Sabbaths. I am the LORD your God.
4 “ ‘Don’t turn to idols, nor make molten
gods for yourselves. I am the LORD your
God.
5 “ ‘When you offer a sacrifice of peace
offerings to the LORD, you shall offer it so
that you may be accepted.
6 It shall be eaten the same day you offer
it, and on the next day. If anything
remains until the third day, it shall be
burned with fire.
7 If it is eaten at all on the third day, it is
an abomination. It will not be accepted;
8 but everyone who eats it shall bear his
iniquity, because he has profaned the
holy thing of the LORD, and that soul shall
be cut off from his people.
9 “ ‘When you reap the harvest of your
land, you shall not wholly reap the
corners of your field, neither shall you
gather the gleanings of your harvest.
10 You shall not glean your vineyard,
neither shall you gather the fallen grapes
of your vineyard. You shall leave them for

† **18:21** LORD or GOD in all caps is from the Hebrew יהוה Yahweh except when otherwise noted as being from the short form יה Yah.

the poor and for the foreigner. I am the
LORD your God.
11 “ ‘You shall not steal.
“ ‘You shall not lie.
“ ‘You shall not deceive one another.
12 “ ‘You shall not swear by my name
falsely, and profane the name of your
God. I am the LORD.†
13 “ ‘You shall not oppress your
neighbor, nor rob him.
“ ‘The wages of a hired servant shall not
remain with you all night until the
morning.
14 “ ‘You shall not curse the deaf, nor put
a stumbling block before the blind; but
you shall fear your God. I am the LORD.
15 “ ‘You shall do no injustice in
judgment. You shall not be partial to the
poor, nor show favoritism to the great;
but you shall judge your neighbor in
righteousness.
16 “ ‘You shall not go around as a
slanderer among your people.
“ ‘You shall not endanger the life‡ of
your neighbor. I am the LORD.
17 “ ‘You shall not hate your brother in
your heart. You shall surely rebuke your
neighbor, and not bear sin because of him.
18 “ ‘You shall not take vengeance, nor
bear any grudge against the children of
your people; but you shall love your
neighbor as yourself. I am the LORD.
19 “ ‘You shall keep my statutes.
“ ‘You shall not cross-breed different
kinds of animals.
“ ‘You shall not sow your field with two
kinds of seed;
“ ‘Don’t wear a garment made of two
kinds of material.
20 “ ‘If a man lies carnally with a woman
who is a slave girl, pledged to be married
to another man, and not ransomed or
given her freedom; they shall be
punished. They shall not be put to death,
because she was not free.
21 He shall bring his trespass offering to
the LORD, to the door of the Tent of
Meeting, even a ram for a trespass
offering.
22 The priest shall make atonement for
him with the ram of the trespass offering
before the LORD for his sin which he has
committed; and the sin which he has
committed shall be forgiven him.
23 “ ‘When you come into the land, and
have planted all kinds of trees for food,
then you shall count their fruit as
forbidden.§ For three years it shall be
forbidden to you. It shall not be eaten.
24 But in the fourth year all its fruit shall
be holy, for giving praise to the LORD.
25 In the fifth year you shall eat its fruit,
that it may yield its increase to you. I am
the LORD your God.
26 “ ‘You shall not eat any meat with the
blood still in it. You shall not use
enchantments, nor practice sorcery.
27 “ ‘You shall not cut the hair on the
sides of your head or clip off the edge of
your beard.
28 “ ‘You shall not make any cuttings in
your flesh for the dead, nor tattoo any
marks on you. I am the LORD.
29 “ ‘Don’t profane your daughter, to
make her a prostitute; lest the land fall to
prostitution, and the land become full of
wickedness.
30 “ ‘You shall keep my Sabbaths, and
reverence my sanctuary; I am the LORD.
31 “ ‘Don’t turn to those who are
mediums, nor to the wizards. Don’t seek
them out, to be defiled by them. I am the
LORD your God.
32 “ ‘You shall rise up before the gray
head and honor the face of the elderly;
and you shall fear your God. I am the
LORD.
33 “ ‘If a stranger lives as a foreigner
with you in your land, you shall not do
him wrong.
34 The stranger who lives as a foreigner
with you shall be to you as the native-born
among you, and you shall love him as
yourself; for you lived as foreigners in the
land of Egypt. I am the LORD your God.
35 “ ‘You shall do no unrighteousness in
judgment, in measures of length, of
weight, or of quantity.

† **19:12** LORD or GOD in all caps is from the Hebrew יהוה Yahweh except when otherwise noted as being from the short form יה Yah. ‡ **19:16** literally, “blood” § **19:23** literally, “uncircumcised”

36 You shall have just balances, just
weights, a just ephah,† and a just hin.‡ I
am the LORD your God, who brought you
out of the land of Egypt.
37 " 'You shall observe all my statutes
and all my ordinances, and do them. I am
the LORD.' "

20

1 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
2 "Moreover, you shall tell the children
of Israel, 'Anyone of the children of Israel,
or of the strangers who live as foreigners
in Israel, who gives any of his offspring† to
Molech shall surely be put to death. The
people of the land shall stone that person
with stones.
3 I also will set my face against that
person, and will cut him off from among
his people, because he has given of his
offspring to Molech, to defile my
sanctuary, and to profane my holy name.
4 If the people of the land all hide their
eyes from that person when he gives of
his offspring to Molech, and don't put him
to death,
5 then I will set my face against that man
and against his family, and will cut him
off, and all who play the prostitute after
him to play the prostitute with Molech,
from among their people.
6 " 'The person that turns to those who
are mediums and wizards, to play the
prostitute after them, I will even set my
face against that person, and will cut him
off from among his people.
7 " 'Sanctify yourselves therefore, and
be holy; for I am the LORD your God.
8 You shall keep my statutes, and do
them. I am the LORD who sanctifies you.
9 " 'For everyone who curses his father
or his mother shall surely be put to death.
He has cursed his father or his mother.
His blood shall be upon himself.
10 " 'The man who commits adultery
with another man's wife, even he who
commits adultery with his neighbor's
wife, the adulterer and the adulteress
shall surely be put to death.
11 " 'The man who lies with his father's
wife has uncovered his father's
nakedness. Both of them shall surely be
put to death. Their blood shall be upon
themselves.
12 " 'If a man lies with his
daughter-in-law, both of them shall surely
be put to death. They have committed a
perversion. Their blood shall be upon
themselves.
13 " 'If a man lies with a male, as with a
woman, both of them have committed an
abomination. They shall surely be put to
death. Their blood shall be upon
themselves.
14 " 'If a man takes a wife and her
mother, it is wickedness. They shall be
burned with fire, both he and they, that
there may be no wickedness among you.
15 " 'If a man lies with an animal, he
shall surely be put to death; and you shall
kill the animal.
16 " 'If a woman approaches any animal
and lies with it, you shall kill the woman
and the animal. They shall surely be put
to death. Their blood shall be upon them.
17 " 'If a man takes his sister—his father's
daughter, or his mother's daughter—and
sees her nakedness, and she sees his
nakedness, it is a shameful thing. They
shall be cut off in the sight of the children
of their people. He has uncovered his
sister's nakedness. He shall bear his
iniquity.
18 " 'If a man lies with a woman having
her monthly period, and uncovers her
nakedness, he has made her fountain
naked, and she has uncovered the
fountain of her blood. Both of them shall
be cut off from among their people.
19 " 'You shall not uncover the
nakedness of your mother's sister, nor of
your father's sister, for he has made his
close relative naked. They shall bear their
iniquity.
20 If a man lies with his uncle's wife, he
has uncovered his uncle's nakedness.
They shall bear their sin. They shall die
childless.
21 " 'If a man takes his brother's wife, it
is an impurity. He has uncovered his

† **19:36** 1 ephah is about 22 liters or about 2/3 of a bushel ‡ **19:36** A hin is about 6.5 liters or 1.7 gallons. † **20:2** or, seed

brother's nakedness. They shall be childless.
22 " 'You shall therefore keep all my statutes and all my ordinances, and do them, that the land where I am bringing you to dwell may not vomit you out.
23 You shall not walk in the customs of the nation which I am casting out before you; for they did all these things, and therefore I abhorred them.
24 But I have said to you, "You shall inherit their land, and I will give it to you to possess it, a land flowing with milk and honey." I am the LORD your God, who has separated you from the peoples.
25 " 'You shall therefore make a distinction between the clean animal and the unclean, and between the unclean fowl and the clean. You shall not make yourselves abominable by animal, or by bird, or by anything with which the ground teems, which I have separated from you as unclean for you.
26 You shall be holy to me, for I, the LORD, am holy, and have set you apart from the peoples, that you should be mine.
27 " 'A man or a woman that is a medium or is a wizard shall surely be put to death. They shall be stoned with stones. Their blood shall be upon themselves.' "

21

1 The LORD said to Moses, "Speak to the priests, the sons of Aaron, and say to them, 'A priest shall not defile himself for the dead among his people,
2 except for his relatives that are near to him: for his mother, for his father, for his son, for his daughter, for his brother,
3 and for his virgin sister who is near to him, who has had no husband; for her he may defile himself.
4 He shall not defile himself, being a chief man among his people, to profane himself.
5 " 'They shall not shave their heads or shave off the corners of their beards or make any cuttings in their flesh.
6 They shall be holy to their God, and not profane the name of their God, for they offer the offerings of the LORD made by fire, the bread of their God. Therefore they shall be holy.
7 " 'They shall not marry a woman who is a prostitute, or profane. A priest shall not marry a woman divorced from her husband; for he is holy to his God.
8 Therefore you shall sanctify him, for he offers the bread of your God. He shall be holy to you, for I the LORD, who sanctify you, am holy.
9 " 'The daughter of any priest, if she profanes herself by playing the prostitute, she profanes her father. She shall be burned with fire.
10 " 'He who is the high priest among his brothers, upon whose head the anointing oil is poured, and who is consecrated to put on the garments, shall not let the hair of his head hang loose, or tear his clothes.
11 He must not go in to any dead body, or defile himself for his father or for his mother.
12 He shall not go out of the sanctuary, nor profane the sanctuary of his God; for the crown of the anointing oil of his God is upon him. I am the LORD.
13 " 'He shall take a wife in her virginity.
14 He shall not marry a widow, or one divorced, or a woman who has been defiled, or a prostitute. He shall take a virgin of his own people as a wife.
15 He shall not profane his offspring among his people, for I am the LORD who sanctifies him.' "
16 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
17 "Say to Aaron, 'None of your offspring throughout their generations who has a defect may approach to offer the bread of his God.
18 For whatever man he is that has a defect, he shall not draw near: a blind man, or a lame, or he who has a flat nose, or any deformity,
19 or a man who has an injured foot, or an injured hand,
20 or hunchbacked, or a dwarf, or one who has a defect in his eye, or an itching disease, or scabs, or who has damaged testicles.
21 No man of the offspring of Aaron the priest who has a defect shall come near to

offer the offerings of the LORD made by fire. Since he has a defect, he shall not come near to offer the bread of his God.
22 He shall eat the bread of his God, both of the most holy, and of the holy.
23 He shall not come near to the veil, nor come near to the altar, because he has a defect; that he may not profane my sanctuaries, for I am the LORD who sanctifies them.' "
24 So Moses spoke to Aaron, and to his sons, and to all the children of Israel.

22

1 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
2 "Tell Aaron and his sons to separate themselves from the holy things of the children of Israel, which they make holy to me, and that they not profane my holy name. I am the LORD.†
3 "Tell them, 'If anyone of all your offspring throughout your generations approaches the holy things which the children of Israel make holy to the LORD, having his uncleanness on him, that soul shall be cut off from before me. I am the LORD.
4 " 'Whoever of the offspring of Aaron is a leper or has a discharge shall not eat of the holy things until he is clean. Whoever touches anything that is unclean by the dead, or a man who has a seminal emission,
5 or whoever touches any creeping thing by which he may be made unclean, or a man from whom he may become unclean, whatever uncleanness he has—
6 the person that touches any such shall be unclean until the evening, and shall not eat of the holy things unless he bathes his body in water.
7 When the sun is down, he shall be clean; and afterward he shall eat of the holy things, because it is his bread.
8 He shall not eat that which dies of itself or is torn by animals, defiling himself by it. I am the LORD.
9 " 'They shall therefore follow my commandment, lest they bear sin for it and die in it, if they profane it. I am the LORD who sanctifies them.
10 " 'No stranger shall eat of the holy thing: a foreigner living with the priests, or a hired servant, shall not eat of the holy thing.
11 But if a priest buys a slave, purchased by his money, he shall eat of it; and those who are born in his house shall eat of his bread.
12 If a priest's daughter is married to an outsider, she shall not eat of the heave offering of the holy things.
13 But if a priest's daughter is a widow, or divorced, and has no child, and has returned to her father's house as in her youth, she may eat of her father's bread; but no stranger shall eat any of it.
14 " 'If a man eats something holy unwittingly, then he shall add the fifth part of its value to it, and shall give the holy thing to the priest.
15 The priests shall not profane the holy things of the children of Israel, which they offer to the LORD,
16 and so cause them to bear the iniquity that brings guilt when they eat their holy things; for I am the LORD who sanctifies them.' "
17 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
18 "Speak to Aaron, and to his sons, and to all the children of Israel, and say to them, 'Whoever is of the house of Israel, or of the foreigners in Israel, who offers his offering, whether it is any of their vows or any of their free will offerings, which they offer to the LORD for a burnt offering:
19 that you may be accepted, you shall offer a male without defect, of the bulls, of the sheep, or of the goats.
20 But you shall not offer whatever has a defect, for it shall not be acceptable for you.
21 Whoever offers a sacrifice of peace offerings to the LORD to accomplish a vow, or for a free will offering of the herd or of the flock, it shall be perfect to be accepted. It shall have no defect.

† **22:2** LORD or GOD in all caps is from the Hebrew יהוה Yahweh except when otherwise noted as being from the short form יה Yah.

22 You shall not offer what is blind, is
injured, is maimed, has a wart, is
festering, or has a running sore to the
LORD, nor make an offering by fire of
them on the altar to the LORD.
23 Either a bull or a lamb that has any
deformity or lacking in his parts, that you
may offer for a free will offering; but for a
vow it shall not be accepted.
24 You must not offer to the LORD that
which has its testicles bruised, crushed,
broken, or cut. You must not do this in
your land.
25 You must not offer any of these as the
bread of your God from the hand of a
foreigner, because their corruption is in
them. There is a defect in them. They shall
not be accepted for you.' "
26 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
27 "When a bull, a sheep, or a goat is
born, it shall remain seven days with its
mother. From the eighth day on it shall be
accepted for the offering of an offering
made by fire to the LORD.
28 Whether it is a cow or ewe, you shall
not kill it and its young both in one day.
29 "When you sacrifice a sacrifice of
thanksgiving to the LORD, you shall
sacrifice it so that you may be accepted.
30 It shall be eaten on the same day; you
shall leave none of it until the morning. I
am the LORD.
31 "Therefore you shall keep my
commandments, and do them. I am the
LORD.
32 You shall not profane my holy name,
but I will be made holy among the
children of Israel. I am the LORD‡ who
makes you holy,
33 who brought you out of the land of
Egypt, to be your God. I am the LORD."

23

1 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
2 "Speak to the children of Israel, and
tell them, 'The set feasts of the LORD,
which you shall proclaim to be holy
convocations, even these are my set feasts.
3 " 'Six days shall work be done, but on
the seventh day is a Sabbath of solemn
rest, a holy convocation; you shall do no
kind of work. It is a Sabbath to the LORD
in all your dwellings.

4 " 'These are the set feasts of the LORD,
even holy convocations, which you shall
proclaim in their appointed season.
5 In the first month, on the fourteenth
day of the month in the evening, is the
LORD's Passover.
6 On the fifteenth day of the same month
is the feast of unleavened bread to the
LORD. Seven days you shall eat
unleavened bread.
7 In the first day you shall have a holy
convocation. You shall do no regular
work.
8 But you shall offer an offering made
by fire to the LORD seven days. In the
seventh day is a holy convocation. You
shall do no regular work.' "

9 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
10 "Speak to the children of Israel, and
tell them, 'When you have come into the
land which I give to you, and shall reap its
harvest, then you shall bring the sheaf of
the first fruits of your harvest to the priest.
11 He shall wave the sheaf before the
LORD, to be accepted for you. On the next
day after the Sabbath the priest shall
wave it.
12 On the day when you wave the sheaf,
you shall offer a male lamb without defect
a year old for a burnt offering to the
LORD.
13 The meal offering with it shall be two
tenths of an ephah† of fine flour mixed
with oil, an offering made by fire to the
LORD for a pleasant aroma; and the drink
offering with it shall be of wine, the fourth
part of a hin.‡
14 You must not eat bread, or roasted
grain, or fresh grain, until this same day,
until you have brought the offering of
your God. This is a statute forever
throughout your generations in all your
dwellings.

‡ **22:32** LORD or GOD in all caps is from the Hebrew יהוה Yahweh except when otherwise noted as being from the short form יה Yah. † **23:13** 1 ephah is about 22 liters or about 2/3 of a bushel ‡ **23:13** A hin is about 6.5 liters or 1.7 gallons.

15 “ ‘You shall count from the next day
after the Sabbath, from the day that you
brought the sheaf of the wave offering:
seven Sabbaths shall be completed.
16 The next day after the seventh
Sabbath you shall count fifty days; and
you shall offer a new meal offering to the
LORD.
17 You shall bring out of your
habitations two loaves of bread for a
wave offering made of two tenths of an
ephah§ of fine flour. They shall be baked
with yeast, for first fruits to the LORD.
18 You shall present with the bread
seven lambs without defect a year old,
one young bull, and two rams. They shall
be a burnt offering to the LORD, with their
meal offering and their drink offerings,
even an offering made by fire, of a sweet
aroma to the LORD.
19 You shall offer one male goat for a sin
offering, and two male lambs a year old
for a sacrifice of peace offerings.
20 The priest shall wave them with the
bread of the first fruits for a wave offering
before the LORD, with the two lambs.
They shall be holy to the LORD for the
priest.
21 You shall make proclamation on the
same day that there shall be a holy
convocation to you. You shall do no
regular work. This is a statute forever in
all your dwellings throughout your
generations.
22 “ ‘When you reap the harvest of your
land, you must not wholly reap into the
corners of your field. You must not gather
the gleanings of your harvest. You must
leave them for the poor and for the
foreigner. I am the LORD your God.’ ”
23 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
24 “Speak to the children of Israel,
saying, ‘In the seventh month, on the first
day of the month, there shall be a solemn
rest for you, a memorial of blowing of
trumpets, a holy convocation.
25 You shall do no regular work. You
shall offer an offering made by fire to the
LORD.’ ”
26 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
27 “However on the tenth day of this
seventh month is the day of atonement. It
shall be a holy convocation to you. You
shall afflict yourselves and you shall offer
an offering made by fire to the LORD.
28 You shall do no kind of work in that
same day, for it is a day of atonement, to
make atonement for you before the LORD
your God.
29 For whoever it is who shall not deny
himself in that same day shall be cut off
from his people.
30 Whoever does any kind of work in
that same day, I will destroy that person
from among his people.
31 You shall do no kind of work: it is a
statute forever throughout your
generations in all your dwellings.
32 It shall be a Sabbath of solemn rest
for you, and you shall deny yourselves. In
the ninth day of the month at evening,
from evening to evening, you shall keep
your Sabbath.”
33 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
34 “Speak to the children of Israel, and
say, ‘On the fifteenth day of this seventh
month is the feast of booths† for seven
days to the LORD.
35 On the first day shall be a holy
convocation. You shall do no regular
work.
36 Seven days you shall offer an offering
made by fire to the LORD. On the eighth
day shall be a holy convocation to you.
You shall offer an offering made by fire to
the LORD. It is a solemn assembly; you
shall do no regular work.
37 “ ‘These are the appointed feasts of
the LORD which you shall proclaim to be
holy convocations, to offer an offering
made by fire to the LORD, a burnt
offering, a meal offering, a sacrifice, and
drink offerings, each on its own day—
38 in addition to the Sabbaths of the
LORD, and in addition to your gifts, and in
addition to all your vows, and in addition
to all your free will offerings, which you
give to the LORD.

§ **23:17** 1 ephah is about 22 liters or about 2/3 of a bushel † **23:34** or, feast of tents, or Succoth

39 “ ‘So on the fifteenth day of the
seventh month, when you have gathered
in the fruits of the land, you shall keep the
feast of the LORD seven days. On the first
day shall be a solemn rest, and on the
eighth day shall be a solemn rest.
40 You shall take on the first day the fruit
of majestic trees, branches of palm trees,
and boughs of thick trees, and willows of
the brook; and you shall rejoice before the
LORD your God seven days.
41 You shall keep it as a feast to the LORD
seven days in the year. It is a statute
forever throughout your generations. You
shall keep it in the seventh month.
42 You shall dwell in temporary shelters‡
for seven days. All who are native-born in
Israel shall dwell in temporary shelters,§
43 that your generations may know that
I made the children of Israel to dwell in
temporary shelters† when I brought them
out of the land of Egypt. I am the LORD
your God.’ ”
44 So Moses declared to the children of
Israel the appointed feasts of the LORD.

24

1 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
2 “Command the children of Israel, that
they bring to you pure olive oil beaten for
the light, to cause a lamp to burn
continually.
3 Outside of the veil of the Testimony, in
the Tent of Meeting, Aaron shall keep it in
order from evening to morning before the
LORD continually. It shall be a statute
forever throughout your generations.
4 He shall keep in order the lamps on the
pure gold lamp stand before the LORD
continually.
5 “You shall take fine flour, and bake
twelve cakes of it: two tenths of an ephah†
shall be in one cake.
6 You shall set them in two rows, six on a
row, on the pure gold table before the
LORD.
7 You shall put pure frankincense on
each row, that it may be to the bread for a
memorial, even an offering made by fire
to the LORD.
8 Every Sabbath day he shall set it in
order before the LORD continually. It is
an everlasting covenant on the behalf of
the children of Israel.
9 It shall be for Aaron and his sons. They
shall eat it in a holy place; for it is most
holy to him of the offerings of the LORD
made by fire by a perpetual statute.”
10 The son of an Israelite woman, whose
father was an Egyptian, went out among
the children of Israel; and the son of the
Israelite woman and a man of Israel
strove together in the camp.
11 The son of the Israelite woman
blasphemed the Name, and cursed; and
they brought him to Moses. His mother’s
name was Shelomith, the daughter of
Dibri, of the tribe of Dan.
12 They put him in custody until the
LORD’s will should be declared to them.
13 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
14 “Bring him who cursed out of the
camp; and let all who heard him lay their
hands on his head, and let all the
congregation stone him.
15 You shall speak to the children of
Israel, saying, ‘Whoever curses his God
shall bear his sin.
16 He who blasphemes the LORD’s
name, he shall surely be put to death. All
the congregation shall certainly stone
him. The foreigner as well as the
native-born shall be put to death when he
blasphemes the Name.
17 “ ‘He who strikes any man mortally
shall surely be put to death.
18 He who strikes an animal mortally
shall make it good, life for life.
19 If anyone injures his neighbor, it shall
be done to him as he has done:
20 fracture for fracture, eye for eye,
tooth for tooth. It shall be done to him as
he has injured someone.
21 He who kills an animal shall make it
good; and he who kills a man shall be put
to death.
22 You shall have one kind of law for the
foreigner as well as the native-born; for I

‡ **23:42** or, booths § **23:42** or, booths † **23:43** or, booths † **24:5** 1 ephah is about 22 liters or about 2/3 of a bushel

am the LORD your God.' "
23 Moses spoke to the children of Israel;
and they brought him who had cursed out
of the camp, and stoned him with stones.
The children of Israel did as the LORD
commanded Moses.

25

1 The LORD said to Moses on Mount
Sinai,
2 "Speak to the children of Israel, and
tell them, 'When you come into the land
which I give you, then the land shall keep
a Sabbath to the LORD.
3 You shall sow your field six years, and
you shall prune your vineyard six years,
and gather in its fruits;
4 but in the seventh year there shall be a
Sabbath of solemn rest for the land, a
Sabbath to the LORD. You shall not sow
your field or prune your vineyard.
5 What grows of itself in your harvest
you shall not reap, and you shall not
gather the grapes of your undressed vine.
It shall be a year of solemn rest for the
land.
6 The Sabbath of the land shall be for
food for you; for yourself, for your
servant, for your maid, for your hired
servant, and for your stranger, who lives
as a foreigner with you.
7 For your livestock also, and for the
animals that are in your land, shall all its
increase be for food.
8 " 'You shall count off seven Sabbaths of
years, seven times seven years; and there
shall be to you the days of seven Sabbaths
of years, even forty-nine years.
9 Then you shall sound the loud trumpet
on the tenth day of the seventh month. On
the Day of Atonement you shall sound the
trumpet throughout all your land.
10 You shall make the fiftieth year holy,
and proclaim liberty throughout the land
to all its inhabitants. It shall be a jubilee to
you; and each of you shall return to his
own property, and each of you shall
return to his family.
11 That fiftieth year shall be a jubilee to
you. In it you shall not sow, neither reap
that which grows of itself, nor gather
from the undressed vines.
12 For it is a jubilee; it shall be holy to
you. You shall eat of its increase out of the
field.
13 " 'In this Year of Jubilee each of you
shall return to his property.
14 " 'If you sell anything to your
neighbor, or buy from your neighbor, you
shall not wrong one another.
15 According to the number of years
after the Jubilee you shall buy from your
neighbor. According to the number of
years of the crops he shall sell to you.
16 According to the length of the years
you shall increase its price, and according
to the shortness of the years you shall
diminish its price; for he is selling the
number of the crops to you.
17 You shall not wrong one another, but
you shall fear your God; for I am the LORD
your God.
18 " 'Therefore you shall do my statutes,
and keep my ordinances and do them;
and you shall dwell in the land in safety.
19 The land shall yield its fruit, and you
shall eat your fill, and dwell therein in
safety.
20 If you said, "What shall we eat the
seventh year? Behold, we shall not sow,
nor gather in our increase;"
21 then I will command my blessing on
you in the sixth year, and it shall bear
fruit for the three years.
22 You shall sow the eighth year, and eat
of the fruits from the old store until the
ninth year. Until its fruits come in, you
shall eat the old store.
23 " 'The land shall not be sold in
perpetuity, for the land is mine; for you
are strangers and live as foreigners with
me.
24 In all the land of your possession you
shall grant a redemption for the land.
25 " 'If your brother becomes poor, and
sells some of his possessions, then his
kinsman who is next to him shall come,
and redeem that which his brother has
sold.
26 If a man has no one to redeem it, and
he becomes prosperous and finds
sufficient means to redeem it,
27 then let him reckon the years since its
sale, and restore the surplus to the man to

whom he sold it; and he shall return to his property.
28 But if he isn't able to get it back for himself, then what he has sold shall remain in the hand of him who has bought it until the Year of Jubilee. In the Jubilee it shall be released, and he shall return to his property.

29 " 'If a man sells a dwelling house in a walled city, then he may redeem it within a whole year after it has been sold. For a full year he shall have the right of redemption.
30 If it isn't redeemed within the space of a full year, then the house that is in the walled city shall be made sure in perpetuity to him who bought it, throughout his generations. It shall not be released in the Jubilee.
31 But the houses of the villages which have no wall around them shall be accounted for with the fields of the country: they may be redeemed, and they shall be released in the Jubilee.

32 " 'Nevertheless, in the cities of the Levites, the Levites may redeem the houses in the cities of their possession at any time.
33 The Levites may redeem the house that was sold, and the city of his possession, and it shall be released in the Jubilee; for the houses of the cities of the Levites are their possession among the children of Israel.
34 But the field of the pasture lands of their cities may not be sold, for it is their perpetual possession.

35 " 'If your brother has become poor, and his hand can't support himself among you, then you shall uphold him. He shall live with you like an alien and a temporary resident.
36 Take no interest from him or profit; but fear your God, that your brother may live among you.
37 You shall not lend him your money at interest, nor give him your food for profit.
38 I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, to give you the land of Canaan, and to be your God.

39 " 'If your brother has grown poor among you, and sells himself to you, you shall not make him to serve as a slave.
40 As a hired servant, and as a temporary resident, he shall be with you; he shall serve with you until the Year of Jubilee.
41 Then he shall go out from you, he and his children with him, and shall return to his own family, and to the possession of his fathers.
42 For they are my servants, whom I brought out of the land of Egypt. They shall not be sold as slaves.
43 You shall not rule over him with harshness, but shall fear your God.

44 " 'As for your male and your female slaves, whom you may have from the nations that are around you, from them you may buy male and female slaves.
45 Moreover, of the children of the aliens who live among you, of them you may buy, and of their families who are with you, which they have conceived in your land; and they will be your property.
46 You may make them an inheritance for your children after you, to hold for a possession. Of them you may take your slaves forever, but over your brothers the children of Israel you shall not rule, one over another, with harshness.

47 " 'If an alien or temporary resident with you becomes rich, and your brother beside him has grown poor, and sells himself to the stranger or foreigner living among you, or to a member of the stranger's family,
48 after he is sold he may be redeemed. One of his brothers may redeem him;
49 or his uncle, or his uncle's son, may redeem him, or any who is a close relative to him of his family may redeem him; or if he has grown rich, he may redeem himself.
50 He shall reckon with him who bought him from the year that he sold himself to him to the Year of Jubilee. The price of his sale shall be according to the number of years; he shall be with him according to the time of a hired servant.

51 If there are yet many years, according
to them he shall give back the price of his
redemption out of the money that he was
bought for.
52 If there remain but a few years to the
year of jubilee, then he shall reckon with
him; according to his years of service he
shall give back the price of his
redemption.
53 As a servant hired year by year shall
he be with him. He shall not rule with
harshness over him in your sight.
54 If he isn't redeemed by these means,
then he shall be released in the Year of
Jubilee: he and his children with him.
55 For to me the children of Israel are
servants; they are my servants whom I
brought out of the land of Egypt. I am the
LORD your God.

26

1 " 'You shall make for yourselves no
idols, and you shall not raise up a carved
image or a pillar, and you shall not place
any figured stone in your land, to bow
down to it; for I am the LORD your God.
2 " 'You shall keep my Sabbaths, and
have reverence for my sanctuary. I am
the LORD.
3 " 'If you walk in my statutes and keep
my commandments, and do them,
4 then I will give you your rains in their
season, and the land shall yield its
increase, and the trees of the field shall
yield their fruit.
5 Your threshing shall continue until the
vintage, and the vintage shall continue
until the sowing time. You shall eat your
bread to the full, and dwell in your land
safely.
6 " 'I will give peace in the land, and you
shall lie down, and no one will make you
afraid. I will remove evil animals out of
the land, neither shall the sword go
through your land.
7 You shall chase your enemies, and
they shall fall before you by the sword.
8 Five of you shall chase a hundred, and
a hundred of you shall chase ten
thousand; and your enemies shall fall
before you by the sword.
9 " 'I will have respect for you, make you
fruitful, multiply you, and will establish
my covenant with you.
10 You shall eat old supplies long kept,
and you shall move out the old because of
the new.
11 I will set my tent among you, and my
soul won't abhor you.
12 I will walk among you, and will be
your God, and you will be my people.
13 I am the LORD your God, who
brought you out of the land of Egypt, that
you should not be their slaves. I have
broken the bars of your yoke, and made
you walk upright.
14 " 'But if you will not listen to me, and
will not do all these commandments,
15 and if you shall reject my statutes,
and if your soul abhors my ordinances, so
that you will not do all my
commandments, but break my covenant,
16 I also will do this to you: I will appoint
terror over you, even consumption and
fever, that shall consume the eyes, and
make the soul to pine away. You will sow
your seed in vain, for your enemies will
eat it.
17 I will set my face against you, and you
will be struck before your enemies. Those
who hate you will rule over you; and you
will flee when no one pursues you.
18 " 'If you in spite of these things will
not listen to me, then I will chastise you
seven times more for your sins.
19 I will break the pride of your power,
and I will make your sky like iron, and
your soil like bronze.
20 Your strength will be spent in vain;
for your land won't yield its increase,
neither will the trees of the land yield
their fruit.
21 " 'If you walk contrary to me, and
won't listen to me, then I will bring seven
times more plagues on you according to
your sins.
22 I will send the wild animals among
you, which will rob you of your children,
destroy your livestock, and make you few
in number. Your roads will become
desolate.

23 “ ‘If by these things you won’t be
turned back to me, but will walk contrary
to me,
24 then I will also walk contrary to you;
and I will strike you, even I, seven times
for your sins.
25 I will bring a sword upon you that
will execute the vengeance of the
covenant. You will be gathered together
within your cities, and I will send the
pestilence among you. You will be
delivered into the hand of the enemy.
26 When I break your staff of bread, ten
women shall bake your bread in one oven,
and they shall deliver your bread again by
weight. You shall eat, and not be satisfied.
27 “ ‘If you in spite of this won’t listen to
me, but walk contrary to me,
28 then I will walk contrary to you in
wrath. I will also chastise you seven times
for your sins.
29 You will eat the flesh of your sons, and
you will eat the flesh of your daughters.
30 I will destroy your high places, and
cut down your incense altars, and cast
your dead bodies upon the bodies of your
idols; and my soul will abhor you.
31 I will lay your cities waste, and will
bring your sanctuaries to desolation. I
will not take delight in the sweet
fragrance of your offerings.
32 I will bring the land into desolation,
and your enemies who dwell in it will be
astonished at it.
33 I will scatter you among the nations,
and I will draw out the sword after you.
Your land will be a desolation, and your
cities shall be a waste.
34 Then the land will enjoy its Sabbaths
as long as it lies desolate and you are in
your enemies’ land. Even then the land
will rest and enjoy its Sabbaths.
35 As long as it lies desolate it shall have
rest, even the rest which it didn’t have in
your Sabbaths when you lived on it.
36 “ ‘As for those of you who are left, I
will send a faintness into their hearts in
the lands of their enemies. The sound of a
driven leaf will put them to flight; and
they shall flee, as one flees from the
sword. They will fall when no one
pursues.
37 They will stumble over one another,
as it were before the sword, when no one
pursues. You will have no power to stand
before your enemies.
38 You will perish among the nations.
The land of your enemies will eat you up.
39 Those of you who are left will pine
away in their iniquity in your enemies’
lands; and also in the iniquities of their
fathers they shall pine away with them.
40 “ ‘If they confess their iniquity and
the iniquity of their fathers, in their
trespass which they trespassed against
me; and also that because they walked
contrary to me,
41 I also walked contrary to them, and
brought them into the land of their
enemies; if then their uncircumcised
heart is humbled, and they then accept
the punishment of their iniquity,
42 then I will remember my covenant
with Jacob, my covenant with Isaac, and
also my covenant with Abraham; and I
will remember the land.
43 The land also will be left by them, and
will enjoy its Sabbaths while it lies
desolate without them; and they will
accept the punishment of their iniquity
because they rejected my ordinances, and
their soul abhorred my statutes.
44 Yet for all that, when they are in the
land of their enemies, I will not reject
them, neither will I abhor them, to destroy
them utterly and to break my covenant
with them; for I am the LORD their God.
45 But I will for their sake remember the
covenant of their ancestors, whom I
brought out of the land of Egypt in the
sight of the nations, that I might be their
God. I am the LORD.’ ”
46 These are the statutes, ordinances,
and laws, which the LORD made between
him and the children of Israel in Mount
Sinai by Moses.

27

1 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
2 “Speak to the children of Israel, and
say to them, ‘When a man consecrates a

person to the LORD in a vow, according to
your valuation,
3 your valuation of a male from twenty
years old to sixty years old shall be fifty
shekels of silver, according to the shekel† of the sanctuary.
4 If she is a female, then your valuation
shall be thirty shekels.
5 If the person is from five years old to
twenty years old, then your valuation
shall be for a male twenty shekels, and for
a female ten shekels.
6 If the person is from a month old to
five years old, then your valuation shall
be for a male five shekels of silver, and for
a female your valuation shall be three
shekels of silver.
7 If the person is from sixty years old
and upward; if he is a male, then your
valuation shall be fifteen shekels, and for
a female ten shekels.
8 But if he is poorer than your valuation,
then he shall be set before the priest, and
the priest shall assign a value to him. The
priest shall assign a value according to his
ability to pay.
9 " 'If it is an animal of which men offer
an offering to the LORD, all that any man
gives of such to the LORD becomes holy.
10 He shall not alter it, nor exchange it, a
good for a bad, or a bad for a good. If he
shall at all exchange animal for animal,
then both it and that for which it is
exchanged shall be holy.
11 If it is any unclean animal, of which
they do not offer as an offering to the
LORD, then he shall set the animal before
the priest;
12 and the priest shall evaluate it,
whether it is good or bad. As the priest
evaluates it, so it shall be.
13 But if he will indeed redeem it, then
he shall add the fifth part of it to its
valuation.
14 " 'When a man dedicates his house to
be holy to the LORD, then the priest shall
evaluate it, whether it is good or bad. As
the priest evaluates it, so it shall stand.
15 If he who dedicates it will redeem his
house, then he shall add the fifth part of
the money of your valuation to it, and it
shall be his.
16 " 'If a man dedicates to the LORD part
of the field of his possession, then your
valuation shall be according to the seed
for it. The sowing of a homer‡ of barley
shall be valued at fifty shekels§ of silver.
17 If he dedicates his field from the Year
of Jubilee, according to your valuation it
shall stand.
18 But if he dedicates his field after the
Jubilee, then the priest shall reckon to him
the money according to the years that
remain to the Year of Jubilee; and an
abatement shall be made from your
valuation.
19 If he who dedicated the field will
indeed redeem it, then he shall add the
fifth part of the money of your valuation
to it, and it shall remain his.
20 If he will not redeem the field, or if he
has sold the field to another man, it shall
not be redeemed any more;
21 but the field, when it goes out in the
Jubilee, shall be holy to the LORD, as a
devoted field. It shall be owned by the
priests.
22 " 'If he dedicates a field to the LORD
which he has bought, which is not of the
field of his possession,
23 then the priest shall reckon to him the
worth of your valuation up to the Year of
Jubilee; and he shall give your valuation
on that day, as a holy thing to the LORD.
24 In the Year of Jubilee the field shall
return to him from whom it was bought,
even to him to whom the possession of the
land belongs.
25 All your valuations shall be according
to the shekel of the sanctuary: twenty
gerahs† to the shekel.‡
26 " 'However the firstborn among
animals, which belongs to the LORD as a
firstborn, no man may dedicate, whether
an ox or a sheep. It is the LORD's.
27 If it is an unclean animal, then he
shall buy it back according to your

† **27:3** A shekel is about 10 grams or about 0.35 ounces. ‡ **27:16** 1 homer is about 220 liters or 6 bushels § **27:16** A shekel is about 10 grams or about 0.35 ounces. † **27:25** A gerah is about 0.5 grams or about 7.7 grains. ‡ **27:25** A shekel is about 10 grams or about 0.35 ounces.

valuation, and shall add to it the fifth part
of it; or if it isn't redeemed, then it shall be
sold according to your valuation.
28 " 'Notwithstanding, no devoted thing
that a man devotes to the LORD of all that
he has, whether of man or animal, or of
the field of his possession, shall be sold or
redeemed. Everything that is
permanently devoted is most holy to the
LORD.
29 " 'No one devoted to destruction, who
shall be devoted from among men, shall
be ransomed. He shall surely be put to
death.
30 " 'All the tithe of the land, whether of
the seed of the land or of the fruit of the
trees, is the LORD's. It is holy to the LORD.
31 If a man redeems anything of his
tithe, he shall add a fifth part to it.
32 All the tithe of the herds or the flocks,
whatever passes under the rod, the tenth
shall be holy to the LORD.
33 He shall not examine whether it is
good or bad, neither shall he exchange it.
If he exchanges it at all, then both it and
that for which it is exchanged shall be
holy. It shall not be redeemed.' "
34 These are the commandments which
the LORD commanded Moses for the
children of Israel on Mount Sinai.

The Fourth Book of Moses, Commonly Called Numbers

1 The LORD† spoke to Moses in the
wilderness of Sinai, in the Tent of
Meeting, on the first day of the second
month, in the second year after they had
come out of the land of Egypt, saying,
2 "Take a census of all the congregation
of the children of Israel, by their families,
by their fathers' houses, according to the
number of the names, every male, one by
one,
3 from twenty years old and upward, all
who are able to go out to war in Israel.
You and Aaron shall count them by their
divisions.
4 With you there shall be a man of every
tribe, each one head of his fathers' house.
5 These are the names of the men who
shall stand with you:
Of Reuben: Elizur the son of Shedeur.
6 Of Simeon: Shelumiel the son of
Zurishaddai.
7 Of Judah: Nahshon the son of
Amminadab.
8 Of Issachar: Nethanel the son of Zuar.
9 Of Zebulun: Eliab the son of Helon.
10 Of the children of Joseph: of Ephraim:
Elishama the son of Ammihud; of
Manasseh: Gamaliel the son of Pedahzur.
11 Of Benjamin: Abidan the son of
Gideoni.
12 Of Dan: Ahiezer the son of
Ammishaddai.
13 Of Asher: Pagiel the son of Ochran.
14 Of Gad: Eliasaph the son of Deuel.
15 Of Naphtali: Ahira the son of Enan."
16 These are those who were called of
the congregation, the princes‡ of the
tribes of their fathers; they were the
heads of the thousands of Israel.
17 Moses and Aaron took these men who
are mentioned by name.
18 They assembled all the congregation
together on the first day of the second
month; and they declared their ancestry
by their families, by their fathers' houses,
according to the number of the names,
from twenty years old and upward, one
by one.
19 As the LORD commanded Moses, so
he counted them in the wilderness of
Sinai.
20 The children of Reuben, Israel's
firstborn, their generations, by their
families, by their fathers' houses,
according to the number of the names,
one by one, every male from twenty years
old and upward, all who were able to go
out to war:
21 those who were counted of them, of
the tribe of Reuben, were forty-six
thousand five hundred.
22 Of the children of Simeon, their
generations, by their families, by their
fathers' houses, those who were counted
of it, according to the number of the
names, one by one, every male from
twenty years old and upward, all who
were able to go out to war:
23 those who were counted of them, of
the tribe of Simeon, were fifty-nine
thousand three hundred.
24 Of the children of Gad, their
generations, by their families, by their
fathers' houses, according to the number
of the names, from twenty years old and
upward, all who were able to go out to
war:
25 those who were counted of them, of
the tribe of Gad, were forty-five thousand
six hundred fifty.
26 Of the children of Judah, their
generations, by their families, by their
fathers' houses, according to the number
of the names, from twenty years old and
upward, all who were able to go out to
war:
27 those who were counted of them, of
the tribe of Judah, were seventy-four
thousand six hundred.
28 Of the children of Issachar, their
generations, by their families, by their
fathers' houses, according to the number
of the names, from twenty years old and
upward, all who were able to go out to
war:

† **1:1** When rendered in ALL CAPITAL LETTERS, "LORD" or "GOD" is the translation of God's Proper Name (Hebrew "יהוה", usually pronounced Yahweh). ‡ **1:16** or, chiefs, or, leaders

29 those who were counted of them, of
the tribe of Issachar, were fifty-four
thousand four hundred.
30 Of the children of Zebulun, their
generations, by their families, by their
fathers' houses, according to the number
of the names, from twenty years old and
upward, all who were able to go out to
war:
31 those who were counted of them, of
the tribe of Zebulun, were fifty-seven
thousand four hundred.
32 Of the children of Joseph: of the
children of Ephraim, their generations, by
their families, by their fathers' houses,
according to the number of the names,
from twenty years old and upward, all
who were able to go out to war:
33 those who were counted of them, of
the tribe of Ephraim, were forty thousand
five hundred.
34 Of the children of Manasseh, their
generations, by their families, by their
fathers' houses, according to the number
of the names, from twenty years old and
upward, all who were able to go out to
war:
35 those who were counted of them, of
the tribe of Manasseh, were thirty-two
thousand two hundred.
36 Of the children of Benjamin, their
generations, by their families, by their
fathers' houses, according to the number
of the names, from twenty years old and
upward, all who were able to go out to
war:
37 those who were counted of them, of
the tribe of Benjamin, were thirty-five
thousand four hundred.
38 Of the children of Dan, their
generations, by their families, by their
fathers' houses, according to the number
of the names, from twenty years old and
upward, all who were able to go out to
war:
39 those who were counted of them, of
the tribe of Dan, were sixty-two thousand
seven hundred.
40 Of the children of Asher, their
generations, by their families, by their
fathers' houses, according to the number
of the names, from twenty years old and
upward, all who were able to go out to
war:
41 those who were counted of them, of
the tribe of Asher, were forty-one
thousand five hundred.
42 Of the children of Naphtali, their
generations, by their families, by their
fathers' houses, according to the number
of the names, from twenty years old and
upward, all who were able to go out to
war:
43 those who were counted of them, of
the tribe of Naphtali, were fifty-three
thousand four hundred.
44 These are those who were counted,
whom Moses and Aaron counted, and the
twelve men who were princes of Israel,
each one for his fathers' house.
45 So all those who were counted of the
children of Israel by their fathers' houses,
from twenty years old and upward, all
who were able to go out to war in Israel—
46 all those who were counted were six
hundred three thousand five hundred
fifty.
47 But the Levites after the tribe of their
fathers were not counted among them.
48 For the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
49 "Only the tribe of Levi you shall not
count, neither shall you take a census of
them among the children of Israel;
50 but appoint the Levites over the
Tabernacle of the Testimony, and over all
its furnishings, and over all that belongs
to it. They shall carry the tabernacle and
all its furnishings; and they shall take care
of it, and shall encamp around it.
51 When the tabernacle is to move, the
Levites shall take it down; and when the
tabernacle is to be set up, the Levites shall
set it up. The stranger who comes near
shall be put to death.
52 The children of Israel shall pitch their
tents, every man by his own camp, and
every man by his own standard,
according to their divisions.
53 But the Levites shall encamp around
the Tabernacle of the Testimony, that
there may be no wrath on the
congregation of the children of Israel. The
Levites shall be responsible for the
Tabernacle of the Testimony."

54 Thus the children of Israel did.
According to all that the LORD
commanded Moses, so they did.

2

1 The LORD spoke to Moses and to
Aaron, saying,
2 "The children of Israel shall encamp
every man by his own standard, with the
banners of their fathers' houses. They
shall encamp around the Tent of Meeting
at a distance from it.
3 "Those who encamp on the east side
toward the sunrise shall be of the
standard of the camp of Judah, according
to their divisions. The prince of the
children of Judah shall be Nahshon the
son of Amminadab.
4 His division, and those who were
counted of them, were seventy-four
thousand six hundred.
5 "Those who encamp next to him shall
be the tribe of Issachar. The prince of the
children of Issachar shall be Nethanel the
son of Zuar.
6 His division, and those who were
counted of it, were fifty-four thousand
four hundred.
7 "The tribe of Zebulun: the prince of
the children of Zebulun shall be Eliab the
son of Helon.
8 His division, and those who were
counted of it, were fifty-seven thousand
four hundred.
9 "All who were counted of the camp of
Judah were one hundred eighty-six
thousand four hundred, according to
their divisions. They shall set out first.
10 "On the south side shall be the
standard of the camp of Reuben
according to their divisions. The prince of
the children of Reuben shall be Elizur the
son of Shedeur.
11 His division, and those who were
counted of it, were forty-six thousand five
hundred.
12 "Those who encamp next to him shall
be the tribe of Simeon. The prince of the
children of Simeon shall be Shelumiel the
son of Zurishaddai.
13 His division, and those who were
counted of them, were fifty-nine thousand
three hundred.
14 "The tribe of Gad: the prince of the
children of Gad shall be Eliasaph the son
of Reuel.
15 His division, and those who were
counted of them, were forty-five thousand
six hundred fifty.
16 "All who were counted of the camp of
Reuben were one hundred fifty-one
thousand four hundred fifty, according to
their armies. They shall set out second.
17 "Then the Tent of Meeting shall set
out, with the camp of the Levites in the
middle of the camps. As they encamp, so
shall they set out, every man in his place,
by their standards.
18 "On the west side shall be the
standard of the camp of Ephraim
according to their divisions. The prince of
the children of Ephraim shall be Elishama
the son of Ammihud.
19 His division, and those who were
counted of them, were forty thousand five
hundred.
20 "Next to him shall be the tribe of
Manasseh. The prince of the children of
Manasseh shall be Gamaliel the son of
Pedahzur.
21 His division, and those who were
counted of them, were thirty-two
thousand two hundred.
22 "The tribe of Benjamin: the prince of
the children of Benjamin shall be Abidan
the son of Gideoni.
23 His army, and those who were
counted of them, were thirty-five
thousand four hundred.
24 "All who were counted of the camp of
Ephraim were one hundred eight
thousand one hundred, according to their
divisions. They shall set out third.
25 "On the north side shall be the
standard of the camp of Dan according to
their divisions. The prince of the children
of Dan shall be Ahiezer the son of
Ammishaddai.
26 His division, and those who were
counted of them, were sixty-two thousand
seven hundred.
27 "Those who encamp next to him shall
be the tribe of Asher. The prince of the
children of Asher shall be Pagiel the son of
Ochran.

28 His division, and those who were
counted of them, were forty-one thousand
five hundred.
29 "The tribe of Naphtali: the prince of
the children of Naphtali shall be Ahira the
son of Enan.
30 His division, and those who were
counted of them, were fifty-three
thousand four hundred.
31 "All who were counted of the camp of
Dan were one hundred fifty-seven
thousand six hundred. They shall set out
last by their standards."
32 These are those who were counted of
the children of Israel by their fathers'
houses. All who were counted of the
camps according to their armies were six
hundred three thousand five hundred
fifty.
33 But the Levites were not counted
among the children of Israel, as the LORD
commanded Moses.
34 Thus the children of Israel did.
According to all that the LORD
commanded Moses, so they encamped by
their standards, and so they set out,
everyone by their families, according to
their fathers' houses.

3

1 Now this is the history of the
generations of Aaron and Moses in the
day that the LORD spoke with Moses in
Mount Sinai.
2 These are the names of the sons of
Aaron: Nadab the firstborn, and Abihu,
Eleazar, and Ithamar.
3 These are the names of the sons of
Aaron, the priests who were anointed,
whom he consecrated to minister in the
priest's office.
4 Nadab and Abihu died before the
LORD when they offered strange fire
before the LORD in the wilderness of
Sinai, and they had no children. Eleazar
and Ithamar ministered in the priest's
office in the presence of Aaron their
father.
5 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
6 "Bring the tribe of Levi near, and set
them before Aaron the priest, that they
may minister to him.
7 They shall keep his requirements, and
the requirements of the whole
congregation before the Tent of Meeting,
to do the service of the tabernacle.
8 They shall keep all the furnishings of
the Tent of Meeting, and the obligations of
the children of Israel, to do the service of
the tabernacle.
9 You shall give the Levites to Aaron and
to his sons. They are wholly given to him
on the behalf of the children of Israel.
10 You shall appoint Aaron and his sons,
and they shall keep their priesthood, but
the stranger who comes near shall be put
to death."
11 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
12 "Behold,† I have taken the Levites
from among the children of Israel instead
of all the firstborn who open the womb
among the children of Israel; and the
Levites shall be mine,
13 for all the firstborn are mine. On the
day that I struck down all the firstborn in
the land of Egypt I made holy to me all the
firstborn in Israel, both man and animal.
They shall be mine. I am the LORD."
14 The LORD spoke to Moses in the
wilderness of Sinai, saying,
15 "Count the children of Levi by their
fathers' houses, by their families. You
shall count every male from a month old
and upward."
16 Moses counted them according to the
LORD's word, as he was commanded.
17 These were the sons of Levi by their
names: Gershon, Kohath, and Merari.
18 These are the names of the sons of
Gershon by their families: Libni and
Shimei.
19 The sons of Kohath by their families:
Amram, Izhar, Hebron, and Uzziel.
20 The sons of Merari by their families:
Mahli and Mushi.
These are the families of the Levites
according to their fathers' houses.
21 Of Gershon was the family of the
Libnites, and the family of the Shimeites.
These are the families of the Gershonites.
22 Those who were counted of them,
according to the number of all the males
from a month old and upward, even those

† **3:12** "Behold", from "הִנֵּה", means look at, take notice, observe, see, or gaze at. It is often used as an interjection.

who were counted of them were seven thousand five hundred.
23 The families of the Gershonites shall encamp behind the tabernacle westward.
24 Eliasaph the son of Lael shall be the prince of the fathers' house of the Gershonites.
25 The duty of the sons of Gershon in the Tent of Meeting shall be the tabernacle, the tent, its covering, the screen for the door of the Tent of Meeting,
26 the hangings of the court, the screen for the door of the court which is by the tabernacle and around the altar, and its cords for all of its service.
27 Of Kohath was the family of the Amramites, the family of the Izharites, the family of the Hebronites, and the family of the Uzzielites. These are the families of the Kohathites.
28 According to the number of all the males from a month old and upward, there were eight thousand six hundred keeping the requirements of the sanctuary.
29 The families of the sons of Kohath shall encamp on the south side of the tabernacle.
30 The prince of the fathers' house of the families of the Kohathites shall be Elizaphan the son of Uzziel.
31 Their duty shall be the ark, the table, the lamp stand, the altars, the vessels of the sanctuary with which they minister, the screen, and all its service.
32 Eleazar the son of Aaron the priest shall be prince of the princes of the Levites, with the oversight of those who keep the requirements of the sanctuary.
33 Of Merari was the family of the Mahlites and the family of the Mushites. These are the families of Merari.
34 Those who were counted of them, according to the number of all the males from a month old and upward, were six thousand two hundred.‡
35 The prince of the fathers' house of the families of Merari was Zuriel the son of Abihail. They shall encamp on the north side of the tabernacle.
36 The appointed duty of the sons of Merari shall be the tabernacle's boards, its bars, its pillars, its sockets, all its instruments, all its service,
37 the pillars of the court around it, their sockets, their pins, and their cords.

38 Those who encamp before the tabernacle eastward, in front of the Tent of Meeting toward the sunrise, shall be Moses, with Aaron and his sons, keeping the requirements of the sanctuary for the duty of the children of Israel. The outsider who comes near shall be put to death.
39 All who were counted of the Levites, whom Moses and Aaron counted at the commandment of the LORD, by their families, all the males from a month old and upward, were twenty-two thousand.

40 The LORD said to Moses, "Count all the firstborn males of the children of Israel from a month old and upward, and take the number of their names.
41 You shall take the Levites for me—I am the LORD—instead of all the firstborn among the children of Israel; and the livestock of the Levites instead of all the firstborn among the livestock of the children of Israel."

42 Moses counted, as the LORD commanded him, all the firstborn among the children of Israel.
43 All the firstborn males according to the number of names from a month old and upward, of those who were counted of them, were twenty-two thousand two hundred seventy-three.

44 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
45 "Take the Levites instead of all the firstborn among the children of Israel, and the livestock of the Levites instead of their livestock; and the Levites shall be mine. I am the LORD.
46 For the redemption of the two hundred seventy-three of the firstborn of the children of Israel who exceed the number of the Levites,

‡ **3:34** + 22,000 is the sum rounded to 2 significant digits. The sum of the Gershonites, Kohathites, and Merarites given above is 22,300, but the traditional Hebrew text has the number rounded to 2 significant digits, not 3 significant digits.
§ **3:47** A shekel is about 10 grams or about 0.35 ounces. † **3:47** A gerah is about 0.5 grams or about 7.7 grains.

47 you shall take five shekels apiece for
each one; according to the shekel§ of the
sanctuary you shall take them (the shekel
is twenty gerahs†);
48 and you shall give the money, with
which their remainder is redeemed, to
Aaron and to his sons."
49 Moses took the redemption money
from those who exceeded the number of
those who were redeemed by the Levites;
50 from the firstborn of the children of
Israel he took the money, one thousand
three hundred sixty-five shekels,‡
according to the shekel of the sanctuary;
51 and Moses gave the redemption
money to Aaron and to his sons, according
to the LORD's word, as the LORD
commanded Moses.

4

1 The LORD spoke to Moses and to
Aaron, saying,
2 "Take a census of the sons of Kohath
from among the sons of Levi, by their
families, by their fathers' houses,
3 from thirty years old and upward even
until fifty years old, all who enter into the
service to do the work in the Tent of
Meeting.
4 "This is the service of the sons of
Kohath in the Tent of Meeting, regarding
the most holy things.
5 When the camp moves forward, Aaron
shall go in with his sons; and they shall
take down the veil of the screen, cover the
ark of the Testimony with it,
6 put a covering of sealskin on it, spread
a blue cloth over it, and put in its poles.
7 "On the table of show bread they shall
spread a blue cloth, and put on it the
dishes, the spoons, the bowls, and the
cups with which to pour out; and the
continual bread shall be on it.
8 They shall spread on them a scarlet
cloth, and cover it with a covering of
sealskin, and shall put in its poles.
9 "They shall take a blue cloth and cover
the lamp stand of the light, its lamps, its
snuffers, its snuff dishes, and all its oil
vessels, with which they minister to it.
10 They shall put it and all its vessels
within a covering of sealskin, and shall
put it on the frame.
11 "On the golden altar they shall spread
a blue cloth, and cover it with a covering
of sealskin, and shall put in its poles.
12 "They shall take all the vessels of
ministry with which they minister in the
sanctuary, and put them in a blue cloth,
cover them with a covering of sealskin,
and shall put them on the frame.
13 "They shall take away the ashes from
the altar, and spread a purple cloth on it.
14 They shall put on it all its vessels with
which they minister about it, the fire
pans, the meat hooks, the shovels, and the
basins—all the vessels of the altar; and
they shall spread on it a covering of
sealskin, and put in its poles.
15 "When Aaron and his sons have
finished covering the sanctuary and all
the furniture of the sanctuary, as the
camp moves forward; after that, the sons
of Kohath shall come to carry it; but they
shall not touch the sanctuary, lest they
die. The sons of Kohath shall carry these
things belonging to the Tent of Meeting.
16 "The duty of Eleazar the son of Aaron
the priest shall be the oil for the light, the
sweet incense, the continual meal
offering, and the anointing oil, the
requirements of all the tabernacle, and of
all that is in it, the sanctuary, and its
furnishings."
17 The LORD spoke to Moses and to
Aaron, saying,
18 "Don't cut off the tribe of the families
of the Kohathites from among the Levites;
19 but do this to them, that they may
live, and not die, when they approach the
most holy things: Aaron and his sons shall
go in and appoint everyone to his service
and to his burden;
20 but they shall not go in to see the
sanctuary even for a moment, lest they
die."
21 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying,

‡ **3:50** A shekel is about 10 grams or about 0.35 ounces, so 1365 shekels is about 13.65 kilograms or about 30 pounds.

22 “Take a census of the sons of Gershon
also, by their fathers’ houses, by their
families;
23 you shall count them from thirty
years old and upward until fifty years old:
all who enter in to wait on the service, to
do the work in the Tent of Meeting.
24 “This is the service of the families of
the Gershonites, in serving and in bearing
burdens:
25 they shall carry the curtains of the
tabernacle and the Tent of Meeting, its
covering, the covering of sealskin that is
on it, the screen for the door of the Tent of
Meeting,
26 the hangings of the court, the screen
for the door of the gate of the court which
is by the tabernacle and around the altar,
their cords, and all the instruments of
their service, and whatever shall be done
with them. They shall serve in there.
27 At the commandment of Aaron and
his sons shall be all the service of the sons
of the Gershonites, in all their burden and
in all their service; and you shall appoint
their duty to them in all their
responsibilities.
28 This is the service of the families of
the sons of the Gershonites in the Tent of
Meeting. Their duty shall be under the
hand of Ithamar the son of Aaron the
priest.
29 “As for the sons of Merari, you shall
count them by their families, by their
fathers’ houses;
30 you shall count them from thirty
years old and upward even to fifty years
old—everyone who enters on the service,
to do the work of the Tent of Meeting.
31 This is the duty of their burden,
according to all their service in the Tent of
Meeting: the tabernacle’s boards, its bars,
its pillars, its sockets,
32 the pillars of the court around it, their
sockets, their pins, their cords, with all
their instruments, and with all their
service. You shall appoint the instruments
of the duty of their burden to them by
name.
33 This is the service of the families of
the sons of Merari, according to all their
service in the Tent of Meeting, under the
hand of Ithamar the son of Aaron the
priest.”
34 Moses and Aaron and the princes of
the congregation counted the sons of the
Kohathites by their families, and by their
fathers’ houses,
35 from thirty years old and upward
even to fifty years old, everyone who
entered into the service for work in the
Tent of Meeting.
36 Those who were counted of them by
their families were two thousand seven
hundred fifty.
37 These are those who were counted of
the families of the Kohathites, all who
served in the Tent of Meeting, whom
Moses and Aaron counted according to
the commandment of the LORD by Moses.
38 Those who were counted of the sons
of Gershon, by their families, and by their
fathers’ houses,
39 from thirty years old and upward
even to fifty years old—everyone who
entered into the service for work in the
Tent of Meeting,
40 even those who were counted of
them, by their families, by their fathers’
houses, were two thousand six hundred
thirty.
41 These are those who were counted of
the families of the sons of Gershon, all
who served in the Tent of Meeting, whom
Moses and Aaron counted according to
the commandment of the LORD.
42 Those who were counted of the
families of the sons of Merari, by their
families, by their fathers’ houses,
43 from thirty years old and upward
even to fifty years old—everyone who
entered into the service for work in the
Tent of Meeting,
44 even those who were counted of them
by their families, were three thousand
two hundred.
45 These are those who were counted of
the families of the sons of Merari, whom
Moses and Aaron counted according to
the commandment of the LORD by Moses.
46 All those who were counted of the
Levites whom Moses and Aaron and the
princes of Israel counted, by their families
and by their fathers’ houses,

47 from thirty years old and upward
even to fifty years old, everyone who
entered in to do the work of service and
the work of bearing burdens in the Tent of
Meeting,
48 even those who were counted of
them, were eight thousand five hundred
eighty.
49 According to the commandment of
the LORD they were counted by Moses,
everyone according to his service and
according to his burden. Thus they were
counted by him, as the LORD commanded
Moses.

5

1 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
2 "Command the children of Israel that
they put out of the camp every leper,
everyone who has a discharge, and
whoever is unclean by a corpse.
3 You shall put both male and female
outside of the camp so that they don't
defile their camp, in the midst of which I
dwell."
4 The children of Israel did so, and put
them outside of the camp; as the LORD
spoke to Moses, so the children of Israel
did.
5 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
6 "Speak to the children of Israel: 'When
a man or woman commits any sin that
men commit, so as to trespass against the
LORD, and that soul is guilty,
7 then he shall confess his sin which he
has done; and he shall make restitution
for his guilt in full, add to it the fifth part
of it, and give it to him in respect of whom
he has been guilty.
8 But if the man has no kinsman to
whom restitution may be made for the
guilt, the restitution for guilt which is
made to the LORD shall be the priest's, in
addition to the ram of the atonement, by
which atonement shall be made for him.
9 Every heave offering of all the holy
things of the children of Israel, which they
present to the priest, shall be his.
10 Every man's holy things shall be his;
whatever any man gives the priest, it shall
be his.' "
11 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
12 "Speak to the children of Israel, and
tell them: 'If any man's wife goes astray
and is unfaithful to him,
13 and a man lies with her carnally, and
it is hidden from the eyes of her husband
and this is kept concealed, and she is
defiled, there is no witness against her,
and she isn't taken in the act;
14 and the spirit of jealousy comes on
him, and he is jealous of his wife and she
is defiled; or if the spirit of jealousy comes
on him, and he is jealous of his wife and
she isn't defiled;
15 then the man shall bring his wife to
the priest, and shall bring her offering for
her: one tenth of an ephah† of barley
meal. He shall pour no oil on it, nor put
frankincense on it, for it is a meal offering
of jealousy, a meal offering of memorial,
bringing iniquity to memory.
16 The priest shall bring her near, and
set her before the LORD.
17 The priest shall take holy water in an
earthen vessel; and the priest shall take
some of the dust that is on the floor of the
tabernacle and put it into the water.
18 The priest shall set the woman before
the LORD, and let the hair of the woman's
head go loose, and put the meal offering
of memorial in her hands, which is the
meal offering of jealousy. The priest shall
have in his hand the water of bitterness
that brings a curse.
19 The priest shall cause her to take an
oath and shall tell the woman, "If no man
has lain with you, and if you haven't gone
aside to uncleanness, being under your
husband's authority, be free from this
water of bitterness that brings a curse.
20 But if you have gone astray, being
under your husband's authority, and if
you are defiled, and some man has lain
with you besides your husband—"
21 then the priest shall cause the woman
to swear with the oath of cursing, and the
priest shall tell the woman, "May the
LORD make you a curse and an oath
among your people, when the LORD
allows your thigh to fall away, and your

† **5:15** 1 ephah is about 22 liters or about 2/3 of a bushel

body to swell;
22 and this water that brings a curse will
go into your bowels, and make your body
swell, and your thigh fall away." The
woman shall say, "Amen, Amen."
23 " 'The priest shall write these curses
in a book, and he shall wipe them into the
water of bitterness.
24 He shall make the woman drink the
water of bitterness that causes the curse;
and the water that causes the curse shall
enter into her and become bitter.
25 The priest shall take the meal offering
of jealousy out of the woman's hand, and
shall wave the meal offering before the
LORD, and bring it to the altar.
26 The priest shall take a handful of the
meal offering, as its memorial portion,
and burn it on the altar, and afterward
shall make the woman drink the water.
27 When he has made her drink the
water, then it shall happen, if she is
defiled and has committed a trespass
against her husband, that the water that
causes the curse will enter into her and
become bitter, and her body will swell,
and her thigh will fall away; and the
woman will be a curse among her people.
28 If the woman isn't defiled, but is
clean; then she shall be free, and shall
conceive offspring.‡
29 " 'This is the law of jealousy, when a
wife, being under her husband, goes
astray, and is defiled,
30 or when the spirit of jealousy comes
on a man, and he is jealous of his wife;
then he shall set the woman before the
LORD, and the priest shall execute on her
all this law.
31 The man shall be free from iniquity,
and that woman shall bear her iniquity.' "

6

1 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
2 "Speak to the children of Israel, and
tell them: 'When either man or woman
shall make a special vow, the vow of a
Nazirite, to separate himself to the LORD,
3 he shall separate himself from wine
and strong drink. He shall drink no
vinegar of wine, or vinegar of fermented
drink, neither shall he drink any juice of
grapes, nor eat fresh grapes or dried.
4 All the days of his separation he shall
eat nothing that is made of the grapevine,
from the seeds even to the skins.
5 " 'All the days of his vow of separation
no razor shall come on his head, until the
days are fulfilled in which he separates
himself to the LORD. He shall be holy. He
shall let the locks of the hair of his head
grow long.
6 " 'All the days that he separates
himself to the LORD he shall not go near a
dead body.
7 He shall not make himself unclean for
his father, or for his mother, for his
brother, or for his sister, when they die,
because his separation to God† is on his
head.
8 All the days of his separation he is holy
to the LORD.
9 " 'If any man dies very suddenly
beside him, and he defiles the head of his
separation, then he shall shave his head in
the day of his cleansing. On the seventh
day he shall shave it.
10 On the eighth day he shall bring two
turtledoves or two young pigeons to the
priest, to the door of the Tent of Meeting.
11 The priest shall offer one for a sin
offering, and the other for a burnt
offering, and make atonement for him,
because he sinned by reason of the dead,
and shall make his head holy that same
day.
12 He shall separate to the LORD the
days of his separation, and shall bring a
male lamb a year old for a trespass
offering; but the former days shall be
void, because his separation was defiled.
13 " 'This is the law of the Nazirite: when
the days of his separation are fulfilled, he
shall be brought to the door of the Tent of
Meeting,
14 and he shall offer his offering to the
LORD: one male lamb a year old without
defect for a burnt offering, one ewe lamb
a year old without defect for a sin
offering, one ram without defect for peace
offerings,

‡ **5:28** or, seed † **6:7** The Hebrew word rendered "God" is "אֱלֹהִים" (Elohim).

15 a basket of unleavened bread, cakes
of fine flour mixed with oil, and
unleavened wafers anointed with oil with
their meal offering and their drink
offerings.
16 The priest shall present them before
the LORD, and shall offer his sin offering
and his burnt offering.
17 He shall offer the ram for a sacrifice
of peace offerings to the LORD, with the
basket of unleavened bread. The priest
shall offer also its meal offering and its
drink offering.
18 The Nazirite shall shave the head of
his separation at the door of the Tent of
Meeting, take the hair of the head of his
separation, and put it on the fire which is
under the sacrifice of peace offerings.
19 The priest shall take the boiled
shoulder of the ram, one unleavened cake
out of the basket, and one unleavened
wafer, and shall put them on the hands of
the Nazirite after he has shaved the head
of his separation;
20 and the priest shall wave them for a
wave offering before the LORD. They are
holy for the priest, together with the
breast that is waved and the thigh that is
offered. After that the Nazirite may drink
wine.
21 " 'This is the law of the Nazirite who
vows and of his offering to the LORD for
his separation, in addition to that which
he is able to afford. According to his vow
which he vows, so he must do after the
law of his separation.' "

22 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
23 "Speak to Aaron and to his sons,
saying, 'This is how you shall bless the
children of Israel.' You shall tell them,

24 'The LORD bless you, and keep you.
25 The LORD make his face to shine on
you,
and be gracious to you.
26 The LORD lift up his face toward you,
and give you peace.'

27 "So they shall put my name on the
children of Israel; and I will bless them."

7

1 On the day that Moses had finished
setting up the tabernacle, and had
anointed it and sanctified it with all its
furniture, and the altar with all its vessels,
and had anointed and sanctified them;
2 the princes of Israel, the heads of their
fathers' houses, gave offerings. These
were the princes of the tribes. These are
they who were over those who were
counted;
3 and they brought their offering before
the LORD, six covered wagons and twelve
oxen; a wagon for every two of the
princes, and for each one an ox. They
presented them before the tabernacle.
4 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
5 "Accept these from them, that they
may be used in doing the service of the
Tent of Meeting; and you shall give them
to the Levites, to every man according to
his service."
6 Moses took the wagons and the oxen,
and gave them to the Levites.
7 He gave two wagons and four oxen to
the sons of Gershon, according to their
service.
8 He gave four wagons and eight oxen to
the sons of Merari, according to their
service, under the direction of Ithamar
the son of Aaron the priest.
9 But to the sons of Kohath he gave
none, because the service of the sanctuary
belonged to them; they carried it on their
shoulders.
10 The princes gave offerings for the
dedication of the altar in the day that it
was anointed. The princes gave their
offerings before the altar.
11 The LORD said to Moses, "They shall
offer their offering, each prince on his
day, for the dedication of the altar."
12 He who offered his offering the first
day was Nahshon the son of Amminadab,
of the tribe of Judah,
13 and his offering was:
one silver platter, the weight of which
was one hundred thirty shekels,†
one silver bowl of seventy shekels,
according to the shekel of the sanctuary,

† **7:13** A shekel is about 10 grams or about 0.35 ounces.

both of them full of fine flour mixed with
oil for a meal offering;
14 one golden ladle of ten shekels, full of
incense;
15 one young bull,
one ram,
one male lamb a year old, for a burnt
offering;
16 one male goat for a sin offering;
17 and for the sacrifice of peace
offerings, two head of cattle, five rams,
five male goats, and five male lambs a
year old. This was the offering of
Nahshon the son of Amminadab.
18 On the second day Nethanel the son of
Zuar, prince of Issachar, gave his offering.
19 He offered for his offering:
one silver platter, the weight of which
was one hundred thirty shekels,
one silver bowl of seventy shekels,
according to the shekel of the sanctuary,
both of them full of fine flour mixed with
oil for a meal offering;
20 one golden ladle of ten shekels, full of
incense;
21 one young bull,
one ram,
one male lamb a year old, for a burnt
offering;
22 one male goat for a sin offering;
23 and for the sacrifice of peace
offerings, two head of cattle, five rams,
five male goats, five male lambs a year
old. This was the offering of Nethanel the
son of Zuar.
24 On the third day Eliab the son of
Helon, prince of the children of Zebulun,
25 gave his offering:
one silver platter, the weight of which
was a hundred and thirty shekels,
one silver bowl of seventy shekels,
according to the shekel of the sanctuary,
both of them full of fine flour mixed with
oil for a meal offering;
26 one golden ladle of ten shekels, full of
incense;
27 one young bull,
one ram,
one male lamb a year old, for a burnt
offering;
28 one male goat for a sin offering;
29 and for the sacrifice of peace
offerings, two head of cattle, five rams,
five male goats, and five male lambs a
year old. This was the offering of Eliab the
son of Helon.
30 On the fourth day Elizur the son of
Shedeur, prince of the children of Reuben,
31 gave his offering:
one silver platter, the weight of which
was one hundred thirty shekels,
one silver bowl of seventy shekels,
according to the shekel of the sanctuary,
both of them full of fine flour mixed with
oil for a meal offering;
32 one golden ladle of ten shekels, full of
incense;
33 one young bull,
one ram,
one male lamb a year old, for a burnt
offering;
34 one male goat for a sin offering;
35 and for the sacrifice of peace
offerings, two head of cattle, five rams,
five male goats, and five male lambs a
year old. This was the offering of Elizur
the son of Shedeur.
36 On the fifth day Shelumiel the son of
Zurishaddai, prince of the children of
Simeon,
37 gave his offering:
one silver platter, the weight of which
was one hundred thirty shekels,
one silver bowl of seventy shekels,
according to the shekel of the sanctuary,
both of them full of fine flour mixed with
oil for a meal offering;
38 one golden ladle of ten shekels, full of
incense;
39 one young bull,
one ram,
one male lamb a year old, for a burnt
offering;
40 one male goat for a sin offering;
41 and for the sacrifice of peace
offerings, two head of cattle, five rams,
five male goats, and five male lambs a
year old: this was the offering of
Shelumiel the son of Zurishaddai.
42 On the sixth day, Eliasaph the son of
Deuel, prince of the children of Gad,
43 gave his offering:

one silver platter, the weight of which
was one hundred thirty shekels,
one silver bowl of seventy shekels,
according to the shekel of the sanctuary,
both of them full of fine flour mixed with
oil for a meal offering;
44 one golden ladle of ten shekels, full of
incense;
45 one young bull,
one ram,
one male lamb a year old, for a burnt
offering;
46 one male goat for a sin offering;
47 and for the sacrifice of peace
offerings, two head of cattle, five rams,
five male goats, and five male lambs a
year old. This was the offering of Eliasaph
the son of Deuel.
48 On the seventh day Elishama the son
of Ammihud, prince of the children of
Ephraim,
49 gave his offering:
one silver platter, the weight of which
was one hundred thirty shekels,
one silver bowl of seventy shekels,
according to the shekel of the sanctuary,
both of them full of fine flour mixed with
oil for a meal offering;
50 one golden ladle of ten shekels, full of
incense;
51 one young bull,
one ram,
one male lamb a year old, for a burnt
offering;
52 one male goat for a sin offering;
53 and for the sacrifice of peace
offerings, two head of cattle, five rams,
five male goats, and five male lambs a
year old. This was the offering of
Elishama the son of Ammihud.
54 On the eighth day Gamaliel the son of
Pedahzur, prince of the children of
Manasseh,
55 gave his offering:
one silver platter, the weight of which
was one hundred thirty shekels,
one silver bowl of seventy shekels,
according to the shekel of the sanctuary,
both of them full of fine flour mixed with
oil for a meal offering;
56 one golden ladle of ten shekels, full of
incense;
57 one young bull,
one ram,
one male lamb a year old, for a burnt
offering;
58 one male goat for a sin offering;
59 and for the sacrifice of peace
offerings, two head of cattle, five rams,
five male goats, and five male lambs a
year old. This was the offering of Gamaliel
the son of Pedahzur.
60 On the ninth day Abidan the son of
Gideoni, prince of the children of
Benjamin,
61 gave his offering:
one silver platter, the weight of which
was one hundred thirty shekels,
one silver bowl of seventy shekels,
according to the shekel of the sanctuary,
both of them full of fine flour mixed with
oil for a meal offering;
62 one golden ladle of ten shekels, full of
incense;
63 one young bull,
one ram,
one male lamb a year old, for a burnt
offering;
64 one male goat for a sin offering;
65 and for the sacrifice of peace
offerings, two head of cattle, five rams,
five male goats, and five male lambs a
year old. This was the offering of Abidan
the son of Gideoni.
66 On the tenth day Ahiezer the son of
Ammishaddai, prince of the children of
Dan,
67 gave his offering:
one silver platter, the weight of which
was one hundred thirty shekels,
one silver bowl of seventy shekels,
according to the shekel of the sanctuary,
both of them full of fine flour mixed with
oil for a meal offering;
68 one golden ladle of ten shekels, full of
incense;
69 one young bull,
one ram,
one male lamb a year old, for a burnt
offering;
70 one male goat for a sin offering;
71 and for the sacrifice of peace
offerings, two head of cattle, five rams,
five male goats, and five male lambs a

year old. This was the offering of Ahiezer the son of Ammishaddai.
72 On the eleventh day Pagiel the son of Ochran, prince of the children of Asher,
73 gave his offering:
one silver platter, the weight of which was one hundred thirty shekels,
one silver bowl of seventy shekels, according to the shekel of the sanctuary, both of them full of fine flour mixed with oil for a meal offering;
74 one golden ladle of ten shekels, full of incense;
75 one young bull,
one ram,
one male lamb a year old, for a burnt offering;
76 one male goat for a sin offering;
77 and for the sacrifice of peace offerings, two head of cattle, five rams, five male goats, and five male lambs a year old. This was the offering of Pagiel the son of Ochran.
78 On the twelfth day Ahira the son of Enan, prince of the children of Naphtali,
79 gave his offering:
one silver platter, the weight of which was one hundred thirty shekels,
one silver bowl of seventy shekels, according to the shekel of the sanctuary, both of them full of fine flour mixed with oil for a meal offering;
80 one golden ladle of ten shekels, full of incense;
81 one young bull,
one ram,
one male lamb a year old, for a burnt offering;
82 one male goat for a sin offering;
83 and for the sacrifice of peace offerings, two head of cattle, five rams, five male goats, and five male lambs a year old. This was the offering of Ahira the son of Enan.
84 This was the dedication offering of the altar, on the day when it was anointed, by the princes of Israel: twelve silver platters, twelve silver bowls, twelve golden ladles;
85 each silver platter weighing one hundred thirty shekels, and each bowl seventy; all the silver of the vessels two thousand four hundred shekels, according to the shekel of the sanctuary;
86 the twelve golden ladles, full of incense, weighing ten shekels apiece, according to the shekel of the sanctuary; all the gold of the ladles weighed one hundred twenty shekels;
87 all the cattle for the burnt offering twelve bulls, the rams twelve, the male lambs a year old twelve, and their meal offering; and twelve male goats for a sin offering;
88 and all the cattle for the sacrifice of peace offerings: twenty-four bulls, sixty rams, sixty male goats, and sixty male lambs a year old. This was the dedication offering of the altar, after it was anointed.
89 When Moses went into the Tent of Meeting to speak with the LORD, he heard his voice speaking to him from above the mercy seat that was on the ark of the Testimony, from between the two cherubim; and he spoke to him.

8

1 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
2 “Speak to Aaron, and tell him, ‘When you light the lamps, the seven lamps shall give light in front of the lamp stand.’ ”
3 Aaron did so. He lit its lamps to light the area in front of the lamp stand, as the LORD commanded Moses.
4 This was the workmanship of the lamp stand, beaten work of gold. From its base to its flowers, it was beaten work. He made the lamp stand according to the pattern which the LORD had shown Moses.
5 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
6 “Take the Levites from among the children of Israel, and cleanse them.
7 You shall do this to them to cleanse them: sprinkle the water of cleansing on them, let them shave their whole bodies with a razor, let them wash their clothes, and cleanse themselves.
8 Then let them take a young bull and its meal offering, fine flour mixed with oil; and another young bull you shall take for a sin offering.

9 You shall present the Levites before
the Tent of Meeting. You shall assemble
the whole congregation of the children of
Israel.
10 You shall present the Levites before
the LORD. The children of Israel shall lay
their hands on the Levites,
11 and Aaron shall offer the Levites
before the LORD for a wave offering on
the behalf of the children of Israel, that it
may be theirs to do the service of the
LORD.
12 "The Levites shall lay their hands on
the heads of the bulls, and you shall offer
the one for a sin offering and the other for
a burnt offering to the LORD, to make
atonement for the Levites.
13 You shall set the Levites before Aaron
and before his sons, and offer them as a
wave offering to the LORD.
14 Thus you shall separate the Levites
from among the children of Israel, and the
Levites shall be mine.
15 "After that, the Levites shall go in to
do the service of the Tent of Meeting. You
shall cleanse them, and offer them as a
wave offering.
16 For they are wholly given to me from
among the children of Israel; instead of all
who open the womb, even the firstborn of
all the children of Israel, I have taken
them to me.
17 For all the firstborn among the
children of Israel are mine, both man and
animal. On the day that I struck all the
firstborn in the land of Egypt, I sanctified
them for myself.
18 I have taken the Levites instead of all
the firstborn among the children of Israel.
19 I have given the Levites as a gift to
Aaron and to his sons from among the
children of Israel, to do the service of the
children of Israel in the Tent of Meeting,
and to make atonement for the children
of Israel, so that there will be no plague
among the children of Israel when the
children of Israel come near to the
sanctuary."
20 Moses, and Aaron, and all the
congregation of the children of Israel did
so to the Levites. According to all that the
LORD commanded Moses concerning the
Levites, so the children of Israel did to
them.
21 The Levites purified themselves from
sin, and they washed their clothes; and
Aaron offered them for a wave offering
before the LORD and Aaron made
atonement for them to cleanse them.
22 After that, the Levites went in to do
their service in the Tent of Meeting before
Aaron and before his sons: as the LORD
had commanded Moses concerning the
Levites, so they did to them.
23 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
24 "This is what is assigned to the
Levites: from twenty-five years old and
upward they shall go in to wait on the
service in the work of the Tent of Meeting;
25 and from the age of fifty years they
shall retire from doing the work, and shall
serve no more,
26 but shall assist their brothers in the
Tent of Meeting, to perform the duty, and
shall perform no service. This is how you
shall have the Levites do their duties."

9

1 The LORD spoke to Moses in the
wilderness of Sinai, in the first month of
the second year after they had come out
of the land of Egypt, saying,
2 "Let the children of Israel keep the
Passover in its appointed season.
3 On the fourteenth day of this month, at
evening, you shall keep it in its appointed
season. You shall keep it according to all
its statutes and according to all its
ordinances."
4 Moses told the children of Israel that
they should keep the Passover.
5 They kept the Passover in the first
month, on the fourteenth day of the
month at evening, in the wilderness of
Sinai. According to all that the LORD
commanded Moses, so the children of
Israel did.
6 There were certain men who were
unclean because of the dead body of a
man, so that they could not keep the
Passover on that day, and they came
before Moses and Aaron on that day.
7 Those men said to him, "We are
unclean because of the dead body of a
man. Why are we kept back, that we may

not offer the offering of the LORD in its appointed season among the children of Israel?"
8 Moses answered them, "Wait, that I may hear what the LORD will command concerning you."
9 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
10 "Say to the children of Israel, 'If any man of you or of your generations is unclean by reason of a dead body, or is on a journey far away, he shall still keep the Passover to the LORD.
11 In the second month, on the fourteenth day at evening they shall keep it; they shall eat it with unleavened bread and bitter herbs.
12 They shall leave none of it until the morning, nor break a bone of it. According to all the statute of the Passover they shall keep it.
13 But the man who is clean, and is not on a journey, and fails to keep the Passover, that soul shall be cut off from his people. Because he didn't offer the offering of the LORD in its appointed season, that man shall bear his sin.
14 " 'If a foreigner lives among you and desires to keep the Passover to the LORD, then he shall do so according to the statute of the Passover, and according to its ordinance. You shall have one statute, both for the foreigner and for him who is born in the land.' "
15 On the day that the tabernacle was raised up, the cloud covered the tabernacle, even the Tent of the Testimony. At evening it was over the tabernacle, as it were the appearance of fire, until morning.
16 So it was continually. The cloud covered it, and the appearance of fire by night.
17 Whenever the cloud was taken up from over the Tent, then after that the children of Israel traveled; and in the place where the cloud remained, there the children of Israel encamped.
18 At the commandment of the LORD, the children of Israel traveled, and at the commandment of the LORD they encamped. As long as the cloud remained on the tabernacle they remained encamped.
19 When the cloud stayed on the tabernacle many days, then the children of Israel kept the LORD's command, and didn't travel.
20 Sometimes the cloud was a few days on the tabernacle; then according to the commandment of the LORD they remained encamped, and according to the commandment of the LORD they traveled.
21 Sometimes the cloud was from evening until morning; and when the cloud was taken up in the morning, they traveled; or by day and by night, when the cloud was taken up, they traveled.
22 Whether it was two days, or a month, or a year that the cloud stayed on the tabernacle, remaining on it, the children of Israel remained encamped, and didn't travel; but when it was taken up, they traveled.
23 At the commandment of the LORD they encamped, and at the commandment of the LORD they traveled. They kept the LORD's command, at the commandment of the LORD by Moses.

10

1 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
2 "Make two trumpets of silver. You shall make them of beaten work. You shall use them for the calling of the congregation and for the journeying of the camps.
3 When they blow them, all the congregation shall gather themselves to you at the door of the Tent of Meeting.
4 If they blow just one, then the princes, the heads of the thousands of Israel, shall gather themselves to you.
5 When you blow an alarm, the camps that lie on the east side shall go forward.
6 When you blow an alarm the second time, the camps that lie on the south side shall go forward. They shall blow an alarm for their journeys.
7 But when the assembly is to be gathered together, you shall blow, but you shall not sound an alarm.
8 "The sons of Aaron, the priests, shall blow the trumpets. This shall be to you for

a statute forever throughout your
generations.
9 When you go to war in your land
against the adversary who oppresses you,
then you shall sound an alarm with the
trumpets. Then you will be remembered
before the LORD your God, and you will
be saved from your enemies.

10 “Also in the day of your gladness, and
in your set feasts, and in the beginnings of
your months, you shall blow the trumpets
over your burnt offerings, and over the
sacrifices of your peace offerings; and
they shall be to you for a memorial before
your God. I am the LORD your God.”

11 In the second year, in the second
month, on the twentieth day of the month,
the cloud was taken up from over the
tabernacle of the covenant.
12 The children of Israel went forward
on their journeys out of the wilderness of
Sinai; and the cloud stayed in the
wilderness of Paran.
13 They first went forward according to
the commandment of the LORD by Moses.

14 First, the standard of the camp of the
children of Judah went forward according
to their armies. Nahshon the son of
Amminadab was over his army.
15 Nethanel the son of Zuar was over the
army of the tribe of the children of
Issachar.
16 Eliab the son of Helon was over the
army of the tribe of the children of
Zebulun.
17 The tabernacle was taken down; and
the sons of Gershon and the sons of
Merari, who bore the tabernacle, went
forward.
18 The standard of the camp of Reuben
went forward according to their armies.
Elizur the son of Shedeur was over his
army.
19 Shelumiel the son of Zurishaddai was
over the army of the tribe of the children
of Simeon.
20 Eliasaph the son of Deuel was over the
army of the tribe of the children of Gad.

21 The Kohathites set forward, bearing
the sanctuary. The others set up the
tabernacle before they arrived.

22 The standard of the camp of the
children of Ephraim set forward
according to their armies. Elishama the
son of Ammihud was over his army.
23 Gamaliel the son of Pedahzur was
over the army of the tribe of the children
of Manasseh.
24 Abidan the son of Gideoni was over
the army of the tribe of the children of
Benjamin.

25 The standard of the camp of the
children of Dan, which was the rear guard
of all the camps, set forward according to
their armies. Ahiezer the son of
Ammishaddai was over his army.
26 Pagiel the son of Ochran was over the
army of the tribe of the children of Asher.
27 Ahira the son of Enan was over the
army of the tribe of the children of
Naphtali.
28 Thus were the travels of the children
of Israel according to their armies; and
they went forward.

29 Moses said to Hobab, the son of Reuel
the Midianite, Moses’ father-in-law, “We
are journeying to the place of which the
LORD said, ‘I will give it to you.’ Come
with us, and we will treat you well; for the
LORD has spoken good concerning Israel.”

30 He said to him, “I will not go; but I will
depart to my own land, and to my
relatives.”
31 Moses said, “Don’t leave us, please;
because you know how we are to encamp
in the wilderness, and you can be our
eyes.
32 It shall be, if you go with us—yes, it
shall be—that whatever good the LORD
does to us, we will do the same to you.”

33 They set forward from the Mount of
the LORD three days’ journey. The ark of
the LORD’s covenant went before them
three days’ journey, to seek out a resting
place for them.
34 The cloud of the LORD was over them
by day, when they set forward from the
camp.
35 When the ark went forward, Moses
said, “Rise up, LORD, and let your enemies
be scattered! Let those who hate you flee
before you!”

36 When it rested, he said, “Return,
LORD, to the ten thousands of the
thousands of Israel.”

11

1 The people were complaining in the
ears of the LORD. When the LORD heard
it, his anger burned; and the LORD’s fire
burned among them, and consumed some
of the outskirts of the camp.
2 The people cried to Moses; and Moses
prayed to the LORD, and the fire abated.
3 The name of that place was called
Taberah,† because the LORD’s fire burned
among them.
4 The mixed multitude that was among
them lusted exceedingly; and the children
of Israel also wept again, and said, “Who
will give us meat to eat?
5 We remember the fish, which we ate
in Egypt for nothing; the cucumbers, and
the melons, and the leeks, and the onions,
and the garlic;
6 but now we have lost our appetite.
There is nothing at all except this manna
to look at.”
7 The manna was like coriander seed,
and it looked like bdellium.‡
8 The people went around, gathered it,
and ground it in mills, or beat it in
mortars, and boiled it in pots, and made
cakes of it. Its taste was like the taste of
fresh oil.
9 When the dew fell on the camp in the
night, the manna fell on it.
10 Moses heard the people weeping
throughout their families, every man at
the door of his tent; and the LORD’s anger
burned greatly; and Moses was
displeased.
11 Moses said to the LORD, “Why have
you treated your servant so badly? Why
haven’t I found favor in your sight, that
you lay the burden of all this people on
me?
12 Have I conceived all this people?
Have I brought them out, that you should
tell me, ‘Carry them in your bosom, as a
nurse carries a nursing infant, to the land
which you swore to their fathers’?
13 Where could I get meat to give all
these people? For they weep before me,
saying, ‘Give us meat, that we may eat.’
14 I am not able to bear all this people
alone, because it is too heavy for me.
15 If you treat me this way, please kill
me right now, if I have found favor in
your sight; and don’t let me see my
wretchedness.”
16 The LORD said to Moses, “Gather to
me seventy men of the elders of Israel,
whom you know to be the elders of the
people and officers over them; and bring
them to the Tent of Meeting, that they may
stand there with you.
17 I will come down and talk with you
there. I will take of the Spirit which is on
you, and will put it on them; and they
shall bear the burden of the people with
you, that you don’t bear it yourself alone.
18 “Say to the people, ‘Sanctify
yourselves in preparation for tomorrow,
and you will eat meat; for you have wept
in the ears of the LORD, saying, “Who will
give us meat to eat? For it was well with
us in Egypt.” Therefore the LORD will give
you meat, and you will eat.
19 You will not eat just one day, or two
days, or five days, or ten days, or twenty
days,
20 but a whole month, until it comes out
at your nostrils, and it is loathsome to you;
because you have rejected the LORD who
is among you, and have wept before him,
saying, “Why did we come out of
Egypt?” ’ ”
21 Moses said, “The people, among
whom I am, are six hundred thousand
men on foot; and you have said, ‘I will give
them meat, that they may eat a whole
month.’
22 Shall flocks and herds be slaughtered
for them, to be sufficient for them? Shall
all the fish of the sea be gathered together
for them, to be sufficient for them?”
23 The LORD said to Moses, “Has the
LORD’s hand grown short? Now you will
see whether my word will happen to you
or not.”

† **11:3** Taberah means “burning” ‡ **11:7** Bdellium is a resin extracted from certain African trees.

24 Moses went out, and told the people
the LORD's words; and he gathered
seventy men of the elders of the people,
and set them around the Tent.
25 The LORD came down in the cloud,
and spoke to him, and took of the Spirit
that was on him, and put it on the seventy
elders. When the Spirit rested on them,
they prophesied, but they did so no more.
26 But two men remained in the camp.
The name of one was Eldad, and the name
of the other Medad; and the Spirit rested
on them. They were of those who were
written, but had not gone out to the Tent;
and they prophesied in the camp.
27 A young man ran, and told Moses,
and said, "Eldad and Medad are
prophesying in the camp!"

28 Joshua the son of Nun, the servant of
Moses, one of his chosen men, answered,
"My lord Moses, forbid them!"

29 Moses said to him, "Are you jealous
for my sake? I wish that all the LORD's
people were prophets, that the LORD
would put his Spirit on them!"

30 Moses went into the camp, he and the
elders of Israel.
31 A wind from the LORD went out and
brought quails from the sea, and let them
fall by the camp, about a day's journey on
this side, and a day's journey on the other
side, around the camp, and about two
cubits§ above the surface of the earth.
32 The people rose up all that day, and
all of that night, and all the next day, and
gathered the quails. He who gathered
least gathered ten homers;† and they
spread them all out for themselves
around the camp.
33 While the meat was still between
their teeth, before it was chewed, the
LORD's anger burned against the people,
and the LORD struck the people with a
very great plague.
34 The name of that place was called
Kibroth Hattaavah,‡ because there they
buried the people who lusted.
35 From Kibroth Hattaavah the people
traveled to Hazeroth; and they stayed at
Hazeroth.

12

1 Miriam and Aaron spoke against
Moses because of the Cushite woman
whom he had married; for he had
married a Cushite woman.
2 They said, "Has the LORD indeed
spoken only with Moses? Hasn't he
spoken also with us?" And the LORD
heard it.
3 Now the man Moses was very humble,
more than all the men who were on the
surface of the earth.
4 The LORD spoke suddenly to Moses, to
Aaron, and to Miriam, "You three come
out to the Tent of Meeting!"
The three of them came out.
5 The LORD came down in a pillar of
cloud, and stood at the door of the Tent,
and called Aaron and Miriam; and they
both came forward.
6 He said, "Now hear my words. If there
is a prophet among you, I, the LORD, will
make myself known to him in a vision. I
will speak with him in a dream.
7 My servant Moses is not so. He is
faithful in all my house.
8 With him, I will speak mouth to
mouth, even plainly, and not in riddles;
and he shall see the LORD's form. Why
then were you not afraid to speak against
my servant, against Moses?"
9 The LORD's anger burned against
them; and he departed.
10 The cloud departed from over the
Tent; and behold, Miriam was leprous, as
white as snow. Aaron looked at Miriam,
and behold, she was leprous.
11 Aaron said to Moses, "Oh, my lord,
please don't count this sin against us, in
which we have done foolishly, and in
which we have sinned.
12 Let her not, I pray, be as one dead, of
whom the flesh is half consumed when he
comes out of his mother's womb."
13 Moses cried to the LORD, saying,
"Heal her, God, I beg you!"

§ **11:31** A cubit is the length from the tip of the middle finger to the elbow on a man's arm, or about 18 inches or 46 centimeters. † **11:32** 1 homer is about 220 liters or 6 bushels ‡ **11:34** Kibroth Hattaavah means "graves of lust"

14 The LORD said to Moses, “If her father
had but spit in her face, shouldn’t she be
ashamed seven days? Let her be shut up
outside of the camp seven days, and after
that she shall be brought in again.”
15 Miriam was shut up outside of the
camp seven days, and the people didn’t
travel until Miriam was brought in again.
16 Afterward the people traveled from
Hazeroth, and encamped in the
wilderness of Paran.

13

1 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
2 “Send men, that they may spy out the
land of Canaan, which I give to the
children of Israel. Of every tribe of their
fathers, you shall send a man, every one a
prince among them.”
3 Moses sent them from the wilderness
of Paran according to the commandment
of the LORD. All of them were men who
were heads of the children of Israel.
4 These were their names:
Of the tribe of Reuben, Shammua the son
of Zaccur.
5 Of the tribe of Simeon, Shaphat the son
of Hori.
6 Of the tribe of Judah, Caleb the son of
Jephunneh.
7 Of the tribe of Issachar, Igal the son of
Joseph.
8 Of the tribe of Ephraim, Hoshea the son
of Nun.
9 Of the tribe of Benjamin, Palti the son of
Raphu.
10 Of the tribe of Zebulun, Gaddiel the son
of Sodi.
11 Of the tribe of Joseph, of the tribe of
Manasseh, Gaddi the son of Susi.
12 Of the tribe of Dan, Ammiel the son of
Gemalli.
13 Of the tribe of Asher, Sethur the son of
Michael.
14 Of the tribe of Naphtali, Nahbi the son
of Vophsi.
15 Of the tribe of Gad, Geuel the son of
Machi.
16 These are the names of the men who
Moses sent to spy out the land. Moses
called Hoshea the son of Nun Joshua.
17 Moses sent them to spy out the land of
Canaan, and said to them, “Go up this way
by the South, and go up into the hill
country.
18 See the land, what it is; and the people
who dwell therein, whether they are
strong or weak, whether they are few or
many;
19 and what the land is that they dwell in,
whether it is good or bad; and what cities
they are that they dwell in, whether in
camps, or in strongholds;
20 and what the land is, whether it is
fertile or poor, whether there is wood
therein, or not. Be courageous, and bring
some of the fruit of the land.” Now the
time was the time of the first-ripe grapes.

21 So they went up, and spied out the
land from the wilderness of Zin to Rehob,
to the entrance of Hamath.
22 They went up by the South, and came
to Hebron; and Ahiman, Sheshai, and
Talmai, the children of Anak, were there.
(Now Hebron was built seven years
before Zoan in Egypt.)
23 They came to the valley of Eshcol, and
cut down from there a branch with one
cluster of grapes, and they bore it on a
staff between two. They also brought
some of the pomegranates and figs.
24 That place was called the valley of
Eshcol, because of the cluster which the
children of Israel cut down from there.
25 They returned from spying out the
land at the end of forty days.
26 They went and came to Moses, to
Aaron, and to all the congregation of the
children of Israel, to the wilderness of
Paran, to Kadesh; and brought back word
to them and to all the congregation. They
showed them the fruit of the land.
27 They told him, and said, “We came to
the land where you sent us. Surely it flows
with milk and honey, and this is its fruit.
28 However, the people who dwell in the
land are strong, and the cities are fortified
and very large. Moreover, we saw the
children of Anak there.
29 Amalek dwells in the land of the
South. The Hittite, the Jebusite, and the
Amorite dwell in the hill country. The
Canaanite dwells by the sea, and along the
side of the Jordan.”

30 Caleb stilled the people before Moses,
and said, “Let’s go up at once, and possess
it; for we are well able to overcome it!”
31 But the men who went up with him
said, “We aren’t able to go up against the
people; for they are stronger than we.”
32 They brought up an evil report of the
land which they had spied out to the
children of Israel, saying, “The land,
through which we have gone to spy it out,
is a land that eats up its inhabitants; and
all the people who we saw in it are men of
great stature.
33 There we saw the Nephilim,† the sons
of Anak, who come from the Nephilim.‡
We were in our own sight as
grasshoppers, and so we were in their
sight.”

14

1 All the congregation lifted up their
voice, and cried; and the people wept that
night.
2 All the children of Israel murmured
against Moses and against Aaron. The
whole congregation said to them, “We
wish that we had died in the land of Egypt,
or that we had died in this wilderness!
3 Why does the LORD bring us to this
land, to fall by the sword? Our wives and
our little ones will be captured or killed!
Wouldn’t it be better for us to return into
Egypt?”
4 They said to one another, “Let’s choose
a leader, and let’s return into Egypt.”
5 Then Moses and Aaron fell on their
faces before all the assembly of the
congregation of the children of Israel.
6 Joshua the son of Nun and Caleb the
son of Jephunneh, who were of those who
spied out the land, tore their clothes.
7 They spoke to all the congregation of
the children of Israel, saying, “The land,
which we passed through to spy it out, is
an exceedingly good land.
8 If the LORD delights in us, then he will
bring us into this land, and give it to us: a
land which flows with milk and honey.
9 Only don’t rebel against the LORD,
neither fear the people of the land; for
they are bread for us. Their defense is
removed from over them, and the LORD is
with us. Don’t fear them.”
10 But all the congregation threatened to
stone them with stones.

The LORD’s glory appeared in the Tent
of Meeting to all the children of Israel.
11 The LORD said to Moses, “How long
will this people despise me? How long will
they not believe in me, for all the signs
which I have worked among them?
12 I will strike them with the pestilence,
and disinherit them, and will make of you
a nation greater and mightier than they.”

13 Moses said to the LORD, “Then the
Egyptians will hear it; for you brought up
this people in your might from among
them.
14 They will tell it to the inhabitants of
this land. They have heard that you LORD
are among this people; for you LORD are
seen face to face, and your cloud stands
over them, and you go before them, in a
pillar of cloud by day, and in a pillar of
fire by night.
15 Now if you killed this people as one
man, then the nations which have heard
the fame of you will speak, saying,
16 ‘Because the LORD was not able to
bring this people into the land which he
swore to them, therefore he has slain
them in the wilderness.’
17 Now please let the power of the Lord†
be great, according as you have spoken,
saying,
18 ‘The LORD is slow to anger, and
abundant in loving kindness, forgiving
iniquity and disobedience; and he will by
no means clear the guilty, visiting the
iniquity of the fathers on the children, on
the third and on the fourth generation.’
19 Please pardon the iniquity of this
people according to the greatness of your
loving kindness, and just as you have
forgiven this people, from Egypt even
until now.”

20 The LORD said, “I have pardoned
according to your word;

† **13:33** or, giants ‡ **13:33** or, giants † **14:17** The word translated “Lord” is “Adonai.”

21 but in very deed—as I live, and as all
the earth shall be filled with the LORD's
glory—
22 because all those men who have seen
my glory and my signs, which I worked in
Egypt and in the wilderness, yet have
tempted me these ten times, and have not
listened to my voice;
23 surely they shall not see the land
which I swore to their fathers, neither
shall any of those who despised me see it.
24 But my servant Caleb, because he had
another spirit with him, and has followed
me fully, him I will bring into the land
into which he went. His offspring shall
possess it.
25 Since the Amalekite and the
Canaanite dwell in the valley, tomorrow
turn and go into the wilderness by the
way to the Red Sea."
26 The LORD spoke to Moses and to
Aaron, saying,
27 "How long shall I bear with this evil
congregation that complain against me? I
have heard the complaints of the children
of Israel, which they complain against me.
28 Tell them, 'As I live, says the LORD,
surely as you have spoken in my ears, so I
will do to you.
29 Your dead bodies shall fall in this
wilderness; and all who were counted of
you, according to your whole number,
from twenty years old and upward, who
have complained against me,
30 surely you shall not come into the
land concerning which I swore that I
would make you dwell therein, except
Caleb the son of Jephunneh, and Joshua
the son of Nun.
31 But I will bring in your little ones that
you said should be captured or killed, and
they shall know the land which you have
rejected.
32 But as for you, your dead bodies shall
fall in this wilderness.
33 Your children shall be wanderers in
the wilderness forty years, and shall bear
your prostitution, until your dead bodies
are consumed in the wilderness.
34 After the number of the days in which
you spied out the land, even forty days,
for every day a year, you will bear your
iniquities, even forty years, and you will
know my alienation.'
35 I, the LORD, have spoken. I will surely
do this to all this evil congregation who
are gathered together against me. In this
wilderness they shall be consumed, and
there they shall die."
36 The men whom Moses sent to spy out
the land, who returned and made all the
congregation to murmur against him by
bringing up an evil report against the
land,
37 even those men who brought up an
evil report of the land, died by the plague
before the LORD.
38 But Joshua the son of Nun and Caleb
the son of Jephunneh remained alive of
those men who went to spy out the land.
39 Moses told these words to all the
children of Israel, and the people
mourned greatly.
40 They rose up early in the morning
and went up to the top of the mountain,
saying, "Behold, we are here, and will go
up to the place which the LORD has
promised; for we have sinned."
41 Moses said, "Why now do you disobey
the commandment of the LORD, since it
shall not prosper?
42 Don't go up, for the LORD isn't among
you; that way you won't be struck down
before your enemies.
43 For there the Amalekite and the
Canaanite are before you, and you will
fall by the sword because you turned back
from following the LORD; therefore the
LORD will not be with you."
44 But they presumed to go up to the top
of the mountain. Nevertheless, the ark of
the LORD's covenant and Moses didn't
depart out of the camp.
45 Then the Amalekites came down, and
the Canaanites who lived in that
mountain, and struck them and beat them
down even to Hormah.

15

1 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
2 "Speak to the children of Israel, and
tell them, 'When you have come into the
land of your habitations, which I give to
you,

3 and will make an offering by fire to the
LORD—a burnt offering, or a sacrifice, to
accomplish a vow, or as a free will
offering, or in your set feasts, to make a
pleasant aroma to the LORD, of the herd,
or of the flock—
4 then he who offers his offering shall
offer to the LORD a meal offering of one
tenth of an ephah† of fine flour mixed
with one fourth of a hin‡ of oil.
5 You shall prepare wine for the drink
offering, one fourth of a hin, with the
burnt offering or for the sacrifice, for each
lamb.
6 " 'For a ram, you shall prepare for a
meal offering two tenths of an ephah§ of
fine flour mixed with the third part of a
hin of oil;
7 and for the drink offering you shall
offer the third part of a hin of wine, of a
pleasant aroma to the LORD.
8 When you prepare a bull for a burnt
offering or for a sacrifice, to accomplish a
vow, or for peace offerings to the LORD,
9 then he shall offer with the bull a meal
offering of three tenths of an ephah† of
fine flour mixed with half a hin of oil;
10 and you shall offer for the drink
offering half a hin of wine, for an offering
made by fire, of a pleasant aroma to the
LORD.
11 Thus it shall be done for each bull, for
each ram, for each of the male lambs, or
of the young goats.
12 According to the number that you
shall prepare, so you shall do to everyone
according to their number.
13 " 'All who are native-born shall do
these things in this way, in offering an
offering made by fire, of a pleasant aroma
to the LORD.
14 If a stranger lives as a foreigner with
you, or whoever may be among you
throughout your generations, and will
offer an offering made by fire, of a
pleasant aroma to the LORD, as you do, so
he shall do.
15 For the assembly, there shall be one
statute for you and for the stranger who
lives as a foreigner, a statute forever
throughout your generations. As you are,
so the foreigner shall be before the LORD.
16 One law and one ordinance shall be
for you and for the stranger who lives as a
foreigner with you.' "

17 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
18 "Speak to the children of Israel, and
tell them, 'When you come into the land
where I bring you,
19 then it shall be that when you eat of
the bread of the land, you shall offer up a
wave offering to the LORD.
20 Of the first of your dough you shall
offer up a cake for a wave offering. As the
wave offering of the threshing floor, so
you shall heave it.
21 Of the first of your dough, you shall
give to the LORD a wave offering
throughout your generations.

22 " 'When you err, and don't observe all
these commandments which the LORD
has spoken to Moses—
23 even all that the LORD has
commanded you by Moses, from the day
that the LORD gave commandment and
onward throughout your generations—
24 then it shall be, if it was done
unwittingly, without the knowledge of the
congregation, that all the congregation
shall offer one young bull for a burnt
offering, for a pleasant aroma to the
LORD, with its meal offering and its drink
offering, according to the ordinance, and
one male goat for a sin offering.
25 The priest shall make atonement for
all the congregation of the children of
Israel, and they shall be forgiven; for it
was an error, and they have brought their
offering, an offering made by fire to the
LORD, and their sin offering before the
LORD, for their error.
26 All the congregation of the children of
Israel shall be forgiven, as well as the
stranger who lives as a foreigner among
them; for with regard to all the people, it
was done unwittingly.

† **15:4** 1 ephah is about 22 liters or about 2/3 of a bushel ‡ **15:4** A hin is about 6.5 liters or 1.7 gallons. § **15:6** 1 ephah is about 22 liters or about 2/3 of a bushel † **15:9** 1 ephah is about 22 liters or about 2/3 of a bushel

27 “ ‘If a person sins unwittingly, then he
shall offer a female goat a year old for a
sin offering.
28 The priest shall make atonement for
the soul who errs when he sins
unwittingly before the LORD. He shall
make atonement for him; and he shall be
forgiven.
29 You shall have one law for him who
does anything unwittingly, for him who is
native-born among the children of Israel,
and for the stranger who lives as a
foreigner among them.
30 “ ‘But the soul who does anything
with a high hand, whether he is
native-born or a foreigner, blasphemes
the LORD. That soul shall be cut off from
among his people.
31 Because he has despised the LORD’s
word, and has broken his commandment,
that soul shall be utterly cut off. His
iniquity shall be on him.’ ”
32 While the children of Israel were in
the wilderness, they found a man
gathering sticks on the Sabbath day.
33 Those who found him gathering
sticks brought him to Moses and Aaron,
and to all the congregation.
34 They put him in custody, because it
had not been declared what should be
done to him.
35 The LORD said to Moses, “The man
shall surely be put to death. All the
congregation shall stone him with stones
outside of the camp.”
36 All the congregation brought him
outside of the camp, and stoned him to
death with stones, as the LORD
commanded Moses.
37 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
38 “Speak to the children of Israel, and
tell them that they should make
themselves fringes‡ on the borders of
their garments throughout their
generations, and that they put on the
fringe§ of each border a cord of blue.
39 It shall be to you for a fringe,† that
you may see it, and remember all the
LORD’s commandments, and do them;
and that you don’t follow your own heart
and your own eyes, after which you used
to play the prostitute;
40 so that you may remember and do all
my commandments, and be holy to your
God.
41 I am the LORD your God, who
brought you out of the land of Egypt, to be
your God: I am the LORD your God.”

16

1 Now Korah, the son of Izhar, the son of
Kohath, the son of Levi, with Dathan and
Abiram, the sons of Eliab, and On, the son
of Peleth, sons of Reuben, took some men.
2 They rose up before Moses, with some
of the children of Israel, two hundred fifty
princes of the congregation, called to the
assembly, men of renown.
3 They assembled themselves together
against Moses and against Aaron, and said
to them, “You take too much on yourself,
since all the congregation are holy,
everyone of them, and the LORD is among
them! Why do you lift yourselves up
above the LORD’s assembly?”
4 When Moses heard it, he fell on his
face.
5 He said to Korah and to all his
company, “In the morning, the LORD will
show who are his, and who is holy, and
will cause him to come near to him. Even
him whom he shall choose, he will cause
to come near to him.
6 Do this: have Korah and all his
company take censers,
7 put fire in them, and put incense on
them before the LORD tomorrow. It shall
be that the man whom the LORD chooses,
he shall be holy. You have gone too far,
you sons of Levi!”
8 Moses said to Korah, “Hear now, you
sons of Levi!
9 Is it a small thing to you that the God of
Israel has separated you from the
congregation of Israel, to bring you near
to himself, to do the service of the LORD’s
tabernacle, and to stand before the
congregation to minister to them;
10 and that he has brought you near,
and all your brothers the sons of Levi with
you? Do you seek the priesthood also?

‡ **15:38** or, tassels (Hebrew צִיצִת) § **15:38** or, tassel † **15:39** or, tassel

11 Therefore you and all your company
have gathered together against the LORD!
What is Aaron that you complain against
him?"
12 Moses sent to call Dathan and
Abiram, the sons of Eliab; and they said,
"We won't come up!
13 Is it a small thing that you have
brought us up out of a land flowing with
milk and honey, to kill us in the
wilderness, but you must also make
yourself a prince over us?
14 Moreover you haven't brought us into
a land flowing with milk and honey, nor
given us inheritance of fields and
vineyards. Will you put out the eyes of
these men? We won't come up."
15 Moses was very angry, and said to the
LORD, "Don't respect their offering. I have
not taken one donkey from them, neither
have I hurt one of them."
16 Moses said to Korah, "You and all
your company go before the LORD, you,
and they, and Aaron, tomorrow.
17 Each man take his censer and put
incense on it, and each man bring before
the LORD his censer, two hundred fifty
censers; you also, and Aaron, each with
his censer."
18 They each took his censer, and put
fire in it, and laid incense on it, and stood
at the door of the Tent of Meeting with
Moses and Aaron.
19 Korah assembled all the congregation
opposite them to the door of the Tent of
Meeting.

The LORD's glory appeared to all the
congregation.
20 The LORD spoke to Moses and to
Aaron, saying,
21 "Separate yourselves from among
this congregation, that I may consume
them in a moment!"
22 They fell on their faces, and said,
"God, the God of the spirits of all flesh,
shall one man sin, and will you be angry
with all the congregation?"
23 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
24 "Speak to the congregation, saying,
'Get away from around the tent of Korah,
Dathan, and Abiram!' "
25 Moses rose up and went to Dathan
and Abiram; and the elders of Israel
followed him.
26 He spoke to the congregation, saying,
"Depart, please, from the tents of these
wicked men, and touch nothing of theirs,
lest you be consumed in all their sins!"
27 So they went away from the tent of
Korah, Dathan, and Abiram, on every
side. Dathan and Abiram came out, and
stood at the door of their tents with their
wives, their sons, and their little ones.
28 Moses said, "Hereby you shall know
that the LORD has sent me to do all these
works; for they are not from my own
mind.
29 If these men die the common death of
all men, or if they experience what all
men experience, then the LORD hasn't
sent me.
30 But if the LORD makes a new thing,
and the ground opens its mouth, and
swallows them up with all that belong to
them, and they go down alive into Sheol,†
then you shall understand that these men
have despised the LORD."
31 As he finished speaking all these
words, the ground that was under them
split apart.
32 The earth opened its mouth and
swallowed them up with their
households, all of Korah's men, and all
their goods.
33 So they, and all that belonged to them
went down alive into Sheol.‡ The earth
closed on them, and they perished from
among the assembly.
34 All Israel that were around them fled
at their cry; for they said, "Lest the earth
swallow us up!"
35 Fire came out from the LORD, and
devoured the two hundred fifty men who
offered the incense.
36 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
37 "Speak to Eleazar the son of Aaron the
priest, that he take up the censers out of
the burning, and scatter the fire away
from the camp; for they are holy,

† **16:30** Sheol is the place of the dead. ‡ **16:33** Sheol is the place of the dead.

38 even the censers of those who sinned
against their own lives. Let them be
beaten into plates for a covering of the
altar, for they offered them before the
LORD. Therefore they are holy. They shall
be a sign to the children of Israel."

39 Eleazar the priest took the bronze
censers which those who were burned
had offered; and they beat them out for a
covering of the altar,

40 to be a memorial to the children of
Israel, to the end that no stranger who
isn't of the offspring of Aaron, would
come near to burn incense before the
LORD, that he not be as Korah and as his
company; as the LORD spoke to him by
Moses.

41 But on the next day all the
congregation of the children of Israel
complained against Moses and against
Aaron, saying, "You have killed the
LORD's people!"

42 When the congregation was
assembled against Moses and against
Aaron, they looked toward the Tent of
Meeting. Behold, the cloud covered it, and
the LORD's glory appeared.

43 Moses and Aaron came to the front of
the Tent of Meeting.

44 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying,

45 "Get away from among this
congregation, that I may consume them in
a moment!" They fell on their faces.

46 Moses said to Aaron, "Take your
censer, put fire from the altar in it, lay
incense on it, carry it quickly to the
congregation, and make atonement for
them; for wrath has gone out from the
LORD! The plague has begun."

47 Aaron did as Moses said, and ran into
the middle of the assembly. The plague
had already begun among the people. He
put on the incense, and made atonement
for the people.

48 He stood between the dead and the
living; and the plague was stayed.

49 Now those who died by the plague
were fourteen thousand seven hundred,
in addition to those who died about the
matter of Korah.

50 Aaron returned to Moses to the door
of the Tent of Meeting, and the plague was
stopped.

17

1 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying,

2 "Speak to the children of Israel, and
take rods from them, one for each fathers'
house, of all their princes according to
their fathers' houses, twelve rods. Write
each man's name on his rod.

3 You shall write Aaron's name on Levi's
rod. There shall be one rod for each head
of their fathers' houses.

4 You shall lay them up in the Tent of
Meeting before the covenant, where I
meet with you.

5 It shall happen that the rod of the man
whom I shall choose shall bud. I will make
the murmurings of the children of Israel,
which they murmur against you, cease
from me."

6 Moses spoke to the children of Israel;
and all their princes gave him rods, for
each prince one, according to their
fathers' houses, a total of twelve rods.
Aaron's rod was among their rods.

7 Moses laid up the rods before the
LORD in the Tent of the Testimony.

8 On the next day, Moses went into the
Tent of the Testimony; and behold,
Aaron's rod for the house of Levi had
sprouted, budded, produced blossoms,
and bore ripe almonds.

9 Moses brought out all the rods from
before the LORD to all the children of
Israel. They looked, and each man took
his rod.

10 The LORD said to Moses, "Put back the
rod of Aaron before the covenant, to be
kept for a token against the children of
rebellion; that you may make an end of
their complaining against me, that they
not die."

11 Moses did so. As the LORD
commanded him, so he did.

12 The children of Israel spoke to Moses,
saying, "Behold, we perish! We are
undone! We are all undone!

13 Everyone who keeps approaching the
LORD's tabernacle, dies! Will we all
perish?"

18

1 The LORD said to Aaron, “You and your
sons and your fathers’ house with you
shall bear the iniquity of the sanctuary;
and you and your sons with you shall bear
the iniquity of your priesthood.
2 Bring your brothers also, the tribe of
Levi, the tribe of your father, near with
you, that they may be joined to you, and
minister to you; but you and your sons
with you shall be before the Tent of the
Testimony.
3 They shall keep your commands and
the duty of the whole Tent; only they shall
not come near to the vessels of the
sanctuary and to the altar, that they not
die, neither they nor you.
4 They shall be joined to you and keep
the responsibility of the Tent of Meeting,
for all the service of the Tent. A stranger
shall not come near to you.

5 “You shall perform the duty of the
sanctuary and the duty of the altar, that
there be no more wrath on the children of
Israel.
6 Behold, I myself have taken your
brothers the Levites from among the
children of Israel. They are a gift to you,
dedicated to the LORD, to do the service of
the Tent of Meeting.
7 You and your sons with you shall keep
your priesthood for everything of the
altar, and for that within the veil. You
shall serve. I give you the service of the
priesthood as a gift. The stranger who
comes near shall be put to death.”

8 The LORD spoke to Aaron, “Behold, I
myself have given you the command of
my wave offerings, even all the holy
things of the children of Israel. I have
given them to you by reason of the
anointing, and to your sons, as a portion
forever.
9 This shall be yours of the most holy
things from the fire: every offering of
theirs, even every meal offering of theirs,
and every sin offering of theirs, and every
trespass offering of theirs, which they
shall give to me, shall be most holy for you
and for your sons.
10 You shall eat of it like the most holy
things. Every male shall eat of it. It shall
be holy to you.
11 “This is yours, too: the wave offering
of their gift, even all the wave offerings of
the children of Israel. I have given them to
you, and to your sons and to your
daughters with you, as a portion forever.
Everyone who is clean in your house shall
eat of it.
12 “I have given to you all the best of the
oil, all the best of the vintage, and of the
grain, the first fruits of them which they
give to the LORD.
13 The first-ripe fruits of all that is in
their land, which they bring to the LORD,
shall be yours. Everyone who is clean in
your house shall eat of it.
14 “Everything devoted in Israel shall be
yours.
15 Everything that opens the womb, of
all flesh which they offer to the LORD,
both of man and animal, shall be yours.
Nevertheless, you shall surely redeem the
firstborn of man, and you shall redeem
the firstborn of unclean animals.
16 You shall redeem those who are to be
redeemed of them from a month old,
according to your estimation, for five
shekels of money, according to the shekel† of the sanctuary, which weighs twenty gerahs.‡
17 “But you shall not redeem the
firstborn of a cow, or the firstborn of a
sheep, or the firstborn of a goat. They are
holy. You shall sprinkle their blood on the
altar, and shall burn their fat for an
offering made by fire, for a pleasant
aroma to the LORD.
18 Their meat shall be yours, as the wave
offering breast and as the right thigh, it
shall be yours.
19 All the wave offerings of the holy
things which the children of Israel offer to
the LORD, I have given you and your sons
and your daughters with you, as a portion
forever. It is a covenant of salt forever

† **18:16** A shekel is about 10 grams or about 0.35 ounces.

‡ **18:16** A gerah is about 0.5 grams or about 7.7 grains.

before the LORD to you and to your offspring with you."
20 The LORD said to Aaron, "You shall have no inheritance in their land, neither shall you have any portion among them. I am your portion and your inheritance among the children of Israel.
21 "To the children of Levi, behold, I have given all the tithe in Israel for an inheritance, in return for their service which they serve, even the service of the Tent of Meeting.
22 Henceforth the children of Israel shall not come near the Tent of Meeting, lest they bear sin, and die.
23 But the Levites shall do the service of the Tent of Meeting, and they shall bear their iniquity. It shall be a statute forever throughout your generations. Among the children of Israel, they shall have no inheritance.
24 For the tithe of the children of Israel, which they offer as a wave offering to the LORD, I have given to the Levites for an inheritance. Therefore I have said to them, 'Among the children of Israel they shall have no inheritance.' "
25 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
26 "Moreover you shall speak to the Levites, and tell them, 'When you take of the children of Israel the tithe which I have given you from them for your inheritance, then you shall offer up a wave offering of it for the LORD, a tithe of the tithe.
27 Your wave offering shall be credited to you, as though it were the grain of the threshing floor, and as the fullness of the wine press.
28 Thus you also shall offer a wave offering to the LORD of all your tithes, which you receive of the children of Israel; and of it you shall give the LORD's wave offering to Aaron the priest.
29 Out of all your gifts, you shall offer every wave offering to the LORD, of all its best parts, even the holy part of it.'
30 "Therefore you shall tell them, 'When you heave its best from it, then it shall be credited to the Levites as the increase of the threshing floor, and as the increase of the wine press.
31 You may eat it anywhere, you and your households, for it is your reward in return for your service in the Tent of Meeting.
32 You shall bear no sin by reason of it, when you have heaved from it its best. You shall not profane the holy things of the children of Israel, that you not die.' "

19

1 The LORD spoke to Moses and to Aaron, saying,
2 "This is the statute of the law which the LORD has commanded. Tell the children of Israel to bring you a red heifer without spot, in which is no defect, and which was never yoked.
3 You shall give her to Eleazar the priest, and he shall bring her outside of the camp, and one shall kill her before his face.
4 Eleazar the priest shall take some of her blood with his finger, and sprinkle her blood toward the front of the Tent of Meeting seven times.
5 One shall burn the heifer in his sight; her skin, and her meat, and her blood, with her dung, shall he burn.
6 The priest shall take cedar wood, hyssop, and scarlet, and cast it into the middle of the burning of the heifer.
7 Then the priest shall wash his clothes, and he shall bathe his flesh in water, and afterward he shall come into the camp, and the priest shall be unclean until the evening.
8 He who burns her shall wash his clothes in water, and bathe his flesh in water, and shall be unclean until the evening.
9 "A man who is clean shall gather up the ashes of the heifer, and lay them up outside of the camp in a clean place; and it shall be kept for the congregation of the children of Israel for use in water for cleansing impurity. It is a sin offering.
10 He who gathers the ashes of the heifer shall wash his clothes, and be unclean until the evening. It shall be to the children of Israel, and to the stranger who lives as a foreigner among them, for a statute forever.

11 “He who touches the dead body of
any man shall be unclean seven days.
12 He shall purify himself with water on
the third day, and on the seventh day he
shall be clean; but if he doesn’t purify
himself the third day, then the seventh
day he shall not be clean.
13 Whoever touches a dead person, the
body of a man who has died, and doesn’t
purify himself, defiles the LORD’s
tabernacle; and that soul shall be cut off
from Israel; because the water for
impurity was not sprinkled on him, he
shall be unclean. His uncleanness is yet
on him.
14 “This is the law when a man dies in a
tent: everyone who comes into the tent,
and everyone who is in the tent, shall be
unclean seven days.
15 Every open vessel, which has no
covering bound on it, is unclean.
16 “Whoever in the open field touches
one who is slain with a sword, or a dead
body, or a bone of a man, or a grave, shall
be unclean seven days.
17 “For the unclean, they shall take of
the ashes of the burning of the sin
offering; and running water shall be
poured on them in a vessel.
18 A clean person shall take hyssop, dip
it in the water, and sprinkle it on the tent,
on all the vessels, on the persons who
were there, and on him who touched the
bone, or the slain, or the dead, or the
grave.
19 The clean person shall sprinkle on the
unclean on the third day, and on the
seventh day. On the seventh day, he shall
purify him. He shall wash his clothes and
bathe himself in water, and shall be clean
at evening.
20 But the man who shall be unclean,
and shall not purify himself, that soul
shall be cut off from among the assembly,
because he has defiled the sanctuary of
the LORD. The water for impurity has not
been sprinkled on him. He is unclean.
21 It shall be a perpetual statute to them.
He who sprinkles the water for impurity
shall wash his clothes, and he who
touches the water for impurity shall be
unclean until evening.
22 “Whatever the unclean person
touches shall be unclean; and the soul that
touches it shall be unclean until evening.”

20

1 The children of Israel, even the whole
congregation, came into the wilderness of
Zin in the first month. The people stayed
in Kadesh. Miriam died there, and was
buried there.
2 There was no water for the
congregation; and they assembled
themselves together against Moses and
against Aaron.
3 The people quarreled with Moses, and
spoke, saying, “We wish that we had died
when our brothers died before the LORD!
4 Why have you brought the LORD’s
assembly into this wilderness, that we
should die there, we and our animals?
5 Why have you made us to come up out
of Egypt, to bring us in to this evil place? It
is no place of seed, or of figs, or of vines, or
of pomegranates; neither is there any
water to drink.”
6 Moses and Aaron went from the
presence of the assembly to the door of
the Tent of Meeting, and fell on their
faces. The LORD’s glory appeared to them.
7 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
8 “Take the rod, and assemble the
congregation, you, and Aaron your
brother, and speak to the rock before
their eyes, that it pour out its water. You
shall bring water to them out of the rock;
so you shall give the congregation and
their livestock drink.”
9 Moses took the rod from before the
LORD, as he commanded him.
10 Moses and Aaron gathered the
assembly together before the rock, and he
said to them, “Hear now, you rebels! Shall
we bring water out of this rock for you?”
11 Moses lifted up his hand, and struck
the rock with his rod twice, and water
came out abundantly. The congregation
and their livestock drank.
12 The LORD said to Moses and Aaron,
“Because you didn’t believe in me, to
sanctify me in the eyes of the children of

Israel, therefore you shall not bring this assembly into the land which I have given them."
13 These are the waters of Meribah;† because the children of Israel strove with the LORD, and he was sanctified in them.
14 Moses sent messengers from Kadesh to the king of Edom, saying:
"Your brother Israel says: You know all the travail that has happened to us;
15 how our fathers went down into Egypt, and we lived in Egypt a long time. The Egyptians mistreated us and our fathers.
16 When we cried to the LORD, he heard our voice, sent an angel, and brought us out of Egypt. Behold, we are in Kadesh, a city in the edge of your border.
17 "Please let us pass through your land. We will not pass through field or through vineyard, neither will we drink from the water of the wells. We will go along the king's highway. We will not turn away to the right hand nor to the left, until we have passed your border."
18 Edom said to him, "You shall not pass through me, lest I come out with the sword against you."
19 The children of Israel said to him, "We will go up by the highway; and if we drink your water, I and my livestock, then I will give its price. Only let me, without doing anything else, pass through on my feet."
20 He said, "You shall not pass through." Edom came out against him with many people, and with a strong hand.
21 Thus Edom refused to give Israel passage through his border, so Israel turned away from him.
22 They traveled from Kadesh, and the children of Israel, even the whole congregation, came to Mount Hor.
23 The LORD spoke to Moses and Aaron in Mount Hor, by the border of the land of Edom, saying,
24 "Aaron shall be gathered to his people; for he shall not enter into the land which I have given to the children of Israel, because you rebelled against my word at the waters of Meribah.
25 Take Aaron and Eleazar his son, and bring them up to Mount Hor;
26 and strip Aaron of his garments, and put them on Eleazar his son. Aaron shall be gathered, and shall die there."
27 Moses did as the LORD commanded. They went up onto Mount Hor in the sight of all the congregation.
28 Moses stripped Aaron of his garments, and put them on Eleazar his son. Aaron died there on the top of the mountain, and Moses and Eleazar came down from the mountain.
29 When all the congregation saw that Aaron was dead, they wept for Aaron thirty days, even all the house of Israel.

21

1 The Canaanite, the king of Arad, who lived in the South, heard that Israel came by the way of Atharim. He fought against Israel, and took some of them captive.
2 Israel vowed a vow to the LORD, and said, "If you will indeed deliver this people into my hand, then I will utterly destroy their cities."
3 The LORD listened to the voice of Israel, and delivered up the Canaanites; and they utterly destroyed them and their cities. The name of the place was called Hormah.†
4 They traveled from Mount Hor by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom. The soul of the people was very discouraged because of the journey.
5 The people spoke against God and against Moses: "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no bread, there is no water, and our soul loathes this disgusting food!"
6 The LORD sent venomous snakes among the people, and they bit the people. Many people of Israel died.
7 The people came to Moses, and said, "We have sinned, because we have spoken against the LORD and against you. Pray to the LORD, that he take away the serpents from us." Moses prayed for the people.
8 The LORD said to Moses, "Make a venomous snake, and set it on a pole. It

† **20:13** "Meribah" means "quarreling". † **21:3** "Hormah" means "destruction".

shall happen that everyone who is bitten,
when he sees it, shall live."
9 Moses made a serpent of bronze, and
set it on the pole. If a serpent had bitten
any man, when he looked at the serpent of
bronze, he lived.
10 The children of Israel traveled, and
encamped in Oboth.
11 They traveled from Oboth, and
encamped at Iyeabarim, in the wilderness
which is before Moab, toward the sunrise.
12 From there they traveled, and
encamped in the valley of Zered.
13 From there they traveled, and
encamped on the other side of the Arnon,
which is in the wilderness that comes out
of the border of the Amorites; for the
Arnon is the border of Moab, between
Moab and the Amorites.
14 Therefore it is said in *The Book of the
Wars of the LORD*, "Vaheb in Suphah, the
valleys of the Arnon,
15 the slope of the valleys that incline
toward the dwelling of Ar, leans on the
border of Moab."
16 From there they traveled to Beer; that
is the well of which the LORD said to
Moses, "Gather the people together, and I
will give them water."
17 Then Israel sang this song:
"Spring up, well! Sing to it,
18 the well, which the princes dug,
which the nobles of the people dug,
with the scepter, and with their
poles."
From the wilderness they traveled to
Mattanah;
19 and from Mattanah to Nahaliel; and
from Nahaliel to Bamoth;
20 and from Bamoth to the valley that is
in the field of Moab, to the top of Pisgah,
which looks down on the desert.
21 Israel sent messengers to Sihon king
of the Amorites, saying,
22 "Let me pass through your land. We
will not turn away into field or vineyard.
We will not drink of the water of the wells.
We will go by the king's highway, until we
have passed your border."
23 Sihon would not allow Israel to pass
through his border, but Sihon gathered all
his people together, and went out against
Israel into the wilderness, and came to
Jahaz. He fought against Israel.
24 Israel struck him with the edge of the
sword, and possessed his land from the
Arnon to the Jabbok, even to the children
of Ammon; for the border of the children
of Ammon was fortified.
25 Israel took all these cities. Israel lived
in all the cities of the Amorites, in
Heshbon, and in all its villages.
26 For Heshbon was the city of Sihon the
king of the Amorites, who had fought
against the former king of Moab, and
taken all his land out of his hand, even to
the Arnon.
27 Therefore those who speak in
proverbs say,
"Come to Heshbon.
Let the city of Sihon be built and
established;
28 for a fire has gone out of Heshbon,
a flame from the city of Sihon.
It has devoured Ar of Moab,
The lords of the high places of the
Arnon.
29 Woe to you, Moab!
You are undone, people of Chemosh!
He has given his sons as fugitives,
and his daughters into captivity,
to Sihon king of the Amorites.
30 We have shot at them.
Heshbon has perished even to Dibon.
We have laid waste even to Nophah,
Which reaches to Medeba."
31 Thus Israel lived in the land of the
Amorites.
32 Moses sent to spy out Jazer. They took
its villages, and drove out the Amorites
who were there.
33 They turned and went up by the way
of Bashan. Og the king of Bashan went out
against them, he and all his people, to
battle at Edrei.
34 The LORD said to Moses, "Don't fear
him, for I have delivered him into your
hand, with all his people, and his land.
You shall do to him as you did to Sihon
king of the Amorites, who lived at
Heshbon."
35 So they struck him, with his sons and
all his people, until there were no
survivors; and they possessed his land.

22

1 The children of Israel traveled, and
encamped in the plains of Moab beyond
the Jordan at Jericho.
2 Balak the son of Zippor saw all that
Israel had done to the Amorites.
3 Moab was very afraid of the people,
because they were many. Moab was
distressed because of the children of
Israel.
4 Moab said to the elders of Midian,
"Now this multitude will lick up all that is
around us, as the ox licks up the grass of
the field."
Balak the son of Zippor was king of
Moab at that time.
5 He sent messengers to Balaam the son
of Beor, to Pethor, which is by the River, to
the land of the children of his people, to
call him, saying, "Behold, there is a people
who came out of Egypt. Behold, they
cover the surface of the earth, and they
are staying opposite me.
6 Please come now therefore, and curse
this people for me; for they are too mighty
for me. Perhaps I shall prevail, that we
may strike them, and that I may drive
them out of the land; for I know that he
whom you bless is blessed, and he whom
you curse is cursed."
7 The elders of Moab and the elders of
Midian departed with the rewards of
divination in their hand. They came to
Balaam, and spoke to him the words of
Balak.
8 He said to them, "Lodge here this
night, and I will bring you word again, as
the LORD shall speak to me." The princes
of Moab stayed with Balaam.
9 God came to Balaam, and said, "Who
are these men with you?"
10 Balaam said to God, "Balak the son of
Zippor, king of Moab, has said to me,
11 'Behold, the people that has come out
of Egypt covers the surface of the earth.
Now, come curse them for me. Perhaps I
shall be able to fight against them, and
shall drive them out.' "
12 God said to Balaam, "You shall not go
with them. You shall not curse the people,
for they are blessed."
13 Balaam rose up in the morning, and
said to the princes of Balak, "Go to your
land; for the LORD refuses to permit me to
go with you."
14 The princes of Moab rose up, and they
went to Balak, and said, "Balaam refuses
to come with us."
15 Balak again sent princes, more, and
more honorable than they.
16 They came to Balaam, and said to
him, "Balak the son of Zippor says, 'Please
let nothing hinder you from coming to me,
17 for I will promote you to very great
honor, and whatever you say to me I will
do. Please come therefore, and curse this
people for me.' "
18 Balaam answered the servants of
Balak, "If Balak would give me his house
full of silver and gold, I can't go beyond
the word of the LORD my God, to do less
or more.
19 Now therefore please stay here
tonight as well, that I may know what else
the LORD will speak to me."
20 God came to Balaam at night, and said
to him, "If the men have come to call you,
rise up, go with them; but only the word
which I speak to you, that you shall do."
21 Balaam rose up in the morning, and
saddled his donkey, and went with the
princes of Moab.
22 God's anger burned because he went;
and the LORD's angel placed himself in
the way as an adversary against him. Now
he was riding on his donkey, and his two
servants were with him.
23 The donkey saw the LORD's angel
standing in the way, with his sword
drawn in his hand; and the donkey turned
out of the path, and went into the field.
Balaam struck the donkey, to turn her
into the path.
24 Then the LORD's angel stood in a
narrow path between the vineyards, a
wall being on this side, and a wall on that
side.
25 The donkey saw the LORD's angel,
and she thrust herself to the wall, and
crushed Balaam's foot against the wall.
He struck her again.

26 The LORD's angel went further, and
stood in a narrow place, where there was
no way to turn either to the right hand or
to the left.
27 The donkey saw the LORD's angel,
and she lay down under Balaam.
Balaam's anger burned, and he struck the
donkey with his staff.
28 The LORD opened the mouth of the
donkey, and she said to Balaam, "What
have I done to you, that you have struck
me these three times?"
29 Balaam said to the donkey, "Because
you have mocked me, I wish there were a
sword in my hand, for now I would have
killed you."
30 The donkey said to Balaam, "Am I not
your donkey, on which you have ridden
all your life long until today? Was I ever in
the habit of doing so to you?"
He said, "No."
31 Then the LORD opened the eyes of
Balaam, and he saw the LORD's angel
standing in the way, with his sword
drawn in his hand; and he bowed his
head, and fell on his face.
32 The LORD's angel said to him, "Why
have you struck your donkey these three
times? Behold, I have come out as an
adversary, because your way is perverse
before me.
33 The donkey saw me, and turned away
before me these three times. Unless she
had turned away from me, surely now I
would have killed you, and saved her
alive."
34 Balaam said to the LORD's angel, "I
have sinned; for I didn't know that you
stood in the way against me. Now
therefore, if it displeases you, I will go
back again."
35 The LORD's angel said to Balaam, "Go
with the men; but you shall only speak the
word that I shall speak to you."
So Balaam went with the princes of
Balak.
36 When Balak heard that Balaam had
come, he went out to meet him to the City
of Moab, which is on the border of the
Arnon, which is in the utmost part of the
border.
37 Balak said to Balaam, "Didn't I
earnestly send for you to summon you?
Why didn't you come to me? Am I not able
indeed to promote you to honor?"
38 Balaam said to Balak, "Behold, I have
come to you. Have I now any power at all
to speak anything? I will speak the word
that God puts in my mouth."
39 Balaam went with Balak, and they
came to Kiriath Huzoth.
40 Balak sacrificed cattle and sheep, and
sent to Balaam, and to the princes who
were with him.
41 In the morning, Balak took Balaam,
and brought him up into the high places
of Baal; and he saw from there part of the
people.

23

1 Balaam said to Balak, "Build here
seven altars for me, and prepare here
seven bulls and seven rams for me."
2 Balak did as Balaam had spoken; and
Balak and Balaam offered on every altar a
bull and a ram.
3 Balaam said to Balak, "Stand by your
burnt offering, and I will go. Perhaps the
LORD will come to meet me. Whatever he
shows me I will tell you."
He went to a bare height.
4 God met Balaam, and he said to him, "I
have prepared the seven altars, and I
have offered up a bull and a ram on every
altar."
5 The LORD put a word in Balaam's
mouth, and said, "Return to Balak, and
thus you shall speak."
6 He returned to him, and behold, he
was standing by his burnt offering, he,
and all the princes of Moab.
7 He took up his parable, and said,
"From Aram has Balak brought me,
the king of Moab from the mountains
of the East.
Come, curse Jacob for me.
Come, defy Israel.
8 How shall I curse whom God has not
cursed?
How shall I defy whom the LORD has
not defied?
9 For from the top of the rocks I see him.
From the hills I see him.
Behold, it is a people that dwells alone,

and shall not be listed among the
nations.
10 Who can count the dust of Jacob,
or count the fourth part of Israel?
Let me die the death of the righteous!
Let my last end be like his!"
11 Balak said to Balaam, "What have you
done to me? I took you to curse my
enemies, and behold, you have blessed
them altogether."
12 He answered and said, "Must I not
take heed to speak that which the LORD
puts in my mouth?"
13 Balak said to him, "Please come with
me to another place, where you may see
them. You shall see just part of them, and
shall not see them all. Curse them from
there for me."
14 He took him into the field of Zophim,
to the top of Pisgah, and built seven altars,
and offered up a bull and a ram on every
altar.
15 He said to Balak, "Stand here by your
burnt offering, while I meet God over
there."
16 The LORD met Balaam, and put a
word in his mouth, and said, "Return to
Balak, and say this."
17 He came to him, and behold, he was
standing by his burnt offering, and the
princes of Moab with him. Balak said to
him, "What has the LORD spoken?"
18 He took up his parable, and said,
"Rise up, Balak, and hear!
Listen to me, you son of Zippor.
19 God is not a man, that he should lie,
nor a son of man, that he should
repent.
Has he said, and he won't do it?
Or has he spoken, and he won't make
it good?
20 Behold, I have received a command to
bless.
He has blessed, and I can't reverse it.
21 He has not seen iniquity in Jacob.
Neither has he seen perverseness in
Israel.
The LORD his God is with him.
The shout of a king is among them.
22 God brings them out of Egypt.
He has as it were the strength of the
wild ox.
23 Surely there is no enchantment with
Jacob;
neither is there any divination with
Israel.
Now it shall be said of Jacob and of Israel,
'What has God done!'
24 Behold, a people rises up as a lioness.
As a lion he lifts himself up.
He shall not lie down until he eats of the
prey,
and drinks the blood of the slain."
25 Balak said to Balaam, "Neither curse
them at all, nor bless them at all."
26 But Balaam answered Balak, "Didn't I
tell you, saying, 'All that the LORD speaks,
that I must do'?"
27 Balak said to Balaam, "Come now, I
will take you to another place; perhaps it
will please God that you may curse them
for me from there."
28 Balak took Balaam to the top of Peor,
that looks down on the desert.
29 Balaam said to Balak, "Build seven
altars for me here, and prepare seven
bulls and seven rams for me here."
30 Balak did as Balaam had said, and
offered up a bull and a ram on every altar.

24

1 When Balaam saw that it pleased the
LORD to bless Israel, he didn't go, as at the
other times, to use divination, but he set
his face toward the wilderness.
2 Balaam lifted up his eyes, and he saw
Israel dwelling according to their tribes;
and the Spirit of God came on him.
3 He took up his parable, and said,
"Balaam the son of Beor says,
the man whose eyes are open says;
4 he says, who hears the words of God,
who sees the vision of the Almighty,
falling down, and having his eyes
open:
5 How goodly are your tents, Jacob,
and your dwellings, Israel!
6 As valleys they are spread out,
as gardens by the riverside,
as aloes which the LORD has planted,
as cedar trees beside the waters.
7 Water shall flow from his buckets.
His seed shall be in many waters.
His king shall be higher than Agag.
His kingdom shall be exalted.

8 God brings him out of Egypt.
He has as it were the strength of the wild ox.
He shall consume the nations his adversaries,
shall break their bones in pieces,
and pierce them with his arrows.
9 He couched, he lay down as a lion,
as a lioness;
who shall rouse him up?
Everyone who blesses you is blessed.
Everyone who curses you is cursed."
10 Balak's anger burned against Balaam, and he struck his hands together. Balak said to Balaam, "I called you to curse my enemies, and, behold, you have altogether blessed them these three times.
11 Therefore, flee to your place, now! I thought to promote you to great honor; but, behold, the LORD has kept you back from honor."
12 Balaam said to Balak, "Didn't I also tell your messengers whom you sent to me, saying,
13 'If Balak would give me his house full of silver and gold, I can't go beyond the LORD's word, to do either good or bad from my own mind. I will say what the LORD says'?
14 Now, behold, I go to my people. Come, I will inform you what this people shall do to your people in the latter days."
15 He took up his parable, and said,
"Balaam the son of Beor says,
the man whose eyes are open says;
16 he says, who hears the words of God,
knows the knowledge of the Most High,
and who sees the vision of the Almighty,
falling down, and having his eyes open:
17 I see him, but not now.
I see him, but not near.
A star will come out of Jacob.
A scepter will rise out of Israel,
and shall strike through the corners of Moab,
and crush all the sons of Sheth.
18 Edom shall be a possession.
Seir, his enemy, also shall be a possession,
while Israel does valiantly.
19 Out of Jacob shall one have dominion,
and shall destroy the remnant from the city."
20 He looked at Amalek, and took up his parable, and said,
"Amalek was the first of the nations,
but his latter end shall come to destruction."
21 He looked at the Kenite, and took up his parable, and said,
"Your dwelling place is strong.
Your nest is set in the rock.
22 Nevertheless Kain shall be wasted,
until Asshur carries you away captive."
23 He took up his parable, and said,
"Alas, who shall live when God does this?
24 But ships shall come from the coast of Kittim.
They shall afflict Asshur, and shall afflict Eber.
He also shall come to destruction."
25 Balaam rose up, and went and returned to his place; and Balak also went his way.

25

1 Israel stayed in Shittim; and the people began to play the prostitute with the daughters of Moab;
2 for they called the people to the sacrifices of their gods. The people ate and bowed down to their gods.
3 Israel joined himself to Baal Peor, and the LORD's anger burned against Israel.
4 The LORD said to Moses, "Take all the chiefs of the people, and hang them up to the LORD before the sun, that the fierce anger of the LORD may turn away from Israel."
5 Moses said to the judges of Israel, "Everyone kill his men who have joined themselves to Baal Peor."
6 Behold, one of the children of Israel came and brought to his brothers a Midianite woman in the sight of Moses, and in the sight of all the congregation of the children of Israel, while they were

weeping at the door of the Tent of Meeting.
7 When Phinehas, the son of Eleazar, the son of Aaron the priest, saw it, he rose up from the middle of the congregation, and took a spear in his hand.
8 He went after the man of Israel into the pavilion, and thrust both of them through, the man of Israel, and the woman through her body. So the plague was stopped among the children of Israel.
9 Those who died by the plague were twenty-four thousand.

10 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
11 "Phinehas, the son of Eleazar, the son of Aaron the priest, has turned my wrath away from the children of Israel, in that he was jealous with my jealousy among them, so that I didn't consume the children of Israel in my jealousy.
12 Therefore say, 'Behold, I give to him my covenant of peace.
13 It shall be to him, and to his offspring after him, the covenant of an everlasting priesthood, because he was jealous for his God, and made atonement for the children of Israel.' "
14 Now the name of the man of Israel that was slain, who was slain with the Midianite woman, was Zimri, the son of Salu, a prince of a fathers' house among the Simeonites.
15 The name of the Midianite woman who was slain was Cozbi, the daughter of Zur. He was head of the people of a fathers' house in Midian.
16 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
17 "Harass the Midianites, and strike them;
18 for they harassed you with their wiles, wherein they have deceived you in the matter of Peor, and in the incident regarding Cozbi, the daughter of the prince of Midian, their sister, who was slain on the day of the plague in the matter of Peor."

26

1 After the plague, the LORD spoke to Moses and to Eleazar the son of Aaron the priest, saying,
2 "Take a census of all the congregation of the children of Israel, from twenty years old and upward, by their fathers' houses, all who are able to go out to war in Israel."
3 Moses and Eleazar the priest spoke with them in the plains of Moab by the Jordan at Jericho, saying,
4 "Take a census, from twenty years old and upward, as the LORD commanded Moses and the children of Israel."
These are those who came out of the land of Egypt.
5 Reuben, the firstborn of Israel; the sons of Reuben: of Hanoch, the family of the Hanochites; of Pallu, the family of the Palluites;
6 of Hezron, the family of the Hezronites; of Carmi, the family of the Carmites.
7 These are the families of the Reubenites; and those who were counted of them were forty-three thousand seven hundred thirty.
8 The son of Pallu: Eliab.
9 The sons of Eliab: Nemuel, Dathan, and Abiram. These are that Dathan and Abiram who were called by the congregation, who rebelled against Moses and against Aaron in the company of Korah when they rebelled against the LORD;
10 and the earth opened its mouth, and swallowed them up together with Korah when that company died; at the time the fire devoured two hundred fifty men, and they became a sign.
11 Notwithstanding, the sons of Korah didn't die.
12 The sons of Simeon after their families: of Nemuel, the family of the Nemuelites; of Jamin, the family of the Jaminites; of Jachin, the family of the Jachinites;
13 of Zerah, the family of the Zerahites; of Shaul, the family of the Shaulites.
14 These are the families of the Simeonites, twenty-two thousand two hundred.
15 The sons of Gad after their families: of Zephon, the family of the Zephonites; of Haggi, the family of the Haggites; of Shuni, the family of the Shunites;

16 of Ozni, the family of the Oznites; of
Eri, the family of the Erites;
17 of Arod, the family of the Arodites; of
Areli, the family of the Arelites.
18 These are the families of the sons of
Gad according to those who were counted
of them, forty thousand and five hundred.
19 The sons of Judah: Er and Onan. Er
and Onan died in the land of Canaan.
20 The sons of Judah after their families
were: of Shelah, the family of the
Shelanites; of Perez, the family of the
Perezites; of Zerah, the family of the
Zerahites.
21 The sons of Perez were: of Hezron,
the family of the Hezronites; of Hamul,
the family of the Hamulites.
22 These are the families of Judah
according to those who were counted of
them, seventy-six thousand five hundred.
23 The sons of Issachar after their
families: of Tola, the family of the Tolaites;
of Puvah, the family of the Punites;
24 of Jashub, the family of the Jashubites;
of Shimron, the family of the Shimronites.
25 These are the families of Issachar
according to those who were counted of
them, sixty-four thousand three hundred.
26 The sons of Zebulun after their
families: of Sered, the family of the
Seredites; of Elon, the family of the
Elonites; of Jahleel, the family of the
Jahleelites.
27 These are the families of the
Zebulunites according to those who were
counted of them, sixty thousand five
hundred.
28 The sons of Joseph after their
families: Manasseh and Ephraim.
29 The sons of Manasseh: of Machir, the
family of the Machirites; and Machir
became the father of Gilead; of Gilead, the
family of the Gileadites.
30 These are the sons of Gilead: of Iezer,
the family of the Iezerites; of Helek, the
family of the Helekites;
31 and Asriel, the family of the
Asrielites; and Shechem, the family of the
Shechemites;
32 and Shemida, the family of the
Shemidaites; and Hepher, the family of
the Hepherites.
33 Zelophehad the son of Hepher had no
sons, but daughters: and the names of the
daughters of Zelophehad were Mahlah,
Noah, Hoglah, Milcah, and Tirzah.
34 These are the families of Manasseh.
Those who were counted of them were
fifty-two thousand seven hundred.
35 These are the sons of Ephraim after
their families: of Shuthelah, the family of
the Shuthelahites; of Becher, the family of
the Becherites; of Tahan, the family of the
Tahanites.
36 These are the sons of Shuthelah: of
Eran, the family of the Eranites.
37 These are the families of the sons of
Ephraim according to those who were
counted of them, thirty-two thousand five
hundred. These are the sons of Joseph
after their families.
38 The sons of Benjamin after their
families: of Bela, the family of the
Belaites; of Ashbel, the family of the
Ashbelites; of Ahiram, the family of the
Ahiramites;
39 of Shephupham, the family of the
Shuphamites; of Hupham, the family of
the Huphamites.
40 The sons of Bela were Ard and
Naaman: the family of the Ardites; and of
Naaman, the family of the Naamites.
41 These are the sons of Benjamin after
their families; and those who were
counted of them were forty-five thousand
six hundred.
42 These are the sons of Dan after their
families: of Shuham, the family of the
Shuhamites. These are the families of Dan
after their families.
43 All the families of the Shuhamites,
according to those who were counted of
them, were sixty-four thousand four
hundred.
44 The sons of Asher after their families:
of Imnah, the family of the Imnites; of
Ishvi, the family of the Ishvites; of Beriah,
the family of the Berites.
45 Of the sons of Beriah: of Heber, the
family of the Heberites; of Malchiel, the
family of the Malchielites.
46 The name of the daughter of Asher
was Serah.
47 These are the families of the sons of
Asher according to those who were

counted of them, fifty-three thousand four hundred.
48 The sons of Naphtali after their families: of Jahzeel, the family of the Jahzeelites; of Guni, the family of the Gunites;
49 of Jezer, the family of the Jezerites; of Shillem, the family of the Shillemites.
50 These are the families of Naphtali according to their families; and those who were counted of them were forty-five thousand four hundred.
51 These are those who were counted of the children of Israel, six hundred one thousand seven hundred thirty.
52 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
53 "To these the land shall be divided for an inheritance according to the number of names.
54 To the more you shall give the more inheritance, and to the fewer you shall give the less inheritance. To everyone according to those who were counted of him shall his inheritance be given.
55 Notwithstanding, the land shall be divided by lot. According to the names of the tribes of their fathers they shall inherit.
56 According to the lot shall their inheritance be divided between the more and the fewer."
57 These are those who were counted of the Levites after their families: of Gershon, the family of the Gershonites; of Kohath, the family of the Kohathites; of Merari, the family of the Merarites.
58 These are the families of Levi: the family of the Libnites, the family of the Hebronites, the family of the Mahlites, the family of the Mushites, and the family of the Korahites. Kohath became the father of Amram.
59 The name of Amram's wife was Jochebed, the daughter of Levi, who was born to Levi in Egypt. She bore to Amram Aaron and Moses, and Miriam their sister.
60 To Aaron were born Nadab and Abihu, Eleazar and Ithamar.
61 Nadab and Abihu died when they offered strange fire before the LORD.
62 Those who were counted of them were twenty-three thousand, every male from a month old and upward; for they were not counted among the children of Israel, because there was no inheritance given them among the children of Israel.
63 These are those who were counted by Moses and Eleazar the priest, who counted the children of Israel in the plains of Moab by the Jordan at Jericho.
64 But among these there was not a man of them who were counted by Moses and Aaron the priest, who counted the children of Israel in the wilderness of Sinai.
65 For the LORD had said of them, "They shall surely die in the wilderness." There was not a man left of them, except Caleb the son of Jephunneh, and Joshua the son of Nun.

27

1 Then the daughters of Zelophehad, the son of Hepher, the son of Gilead, the son of Machir, the son of Manasseh, of the families of Manasseh the son of Joseph came near. These are the names of his daughters: Mahlah, Noah, Hoglah, Milcah, and Tirzah.
2 They stood before Moses, before Eleazar the priest, and before the princes and all the congregation, at the door of the Tent of Meeting, saying,
3 "Our father died in the wilderness. He was not among the company of those who gathered themselves together against the LORD in the company of Korah, but he died in his own sin. He had no sons.
4 Why should the name of our father be taken away from among his family, because he had no son? Give to us a possession among the brothers of our father."
5 Moses brought their cause before the LORD.
6 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
7 "The daughters of Zelophehad speak right. You shall surely give them a possession of an inheritance among their father's brothers. You shall cause the inheritance of their father to pass to them.
8 You shall speak to the children of Israel, saying, 'If a man dies, and has no son, then you shall cause his inheritance to pass to his daughter.

9 If he has no daughter, then you shall
give his inheritance to his brothers.
10 If he has no brothers, then you shall
give his inheritance to his father's
brothers.
11 If his father has no brothers, then you
shall give his inheritance to his kinsman
who is next to him of his family, and he
shall possess it. This shall be a statute and
ordinance for the children of Israel, as the
LORD commanded Moses.' "
12 The LORD said to Moses, "Go up into
this mountain of Abarim, and see the land
which I have given to the children of
Israel.
13 When you have seen it, you also shall
be gathered to your people, as Aaron your
brother was gathered;
14 because in the strife of the
congregation, you rebelled against my
word in the wilderness of Zin, to honor
me as holy at the waters before their
eyes." (These are the waters of Meribah of
Kadesh in the wilderness of Zin.)
15 Moses spoke to the LORD, saying,
16 "Let the LORD, the God of the spirits
of all flesh, appoint a man over the
congregation,
17 who may go out before them, and who
may come in before them, and who may
lead them out, and who may bring them
in, that the congregation of the LORD may
not be as sheep which have no shepherd."
18 The LORD said to Moses, "Take Joshua
the son of Nun, a man in whom is the
Spirit, and lay your hand on him.
19 Set him before Eleazar the priest, and
before all the congregation; and
commission him in their sight.
20 You shall give authority to him, that
all the congregation of the children of
Israel may obey.
21 He shall stand before Eleazar the
priest, who shall inquire for him by the
judgment of the Urim before the LORD. At
his word they shall go out, and at his word
they shall come in, both he and all the
children of Israel with him, even all the
congregation."
22 Moses did as the LORD commanded
him. He took Joshua, and set him before
Eleazar the priest and before all the
congregation.
23 He laid his hands on him and
commissioned him, as the LORD spoke by
Moses.

28

1 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
2 "Command the children of Israel, and
tell them, 'See that you present my
offering, my food for my offerings made
by fire, as a pleasant aroma to me, in their
due season.'
3 You shall tell them, 'This is the offering
made by fire which you shall offer to the
LORD: male lambs a year old without
defect, two day by day, for a continual
burnt offering.
4 You shall offer the one lamb in the
morning, and you shall offer the other
lamb at evening,
5 with one tenth of an ephah† of fine
flour for a meal offering, mixed with the
fourth part of a hin‡ of beaten oil.
6 It is a continual burnt offering which
was ordained in Mount Sinai for a
pleasant aroma, an offering made by fire
to the LORD.
7 Its drink offering shall be the fourth
part of a hin§ for each lamb. You shall
pour out a drink offering of strong drink
to the LORD in the holy place.
8 The other lamb you shall offer at
evening. As the meal offering of the
morning, and as its drink offering, you
shall offer it, an offering made by fire, for
a pleasant aroma to the LORD.
9 " 'On the Sabbath day, you shall offer
two male lambs a year old without defect,
and two tenths of an ephah† of fine flour
for a meal offering mixed with oil, and its
drink offering:
10 this is the burnt offering of every
Sabbath, in addition to the continual
burnt offering and its drink offering.
11 " 'In the beginnings of your months,
you shall offer a burnt offering to the

† **28:5** 1 ephah is about 22 liters or about 2/3 of a bushel ‡ **28:5** A hin is about 6.5 liters or 1.7 gallons. § **28:7** One hin is about 6.5 liters, so 1/4 hin is about 1.6 liters or 1.7 quarts. † **28:9** 1 ephah is about 22 liters or about 2/3 of a bushel

LORD: two young bulls, one ram, seven
male lambs a year old without defect,
12 and three tenths of an ephah‡ of fine
flour for a meal offering mixed with oil,
for each bull; and two tenth parts of fine
flour for a meal offering mixed with oil,
for the one ram;
13 and one tenth part of fine flour mixed
with oil for a meal offering to every lamb,
as a burnt offering of a pleasant aroma,
an offering made by fire to the LORD.
14 Their drink offerings shall be half a
hin of wine for a bull, the third part of a
hin for the ram, and the fourth part of a
hin for a lamb. This is the burnt offering
of every month throughout the months of
the year.
15 Also, one male goat for a sin offering
to the LORD shall be offered in addition to
the continual burnt offering and its drink
offering.

16 " 'In the first month, on the fourteenth
day of the month, is the LORD's Passover.
17 On the fifteenth day of this month
shall be a feast. Unleavened bread shall
be eaten for seven days.
18 In the first day shall be a holy
convocation. You shall do no regular
work,
19 but you shall offer an offering made
by fire, a burnt offering to the LORD: two
young bulls, one ram, and seven male
lambs a year old. They shall be without
defect,
20 with their meal offering, fine flour
mixed with oil. You shall offer three
tenths for a bull, and two tenths for the
ram.
21 You shall offer one tenth for every
lamb of the seven lambs;
22 and one male goat for a sin offering,
to make atonement for you.
23 You shall offer these in addition to the
burnt offering of the morning, which is
for a continual burnt offering.
24 In this way you shall offer daily, for
seven days, the food of the offering made
by fire, of a pleasant aroma to the LORD. It
shall be offered in addition to the
continual burnt offering and its drink
offering.
25 On the seventh day you shall have a
holy convocation. You shall do no regular
work.
26 " 'Also in the day of the first fruits,
when you offer a new meal offering to the
LORD in your feast of weeks, you shall
have a holy convocation. You shall do no
regular work;
27 but you shall offer a burnt offering
for a pleasant aroma to the LORD: two
young bulls, one ram, seven male lambs a
year old;
28 and their meal offering, fine flour
mixed with oil, three tenths for each bull,
two tenths for the one ram,
29 one tenth for every lamb of the seven
lambs;
30 and one male goat, to make
atonement for you.
31 Besides the continual burnt offering
and its meal offering, you shall offer them
and their drink offerings. See that they
are without defect.

29

1 " 'In the seventh month, on the first
day of the month, you shall have a holy
convocation; you shall do no regular
work. It is a day of blowing of trumpets to
you.
2 You shall offer a burnt offering for a
pleasant aroma to the LORD: one young
bull, one ram, seven male lambs a year
old without defect;
3 and their meal offering, fine flour
mixed with oil: three tenths for the bull,
two tenths for the ram,
4 and one tenth for every lamb of the
seven lambs;
5 and one male goat for a sin offering, to
make atonement for you;
6 in addition to the burnt offering of the
new moon with its meal offering, and the
continual burnt offering with its meal
offering, and their drink offerings,
according to their ordinance, for a
pleasant aroma, an offering made by fire
to the LORD.

‡ **28:12** 1 ephah is about 22 liters or about 2/3 of a bushel

7 “ ‘On the tenth day of this seventh
month you shall have a holy convocation.
You shall afflict your souls. You shall do
no kind of work;
8 but you shall offer a burnt offering to
the LORD for a pleasant aroma: one
young bull, one ram, seven male lambs a
year old, all without defect;
9 and their meal offering, fine flour
mixed with oil: three tenths for the bull,
two tenths for the one ram,
10 one tenth for every lamb of the seven
lambs;
11 one male goat for a sin offering, in
addition to the sin offering of atonement,
and the continual burnt offering, and its
meal offering, and their drink offerings.
12 “ ‘On the fifteenth day of the seventh
month you shall have a holy convocation.
You shall do no regular work. You shall
keep a feast to the LORD seven days.
13 You shall offer a burnt offering, an
offering made by fire, of a pleasant aroma
to the LORD: thirteen young bulls, two
rams, fourteen male lambs a year old, all
without defect;
14 and their meal offering, fine flour
mixed with oil: three tenths for every bull
of the thirteen bulls, two tenths for each
ram of the two rams,
15 and one tenth for every lamb of the
fourteen lambs;
16 and one male goat for a sin offering,
in addition to the continual burnt
offering, its meal offering, and its drink
offering.
17 “ ‘On the second day you shall offer
twelve young bulls, two rams, and
fourteen male lambs a year old without
defect;
18 and their meal offering and their
drink offerings for the bulls, for the rams,
and for the lambs, according to their
number, after the ordinance;
19 and one male goat for a sin offering,
in addition to the continual burnt
offering, with its meal offering and their
drink offerings.
20 “ ‘On the third day: eleven bulls, two
rams, fourteen male lambs a year old
without defect;
21 and their meal offering and their
drink offerings for the bulls, for the rams,
and for the lambs, according to their
number, after the ordinance;
22 and one male goat for a sin offering,
in addition to the continual burnt
offering, and its meal offering, and its
drink offering.
23 “ ‘On the fourth day ten bulls, two
rams, fourteen male lambs a year old
without defect;
24 their meal offering and their drink
offerings for the bulls, for the rams, and
for the lambs, according to their number,
after the ordinance;
25 and one male goat for a sin offering;
in addition to the continual burnt
offering, its meal offering, and its drink
offering.
26 “ ‘On the fifth day: nine bulls, two
rams, fourteen male lambs a year old
without defect;
27 and their meal offering and their
drink offerings for the bulls, for the rams,
and for the lambs, according to their
number, after the ordinance,
28 and one male goat for a sin offering,
in addition to the continual burnt
offering, and its meal offering, and its
drink offering.
29 “ ‘On the sixth day: eight bulls, two
rams, fourteen male lambs a year old
without defect;
30 and their meal offering and their
drink offerings for the bulls, for the rams,
and for the lambs, according to their
number, after the ordinance,
31 and one male goat for a sin offering;
in addition to the continual burnt
offering, its meal offering, and the drink
offerings of it.
32 “ ‘On the seventh day: seven bulls,
two rams, fourteen male lambs a year old
without defect;
33 and their meal offering and their
drink offerings for the bulls, for the rams,
and for the lambs, according to their
number, after the ordinance,
34 and one male goat for a sin offering;
in addition to the continual burnt

offering, its meal offering, and its drink offering.

35 " 'On the eighth day you shall have a solemn assembly. You shall do no regular work;
36 but you shall offer a burnt offering, an offering made by fire, a pleasant aroma to the LORD: one bull, one ram, seven male lambs a year old without defect;
37 their meal offering and their drink offerings for the bull, for the ram, and for the lambs, shall be according to their number, after the ordinance,
38 and one male goat for a sin offering, in addition to the continual burnt offering, with its meal offering, and its drink offering.

39 " 'You shall offer these to the LORD in your set feasts—in addition to your vows and your free will offerings—for your burnt offerings, your meal offerings, your drink offerings, and your peace offerings.' "

40 Moses told the children of Israel according to all that the LORD commanded Moses.

30

1 Moses spoke to the heads of the tribes of the children of Israel, saying, "This is the thing which the LORD has commanded.
2 When a man vows a vow to the LORD, or swears an oath to bind his soul with a bond, he shall not break his word. He shall do according to all that proceeds out of his mouth.
3 "Also, when a woman vows a vow to the LORD and binds herself by a pledge, being in her father's house, in her youth,
4 and her father hears her vow and her pledge with which she has bound her soul, and her father says nothing to her, then all her vows shall stand, and every pledge with which she has bound her soul shall stand.
5 But if her father forbids her in the day that he hears, none of her vows or of her pledges with which she has bound her soul, shall stand. The LORD will forgive her, because her father has forbidden her.
6 "If she has a husband, while her vows are on her, or the rash utterance of her lips with which she has bound her soul,
7 and her husband hears it, and says nothing to her in the day that he hears it; then her vows shall stand, and her pledges with which she has bound her soul shall stand.
8 But if her husband forbids her in the day that he hears it, then he makes void her vow which is on her and the rash utterance of her lips, with which she has bound her soul. The LORD will forgive her.
9 "But the vow of a widow, or of her who is divorced, everything with which she has bound her soul shall stand against her.
10 "If she vowed in her husband's house or bound her soul by a bond with an oath,
11 and her husband heard it, and held his peace at her and didn't disallow her, then all her vows shall stand, and every pledge with which she bound her soul shall stand.
12 But if her husband made them null and void in the day that he heard them, then whatever proceeded out of her lips concerning her vows, or concerning the bond of her soul, shall not stand. Her husband has made them void. The LORD will forgive her.
13 Every vow, and every binding oath to afflict the soul, her husband may establish it, or her husband may make it void.
14 But if her husband says nothing to her from day to day, then he establishes all her vows or all her pledges which are on her. He has established them, because he said nothing to her in the day that he heard them.
15 But if he makes them null and void after he has heard them, then he shall bear her iniquity."

16 These are the statutes which the LORD commanded Moses, between a man and his wife, between a father and his daughter, being in her youth, in her father's house.

31

1 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying,

2 “Avenge the children of Israel on the
Midianites. Afterward you shall be
gathered to your people.”
3 Moses spoke to the people, saying,
“Arm men from among you for war, that
they may go against Midian, to execute
the LORD’s vengeance on Midian.
4 You shall send one thousand out of
every tribe, throughout all the tribes of
Israel, to the war.”
5 So there were delivered, out of the
thousands of Israel, a thousand from
every tribe, twelve thousand armed for
war.
6 Moses sent them, one thousand of
every tribe, to the war with Phinehas the
son of Eleazar the priest, to the war, with
the vessels of the sanctuary and the
trumpets for the alarm in his hand.
7 They fought against Midian, as the
LORD commanded Moses. They killed
every male.
8 They killed the kings of Midian with
the rest of their slain: Evi, Rekem, Zur,
Hur, and Reba, the five kings of Midian.
They also killed Balaam the son of Beor
with the sword.
9 The children of Israel took the women
of Midian captive with their little ones;
and all their livestock, all their flocks, and
all their goods, they took as plunder.
10 All their cities in the places in which
they lived, and all their encampments,
they burned with fire.
11 They took all the captives, and all the
plunder, both of man and of animal.
12 They brought the captives with the
prey and the plunder, to Moses, and to
Eleazar the priest, and to the congregation
of the children of Israel, to the camp at the
plains of Moab, which are by the Jordan at
Jericho.
13 Moses and Eleazar the priest, with all
the princes of the congregation, went out
to meet them outside of the camp.
14 Moses was angry with the officers of
the army, the captains of thousands and
the captains of hundreds, who came from
the service of the war.
15 Moses said to them, “Have you saved
all the women alive?
16 Behold, these caused the children of
Israel, through the counsel of Balaam, to
commit trespass against the LORD in the
matter of Peor, and so the plague was
among the congregation of the LORD.
17 Now therefore kill every male among
the little ones, and kill every woman who
has known man by lying with him.
18 But all the girls, who have not known
man by lying with him, keep alive for
yourselves.
19 “Encamp outside of the camp for
seven days. Whoever has killed any
person, and whoever has touched any
slain, purify yourselves on the third day
and on the seventh day, you and your
captives.
20 You shall purify every garment, and
all that is made of skin, and all work of
goats’ hair, and all things made of wood.”
21 Eleazar the priest said to the men of
war who went to the battle, “This is the
statute of the law which the LORD has
commanded Moses.
22 However the gold, and the silver, the
bronze, the iron, the tin, and the lead,
23 everything that may withstand the
fire, you shall make to go through the fire,
and it shall be clean; nevertheless it shall
be purified with the water for impurity.
All that doesn’t withstand the fire you
shall make to go through the water.
24 You shall wash your clothes on the
seventh day, and you shall be clean.
Afterward you shall come into the camp.”
25 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
26 “Count the plunder that was taken,
both of man and of animal, you, and
Eleazar the priest, and the heads of the
fathers’ households of the congregation;
27 and divide the plunder into two parts:
between the men skilled in war, who went
out to battle, and all the congregation.
28 Levy a tribute to the LORD of the men
of war who went out to battle: one soul of
five hundred; of the persons, of the cattle,
of the donkeys, and of the flocks.
29 Take it from their half, and give it to
Eleazar the priest, for the LORD’s wave
offering.

30 Of the children of Israel's half, you
shall take one drawn out of every fifty, of
the persons, of the cattle, of the donkeys,
and of the flocks, of all the livestock, and
give them to the Levites, who perform the
duty of the LORD's tabernacle."
31 Moses and Eleazar the priest did as
the LORD commanded Moses.
32 Now the plunder, over and above the
booty which the men of war took, was six
hundred seventy-five thousand sheep,
33 seventy-two thousand head of cattle,
34 sixty-one thousand donkeys,
35 and thirty-two thousand persons in
all, of the women who had not known
man by lying with him.
36 The half, which was the portion of
those who went out to war, was in
number three hundred thirty-seven
thousand five hundred sheep;
37 and the LORD's tribute of the sheep
was six hundred seventy-five.
38 The cattle were thirty-six thousand, of
which the LORD's tribute was
seventy-two.
39 The donkeys were thirty thousand
five hundred, of which the LORD's tribute
was sixty-one.
40 The persons were sixteen thousand,
of whom the LORD's tribute was
thirty-two persons.
41 Moses gave the tribute, which was the
LORD's wave offering, to Eleazar the
priest, as the LORD commanded Moses.
42 Of the children of Israel's half, which
Moses divided off from the men who
fought
43 (now the congregation's half was
three hundred thirty-seven thousand five
hundred sheep,
44 thirty-six thousand head of cattle,
45 thirty thousand five hundred
donkeys,
46 and sixteen thousand persons),
47 even of the children of Israel's half,
Moses took one drawn out of every fifty,
both of man and of animal, and gave them
to the Levites, who performed the duty of
the LORD's tabernacle, as the LORD
commanded Moses.
48 The officers who were over the
thousands of the army, the captains of
thousands, and the captains of hundreds,
came near to Moses.
49 They said to Moses, "Your servants
have taken the sum of the men of war
who are under our command, and there
lacks not one man of us.
50 We have brought the LORD's offering,
what every man found: gold ornaments,
armlets, bracelets, signet rings, earrings,
and necklaces, to make atonement for our
souls before the LORD."
51 Moses and Eleazar the priest took
their gold, even all worked jewels.
52 All the gold of the wave offering that
they offered up to the LORD, of the
captains of thousands, and of the captains
of hundreds, was sixteen thousand seven
hundred fifty shekels.†
53 The men of war had taken booty,
every man for himself.
54 Moses and Eleazar the priest took the
gold of the captains of thousands and of
hundreds, and brought it into the Tent of
Meeting for a memorial for the children
of Israel before the LORD.

32

1 Now the children of Reuben and the
children of Gad had a very great
multitude of livestock. They saw the land
of Jazer, and the land of Gilead. Behold,
the place was a place for livestock.
2 Then the children of Gad and the
children of Reuben came and spoke to
Moses, and to Eleazar the priest, and to
the princes of the congregation, saying,
3 "Ataroth, Dibon, Jazer, Nimrah,
Heshbon, Elealeh, Sebam, Nebo, and
Beon,
4 the land which the LORD struck before
the congregation of Israel, is a land for
livestock; and your servants have
livestock."
5 They said, "If we have found favor in
your sight, let this land be given to your
servants for a possession. Don't bring us
over the Jordan."

† **31:52** A shekel is about 10 grams or about 0.35 ounces, so 16,750 shekels is about 167.5 kilograms or about 368.5 pounds.

6 Moses said to the children of Gad, and
to the children of Reuben, "Shall your
brothers go to war while you sit here?
7 Why do you discourage the heart of
the children of Israel from going over into
the land which the LORD has given them?
8 Your fathers did so when I sent them
from Kadesh Barnea to see the land.
9 For when they went up to the valley of
Eshcol, and saw the land, they
discouraged the heart of the children of
Israel, that they should not go into the
land which the LORD had given them.
10 The LORD's anger burned in that day,
and he swore, saying,
11 'Surely none of the men who came up
out of Egypt, from twenty years old and
upward, shall see the land which I swore
to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob;
because they have not wholly followed
me,
12 except Caleb the son of Jephunneh
the Kenizzite, and Joshua the son of Nun,
because they have followed the LORD
completely.'
13 The LORD's anger burned against
Israel, and he made them wander back
and forth in the wilderness forty years,
until all the generation who had done evil
in the LORD's sight was consumed.

14 "Behold, you have risen up in your
fathers' place, an increase of sinful men,
to increase the fierce anger of the LORD
toward Israel.
15 For if you turn away from after him,
he will yet again leave them in the
wilderness; and you will destroy all these
people."

16 They came near to him, and said, "We
will build sheepfolds here for our
livestock, and cities for our little ones;
17 but we ourselves will be ready armed
to go before the children of Israel, until
we have brought them to their place. Our
little ones shall dwell in the fortified cities
because of the inhabitants of the land.
18 We will not return to our houses until
the children of Israel have all received
their inheritance.
19 For we will not inherit with them on
the other side of the Jordan and beyond,
because our inheritance has come to us
on this side of the Jordan eastward."
20 Moses said to them: "If you will do
this thing, if you will arm yourselves to go
before the LORD to the war,
21 and every one of your armed men
will pass over the Jordan before the LORD
until he has driven out his enemies from
before him,
22 and the land is subdued before the
LORD; then afterward you shall return,
and be clear of obligation to the LORD and
to Israel. Then this land shall be your
possession before the LORD.
23 "But if you will not do so, behold, you
have sinned against the LORD; and be
sure your sin will find you out.
24 Build cities for your little ones, and
folds for your sheep; and do that which
has proceeded out of your mouth."

25 The children of Gad and the children
of Reuben spoke to Moses, saying, "Your
servants will do as my lord commands.
26 Our little ones, our wives, our flocks,
and all our livestock shall be there in the
cities of Gilead;
27 but your servants will pass over,
every man who is armed for war, before
the LORD to battle, as my lord says."

28 So Moses commanded concerning
them to Eleazar the priest, and to Joshua
the son of Nun, and to the heads of the
fathers' households of the tribes of the
children of Israel.
29 Moses said to them, "If the children of
Gad and the children of Reuben will pass
with you over the Jordan, every man who
is armed to battle before the LORD, and
the land is subdued before you, then you
shall give them the land of Gilead for a
possession;
30 but if they will not pass over with you
armed, they shall have possessions
among you in the land of Canaan."

31 The children of Gad and the children
of Reuben answered, saying, "As the LORD
has said to your servants, so will we do.
32 We will pass over armed before the
LORD into the land of Canaan, and the
possession of our inheritance shall
remain with us beyond the Jordan."

33 Moses gave to them, even to the
children of Gad, and to the children of
Reuben, and to the half-tribe of Manasseh
the son of Joseph, the kingdom of Sihon
king of the Amorites, and the kingdom of
Og king of Bashan; the land, according to
its cities and borders, even the cities of the
surrounding land.
34 The children of Gad built Dibon,
Ataroth, Aroer,
35 Atroth-shophan, Jazer, Jogbehah,
36 Beth Nimrah, and Beth Haran:
fortified cities and folds for sheep.
37 The children of Reuben built
Heshbon, Elealeh, Kiriathaim,
38 Nebo, and Baal Meon, (their names
being changed), and Sibmah. They gave
other names to the cities which they built.
39 The children of Machir the son of
Manasseh went to Gilead, took it, and
dispossessed the Amorites who were
therein.
40 Moses gave Gilead to Machir the son
of Manasseh; and he lived therein.
41 Jair the son of Manasseh went and
took its villages, and called them Havvoth
Jair.
42 Nobah went and took Kenath and its
villages, and called it Nobah, after his own
name.

33

1 These are the journeys of the children
of Israel, when they went out of the land
of Egypt by their armies under the hand
of Moses and Aaron.
2 Moses wrote the starting points of
their journeys by the commandment of
the LORD. These are their journeys
according to their starting points.
3 They traveled from Rameses in the
first month, on the fifteenth day of the first
month; on the next day after the Passover,
the children of Israel went out with a high
hand in the sight of all the Egyptians,
4 while the Egyptians were burying all
their firstborn, whom the LORD had
struck among them. The LORD also
executed judgments on their gods.
5 The children of Israel traveled from
Rameses, and encamped in Succoth.
6 They traveled from Succoth, and
encamped in Etham, which is in the edge
of the wilderness.
7 They traveled from Etham, and turned
back to Pihahiroth, which is before Baal
Zephon, and they encamped before
Migdol.
8 They traveled from before Hahiroth,
and crossed through the middle of the sea
into the wilderness. They went three days'
journey in the wilderness of Etham, and
encamped in Marah.
9 They traveled from Marah, and came
to Elim. In Elim, there were twelve
springs of water and seventy palm trees,
and they encamped there.
10 They traveled from Elim, and
encamped by the Red Sea.
11 They traveled from the Red Sea, and
encamped in the wilderness of Sin.
12 They traveled from the wilderness of
Sin, and encamped in Dophkah.
13 They traveled from Dophkah, and
encamped in Alush.
14 They traveled from Alush, and
encamped in Rephidim, where there was
no water for the people to drink.
15 They traveled from Rephidim, and
encamped in the wilderness of Sinai.
16 They traveled from the wilderness of
Sinai, and encamped in Kibroth
Hattaavah.
17 They traveled from Kibroth
Hattaavah, and encamped in Hazeroth.
18 They traveled from Hazeroth, and
encamped in Rithmah.
19 They traveled from Rithmah, and
encamped in Rimmon Perez.
20 They traveled from Rimmon Perez,
and encamped in Libnah.
21 They traveled from Libnah, and
encamped in Rissah.
22 They traveled from Rissah, and
encamped in Kehelathah.
23 They traveled from Kehelathah, and
encamped in Mount Shepher.
24 They traveled from Mount Shepher,
and encamped in Haradah.
25 They traveled from Haradah, and
encamped in Makheloth.

26 They traveled from Makheloth, and
encamped in Tahath.
27 They traveled from Tahath, and
encamped in Terah.
28 They traveled from Terah, and
encamped in Mithkah.
29 They traveled from Mithkah, and
encamped in Hashmonah.
30 They traveled from Hashmonah, and
encamped in Moseroth.
31 They traveled from Moseroth, and
encamped in Bene Jaakan.
32 They traveled from Bene Jaakan, and
encamped in Hor Haggidgad.
33 They traveled from Hor Haggidgad,
and encamped in Jotbathah.
34 They traveled from Jotbathah, and
encamped in Abronah.
35 They traveled from Abronah, and
encamped in Ezion Geber.
36 They traveled from Ezion Geber, and
encamped at Kadesh in the wilderness of
Zin.
37 They traveled from Kadesh, and
encamped in Mount Hor, in the edge of
the land of Edom.
38 Aaron the priest went up into Mount
Hor at the commandment of the LORD
and died there, in the fortieth year after
the children of Israel had come out of the
land of Egypt, in the fifth month, on the
first day of the month.
39 Aaron was one hundred twenty-three
years old when he died in Mount Hor.
40 The Canaanite king of Arad, who lived
in the South in the land of Canaan, heard
of the coming of the children of Israel.
41 They traveled from Mount Hor, and
encamped in Zalmonah.
42 They traveled from Zalmonah, and
encamped in Punon.
43 They traveled from Punon, and
encamped in Oboth.
44 They traveled from Oboth, and
encamped in Iye Abarim, in the border of
Moab.
45 They traveled from Iyim, and
encamped in Dibon Gad.
46 They traveled from Dibon Gad, and
encamped in Almon Diblathaim.
47 They traveled from Almon
Diblathaim, and encamped in the
mountains of Abarim, before Nebo.
48 They traveled from the mountains of
Abarim, and encamped in the plains of
Moab by the Jordan at Jericho.
49 They encamped by the Jordan, from
Beth Jeshimoth even to Abel Shittim in the
plains of Moab.
50 The LORD spoke to Moses in the
plains of Moab by the Jordan at Jericho,
saying,
51 Speak to the children of Israel, and
tell them, “When you pass over the Jordan
into the land of Canaan,
52 then you shall drive out all the
inhabitants of the land from before you,
destroy all their stone idols, destroy all
their molten images, and demolish all
their high places.
53 You shall take possession of the land,
and dwell therein; for I have given the
land to you to possess it.
54 You shall inherit the land by lot
according to your families; to the larger
groups you shall give a larger inheritance,
and to the smaller you shall give a smaller
inheritance. Wherever the lot falls to any
man, that shall be his. You shall inherit
according to the tribes of your fathers.
55 “But if you do not drive out the
inhabitants of the land from before you,
then those you let remain of them will be
like pricks in your eyes and thorns in your
sides. They will harass you in the land in
which you dwell.
56 It shall happen that as I thought to do
to them, so I will do to you.”

34

1 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
2 “Command the children of Israel, and
tell them, ‘When you come into the land of
Canaan (this is the land that shall fall to
you for an inheritance, even the land of
Canaan according to its borders),
3 then your south quarter shall be from
the wilderness of Zin along by the side of
Edom, and your south border shall be
from the end of the Salt Sea eastward.

4 Your border shall turn about
southward of the ascent of Akrabbim, and
pass along to Zin; and it shall pass
southward of Kadesh Barnea; and it shall
go from there to Hazar Addar, and pass
along to Azmon.
5 The border shall turn about from
Azmon to the brook of Egypt, and it shall
end at the sea.
6 " 'For the western border, you shall
have the great sea and its border. This
shall be your west border.
7 " 'This shall be your north border:
from the great sea you shall mark out for
yourselves Mount Hor.
8 From Mount Hor you shall mark out to
the entrance of Hamath; and the border
shall pass by Zedad.
9 Then the border shall go to Ziphron,
and it shall end at Hazar Enan. This shall
be your north border.
10 " 'You shall mark out your east border
from Hazar Enan to Shepham.
11 The border shall go down from
Shepham to Riblah, on the east side of Ain.
The border shall go down, and shall reach
to the side of the sea of Chinnereth
eastward.
12 The border shall go down to the
Jordan, and end at the Salt Sea. This shall
be your land according to its borders
around it.' "
13 Moses commanded the children of
Israel, saying, "This is the land which you
shall inherit by lot, which the LORD has
commanded to give to the nine tribes, and
to the half-tribe;
14 for the tribe of the children of Reuben
according to their fathers' houses, the
tribe of the children of Gad according to
their fathers' houses, and the half-tribe of
Manasseh have received their
inheritance.
15 The two tribes and the half-tribe have
received their inheritance beyond the
Jordan at Jericho eastward, toward the
sunrise."
16 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
17 "These are the names of the men who
shall divide the land to you for
inheritance: Eleazar the priest, and
Joshua the son of Nun.
18 You shall take one prince of every
tribe, to divide the land for inheritance.
19 These are the names of the men: Of
the tribe of Judah, Caleb the son of
Jephunneh.
20 Of the tribe of the children of Simeon,
Shemuel the son of Ammihud.
21 Of the tribe of Benjamin, Elidad the
son of Chislon.
22 Of the tribe of the children of Dan a
prince, Bukki the son of Jogli.
23 Of the children of Joseph: of the tribe
of the children of Manasseh a prince,
Hanniel the son of Ephod.
24 Of the tribe of the children of Ephraim
a prince, Kemuel the son of Shiphtan.
25 Of the tribe of the children of Zebulun
a prince, Elizaphan the son of Parnach.
26 Of the tribe of the children of Issachar
a prince, Paltiel the son of Azzan.
27 Of the tribe of the children of Asher a
prince, Ahihud the son of Shelomi.
28 Of the tribe of the children of Naphtali
a prince, Pedahel the son of Ammihud."
29 These are they whom the LORD
commanded to divide the inheritance to
the children of Israel in the land of
Canaan.

35

1 The LORD spoke to Moses in the plains
of Moab by the Jordan at Jericho, saying,
2 "Command the children of Israel to
give to the Levites cities to dwell in out of
their inheritance. You shall give pasture
lands for the cities around them to the
Levites.
3 They shall have the cities to dwell in.
Their pasture lands shall be for their
livestock, and for their possessions, and
for all their animals.
4 "The pasture lands of the cities, which
you shall give to the Levites, shall be from
the wall of the city and outward one
thousand cubits† around it.
5 You shall measure outside of the city
for the east side two thousand cubits, and
for the south side two thousand cubits,
and for the west side two thousand cubits,

† **35:4** A cubit is the length from the tip of the middle finger to the elbow on a man's arm, or about 18 inches or 46 centimeters.

and for the north side two thousand cubits, the city being in the middle. This shall be the pasture lands of their cities.
6 "The cities which you shall give to the Levites, they shall be the six cities of refuge, which you shall give for the man slayer to flee to. Besides them you shall give forty-two cities.
7 All the cities which you shall give to the Levites shall be forty-eight cities together with their pasture lands.
8 Concerning the cities which you shall give of the possession of the children of Israel, from the many you shall take many, and from the few you shall take few. Everyone according to his inheritance which he inherits shall give some of his cities to the Levites."
9 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
10 "Speak to the children of Israel, and tell them, 'When you pass over the Jordan into the land of Canaan,
11 then you shall appoint for yourselves cities to be cities of refuge for you, that the man slayer who kills any person unwittingly may flee there.
12 The cities shall be for your refuge from the avenger, that the man slayer not die until he stands before the congregation for judgment.
13 The cities which you shall give shall be for you six cities of refuge.
14 You shall give three cities beyond the Jordan, and you shall give three cities in the land of Canaan. They shall be cities of refuge.
15 These six cities shall be refuge for the children of Israel, for the stranger, and for the foreigner living among them, that everyone who kills any person unwittingly may flee there.
16 " 'But if he struck him with an instrument of iron, so that he died, he is a murderer. The murderer shall surely be put to death.
17 If he struck him with a stone in the hand, by which a man may die, and he died, he is a murderer. The murderer shall surely be put to death.
18 Or if he struck him with a weapon of wood in the hand, by which a man may die, and he died, he is a murderer. The murderer shall surely be put to death.
19 The avenger of blood shall himself put the murderer to death. When he meets him, he shall put him to death.
20 If he shoved him out of hatred, or hurled something at him while lying in wait, so that he died,
21 or in hostility struck him with his hand, so that he died, he who struck him shall surely be put to death. He is a murderer. The avenger of blood shall put the murderer to death when he meets him.
22 " 'But if he shoved him suddenly without hostility, or hurled on him anything without lying in wait,
23 or with any stone, by which a man may die, not seeing him, and cast it on him so that he died, and he was not his enemy and not seeking his harm,
24 then the congregation shall judge between the striker and the avenger of blood according to these ordinances.
25 The congregation shall deliver the man slayer out of the hand of the avenger of blood, and the congregation shall restore him to his city of refuge, where he had fled. He shall dwell therein until the death of the high priest, who was anointed with the holy oil.
26 " 'But if the man slayer shall at any time go beyond the border of his city of refuge where he flees,
27 and the avenger of blood finds him outside of the border of his city of refuge, and the avenger of blood kills the man slayer, he shall not be guilty of blood,
28 because he should have remained in his city of refuge until the death of the high priest. But after the death of the high priest, the man slayer shall return into the land of his possession.
29 " 'These things shall be for a statute and ordinance to you throughout your generations in all your dwellings.
30 " 'Whoever kills any person, the murderer shall be slain based on the testimony of witnesses; but one witness shall not testify alone against any person so that he dies.

31 “ ‘Moreover you shall take no ransom
for the life of a murderer who is guilty of
death. He shall surely be put to death.
32 “ ‘You shall take no ransom for him
who has fled to his city of refuge, that he
may come again to dwell in the land
before the death of the priest.
33 “ ‘So you shall not pollute the land
where you live; for blood pollutes the
land. No atonement can be made for the
land for the blood that is shed in it, but by
the blood of him who shed it.
34 You shall not defile the land which
you inhabit, where I dwell; for I, the
LORD, dwell among the children of
Israel.’ ”

36

1 The heads of the fathers’ households of
the family of the children of Gilead, the
son of Machir, the son of Manasseh, of the
families of the sons of Joseph, came near
and spoke before Moses and before the
princes, the heads of the fathers’
households of the children of Israel.
2 They said, “The LORD commanded my
lord to give the land for inheritance by lot
to the children of Israel. My lord was
commanded by the LORD to give the
inheritance of Zelophehad our brother to
his daughters.
3 If they are married to any of the sons
of the other tribes of the children of Israel,
then their inheritance will be taken away
from the inheritance of our fathers, and
will be added to the inheritance of the
tribe to which they shall belong. So it will
be taken away from the lot of our
inheritance.
4 When the jubilee of the children of
Israel comes, then their inheritance will
be added to the inheritance of the tribe to
which they shall belong. So their
inheritance will be taken away from the
inheritance of the tribe of our fathers.”
5 Moses commanded the children of
Israel according to the LORD’s word,
saying, “The tribe of the sons of Joseph
speak what is right.
6 This is the thing which the LORD
commands concerning the daughters of
Zelophehad, saying, ‘Let them be married
to whom they think best, only they shall
marry into the family of the tribe of their
father.
7 So shall no inheritance of the children
of Israel move from tribe to tribe; for the
children of Israel shall all keep the
inheritance of the tribe of his fathers.
8 Every daughter who possesses an
inheritance in any tribe of the children of
Israel shall be wife to one of the family of
the tribe of her father, that the children of
Israel may each possess the inheritance of
his fathers.
9 So shall no inheritance move from one
tribe to another tribe; for the tribes of the
children of Israel shall each keep his own
inheritance.’ ”
10 The daughters of Zelophehad did as
the LORD commanded Moses:
11 for Mahlah, Tirzah, Hoglah, Milcah,
and Noah, the daughters of Zelophehad,
were married to their father’s brothers’
sons.
12 They were married into the families
of the sons of Manasseh the son of Joseph.
Their inheritance remained in the tribe of
the family of their father.
13 These are the commandments and the
ordinances which the LORD commanded
by Moses to the children of Israel in the
plains of Moab by the Jordan at Jericho.

The Fifth Book of Moses, Commonly Called Deuteronomy

1 These are the words which Moses
spoke to all Israel beyond the Jordan in
the wilderness, in the Arabah opposite
Suf, between Paran, Tophel, Laban,
Hazeroth, and Dizahab.
2 It is eleven days' journey from Horeb
by the way of Mount Seir to Kadesh
Barnea.
3 In the fortieth year, in the eleventh
month, on the first day of the month,
Moses spoke to the children of Israel
according to all that the LORD† had given
him in commandment to them,
4 after he had struck Sihon the king of
the Amorites who lived in Heshbon, and
Og the king of Bashan who lived in
Ashtaroth, at Edrei.
5 Beyond the Jordan, in the land of
Moab, Moses began to declare this law,
saying,
6 "The LORD our God‡ spoke to us in
Horeb, saying, 'You have lived long
enough at this mountain.
7 Turn, and take your journey, and go to
the hill country of the Amorites and to all
the places near there: in the Arabah, in
the hill country, in the lowland, in the
South, by the seashore, in the land of the
Canaanites, and in Lebanon as far as the
great river, the river Euphrates.
8 Behold,§ I have set the land before
you. Go in and possess the land which the
LORD swore to your fathers—to Abraham,
to Isaac, and to Jacob—to give to them and
to their offspring† after them.' "
9 I spoke to you at that time, saying, "I
am not able to bear you myself alone.
10 The LORD your God has multiplied
you, and behold, you are today as the
stars of the sky for multitude.
11 May the LORD, the God of your
fathers, make you a thousand times as
many as you are and bless you, as he has
promised you!
12 How can I myself alone bear your
problems, your burdens, and your strife?
13 Take wise men of understanding who
are respected among your tribes, and I
will make them heads over you."
14 You answered me, and said, "The
thing which you have spoken is good to
do."
15 So I took the heads of your tribes,
wise and respected men, and made them
heads over you, captains of thousands,
captains of hundreds, captains of fifties,
captains of tens, and officers, according to
your tribes.
16 I commanded your judges at that
time, saying, "Hear cases between your
brothers and judge righteously between a
man and his brother, and the foreigner
who is living with him.
17 You shall not show partiality in
judgment; you shall hear the small and
the great alike. You shall not be afraid of
the face of man, for the judgment is God's.
The case that is too hard for you, you shall
bring to me, and I will hear it."
18 I commanded you at that time all the
things which you should do.
19 We traveled from Horeb and went
through all that great and terrible
wilderness which you saw, by the way to
the hill country of the Amorites, as the
LORD our God commanded us; and we
came to Kadesh Barnea.
20 I said to you, "You have come to the
hill country of the Amorites, which the
LORD our God gives to us.
21 Behold, the LORD your God has set
the land before you. Go up, take
possession, as the LORD the God of your
fathers has spoken to you. Don't be afraid,
neither be dismayed."
22 You came near to me, everyone of
you, and said, "Let's send men before us,

† **1:3** When rendered in ALL CAPITAL LETTERS, "LORD" or "GOD" is the translation of God's Proper Name (Hebrew "יהוה", usually pronounced Yahweh). ‡ **1:6** The Hebrew word rendered "God" is "אֱלֹהִים" (Elohim). § **1:8** "Behold", from "הִנֵּה", means look at, take notice, observe, see, or gaze at. It is often used as an interjection. † **1:8** or, seed

that they may search the land for us, and bring back to us word of the way by which we must go up, and the cities to which we shall come."

23 The thing pleased me well. I took twelve of your men, one man for every tribe.
24 They turned and went up into the hill country, and came to the valley of Eshcol, and spied it out.
25 They took some of the fruit of the land in their hands and brought it down to us, and brought us word again, and said, "It is a good land which the LORD our God gives to us."

26 Yet you wouldn't go up, but rebelled against the commandment of the LORD your God.
27 You murmured in your tents, and said, "Because the LORD hated us, he has brought us out of the land of Egypt, to deliver us into the hand of the Amorites to destroy us.
28 Where are we going up? Our brothers have made our heart melt, saying, 'The people are greater and taller than we. The cities are great and fortified up to the sky. Moreover we have seen the sons of the Anakim there!' "

29 Then I said to you, "Don't be terrified. Don't be afraid of them.
30 The LORD your God, who goes before you, he will fight for you, according to all that he did for you in Egypt before your eyes,
31 and in the wilderness where you have seen how that the LORD your God carried you, as a man carries his son, in all the way that you went, until you came to this place."

32 Yet in this thing you didn't believe the LORD your God,
33 who went before you on the way, to seek out a place for you to pitch your tents in: in fire by night, to show you by what way you should go, and in the cloud by day.
34 The LORD heard the voice of your words and was angry, and swore, saying,
35 "Surely not one of these men of this evil generation shall see the good land which I swore to give to your fathers,
36 except Caleb the son of Jephunneh. He shall see it. I will give the land that he has trodden on to him and to his children, because he has wholly followed the LORD."
37 Also the LORD was angry with me for your sakes, saying, "You also shall not go in there.
38 Joshua the son of Nun, who stands before you, shall go in there. Encourage him, for he shall cause Israel to inherit it.
39 Moreover your little ones, whom you said would be captured or killed, your children, who today have no knowledge of good or evil, shall go in there. I will give it to them, and they shall possess it.
40 But as for you, turn, and take your journey into the wilderness by the way to the Red Sea."
41 Then you answered and said to me, "We have sinned against the LORD. We will go up and fight, according to all that the LORD our God commanded us." Every man of you put on his weapons of war, and presumed to go up into the hill country.
42 The LORD said to me, "Tell them, 'Don't go up and don't fight; for I am not among you, lest you be struck before your enemies.' "
43 So I spoke to you, and you didn't listen; but you rebelled against the commandment of the LORD, and were presumptuous, and went up into the hill country.
44 The Amorites, who lived in that hill country, came out against you and chased you as bees do, and beat you down in Seir, even to Hormah.
45 You returned and wept before the LORD, but the LORD didn't listen to your voice, nor turn his ear to you.
46 So you stayed in Kadesh many days, according to the days that you remained.

2

1 Then we turned, and took our journey into the wilderness by the way to the Red

Sea, as the LORD spoke to me; and we
encircled Mount Seir many days.
2 The LORD spoke to me, saying,
3 "You have encircled this mountain
long enough. Turn northward.
4 Command the people, saying, 'You are
to pass through the border of your
brothers, the children of Esau, who dwell
in Seir; and they will be afraid of you.
Therefore be careful.
5 Don't contend with them; for I will not
give you any of their land, no, not so much
as for the sole of the foot to tread on,
because I have given Mount Seir to Esau
for a possession.
6 You shall purchase food from them for
money, that you may eat. You shall also
buy water from them for money, that you
may drink.' "
7 For the LORD your God has blessed
you in all the work of your hands. He has
known your walking through this great
wilderness. These forty years, the LORD
your God has been with you. You have
lacked nothing.
8 So we passed by from our brothers, the
children of Esau, who dwell in Seir, from
the way of the Arabah from Elath and
from Ezion Geber. We turned and passed
by the way of the wilderness of Moab.
9 The LORD said to me, "Don't bother
Moab, neither contend with them in
battle; for I will not give you any of his
land for a possession, because I have
given Ar to the children of Lot for a
possession."
10 (The Emim lived there before, a great
and numerous people, and tall as the
Anakim.
11 These also are considered to be
Rephaim, as the Anakim; but the Moabites
call them Emim.
12 The Horites also lived in Seir in the
past, but the children of Esau succeeded
them. They destroyed them from before
them, and lived in their place, as Israel did
to the land of his possession, which the
LORD gave to them.)
13 "Now rise up and cross over the brook
Zered." We went over the brook Zered.
14 The days in which we came from
Kadesh Barnea until we had come over
the brook Zered were thirty-eight years,
until all the generation of the men of war
were consumed from the middle of the
camp, as the LORD swore to them.
15 Moreover the LORD's hand was
against them, to destroy them from the
middle of the camp, until they were
consumed.
16 So, when all the men of war were
consumed and dead from among the
people,
17 the LORD spoke to me, saying,
18 "You are to pass over Ar, the border of
Moab, today.
19 When you come near the border of
the children of Ammon, don't bother
them, nor contend with them; for I will
not give you any of the land of the
children of Ammon for a possession,
because I have given it to the children of
Lot for a possession."
20 (That also is considered a land of
Rephaim. Rephaim lived there in the past,
but the Ammonites call them
Zamzummim,
21 a great people, many, and tall, as the
Anakim; but the LORD destroyed them
from before Israel, and they succeeded
them, and lived in their place,
22 as he did for the children of Esau who
dwell in Seir, when he destroyed the
Horites from before them; and they
succeeded them, and lived in their place
even to this day.
23 Then the Avvim, who lived in villages
as far as Gaza: the Caphtorim, who came
out of Caphtor, destroyed them and lived
in their place.)
24 "Rise up, take your journey, and pass
over the valley of the Arnon. Behold, I
have given into your hand Sihon the
Amorite, king of Heshbon, and his land;
begin to possess it, and contend with him
in battle.
25 Today I will begin to put the dread of
you and the fear of you on the peoples
who are under the whole sky, who shall
hear the report of you, and shall tremble
and be in anguish because of you."
26 I sent messengers out of the
wilderness of Kedemoth to Sihon king of
Heshbon with words of peace, saying,

27 “Let me pass through your land. I will
go along by the highway. I will turn
neither to the right hand nor to the left.
28 You shall sell me food for money, that
I may eat; and give me water for money,
that I may drink. Just let me pass through
on my feet,
29 as the children of Esau who dwell in
Seir, and the Moabites who dwell in Ar,
did to me, until I pass over the Jordan into
the land which the LORD our God gives
us.”
30 But Sihon king of Heshbon would not
let us pass by him, for the LORD your God
hardened his spirit and made his heart
obstinate, that he might deliver him into
your hand, as it is today.
31 The LORD said to me, “Behold, I have
begun to deliver up Sihon and his land
before you. Begin to possess, that you may
inherit his land.”
32 Then Sihon came out against us, he
and all his people, to battle at Jahaz.
33 The LORD our God delivered him up
before us; and we struck him, his sons,
and all his people.
34 We took all his cities at that time, and
utterly destroyed every inhabited city,
with the women and the little ones. We
left no one remaining.
35 Only the livestock we took for
plunder for ourselves, with the plunder of
the cities which we had taken.
36 From Aroer, which is on the edge of
the valley of the Arnon, and the city that is
in the valley, even to Gilead, there was not
a city too high for us. The LORD our God
delivered up all before us.
37 Only to the land of the children of
Ammon you didn’t come near: all the
banks of the river Jabbok, and the cities of
the hill country, and wherever the LORD
our God forbade us.

3

1 Then we turned, and went up the way
to Bashan. Og the king of Bashan came
out against us, he and all his people, to
battle at Edrei.
2 The LORD said to me, “Don’t fear him;
for I have delivered him, with all his
people and his land, into your hand. You
shall do to him as you did to Sihon king of
the Amorites, who lived at Heshbon.”
3 So the LORD our God also delivered
into our hand Og, the king of Bashan, and
all his people. We struck him until no one
was left to him remaining.
4 We took all his cities at that time.
There was not a city which we didn’t take
from them: sixty cities, all the region of
Argob, the kingdom of Og in Bashan.
5 All these were cities fortified with high
walls, gates, and bars, in addition to a
great many villages without walls.
6 We utterly destroyed them, as we did
to Sihon king of Heshbon, utterly
destroying every inhabited city, with the
women and the little ones.
7 But all the livestock, and the plunder
of the cities, we took for plunder for
ourselves.
8 We took the land at that time 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 (The Sidonians call Hermon Sirion,
and the Amorites call it Senir.)
10 We took all the cities of the plain, and
all Gilead, and all Bashan, to Salecah and
Edrei, cities of the kingdom of Og in
Bashan.
11 (For only Og king of Bashan remained
of the remnant of the Rephaim. Behold,
his bedstead was a bedstead of iron. Isn’t
it in Rabbah of the children of Ammon?
Nine cubits† was its length, and four
cubits its width, after the cubit of a man.)
12 This land we took in possession at
that time: from Aroer, which is by the
valley of the Arnon, and half the hill
country of Gilead with its cities, I gave to
the Reubenites and to the Gadites;
13 and the rest of Gilead, and all Bashan,
the kingdom of Og, I gave to the half-tribe
of Manasseh—all the region of Argob,
even all Bashan. (The same is called the
land of Rephaim.
14 Jair the son of Manasseh took all the
region of Argob, to the border of the

† **3:11** A cubit is the length from the tip of the middle finger to the elbow on a man’s arm, or about 18 inches or 46 centimeters.

Geshurites and the Maacathites, and called them, even Bashan, after his own name, Havvoth Jair, to this day.)
15 I gave Gilead to Machir.
16 To the Reubenites and to the Gadites I gave from Gilead even to the valley of the Arnon, the middle of the valley, and its border, even to the river Jabbok, which is the border of the children of Ammon;
17 the Arabah also, and the Jordan and its border, from Chinnereth even to the sea of the Arabah, the Salt Sea, under the slopes of Pisgah eastward.
18 I commanded you at that time, saying, "The LORD your God has given you this land to possess it. All of you men of valor shall pass over armed before your brothers, the children of Israel.
19 But your wives, and your little ones, and your livestock, (I know that you have much livestock), shall live in your cities which I have given you,
20 until the LORD gives rest to your brothers, as to you, and they also possess the land which the LORD your God gives them beyond the Jordan. Then you shall each return to his own possession, which I have given you."
21 I commanded Joshua at that time, saying, "Your eyes have seen all that the LORD your God has done to these two kings. So shall the LORD do to all the kingdoms where you go over.
22 You shall not fear them; for the LORD your God himself fights for you."
23 I begged GOD at that time, saying,
24 "Lord‡ GOD, 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 works like yours, and mighty acts like yours?
25 Please let me go over and see the good land that is beyond the Jordan, that fine mountain, and Lebanon."
26 But the LORD was angry with me because of you, and didn't listen to me. The LORD said to me, "That is enough! Speak no more to me of this matter.
27 Go up to the top of Pisgah, and lift up your eyes westward, and northward, and southward, and eastward, and see with your eyes; for you shall not go over this Jordan.
28 But commission Joshua, and encourage him, and strengthen him; for he shall go over before this people, and he shall cause them to inherit the land which you shall see."
29 So we stayed in the valley near Beth Peor.

4

1 Now, Israel, listen to the statutes and to the ordinances which I teach you, to do them, that you may live and go in and possess the land which the LORD, the God of your fathers, gives you.
2 You shall not add to the word which I command you, neither shall you take away from it, that you may keep the commandments of the LORD your God which I command you.
3 Your eyes have seen what the LORD did because of Baal Peor; for the LORD your God has destroyed all the men who followed Baal Peor from among you.
4 But you who were faithful to the LORD your God are all alive today.
5 Behold, I have taught you statutes and ordinances, even as the LORD my God commanded me, that you should do so in the middle of the land where you go in to possess it.
6 Keep therefore and do them; for this is your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the peoples who shall hear all these statutes and say, "Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people."
7 For what great nation is there that has a god so near to them as the LORD our God is whenever we call on him?
8 What great nation is there that has statutes and ordinances so righteous as all this law which I set before you today?
9 Only be careful, and keep your soul diligently, lest you forget the things which your eyes saw, and lest they depart from your heart all the days of your life; but

‡ **3:24** The word translated "Lord" is "Adonai."

make them known to your children and your children's children—
10 the day that you stood before the LORD your God in Horeb, when the LORD said to me, "Assemble the people to me, and I will make them hear my words, that they may learn to fear me all the days that they live on the earth, and that they may teach their children."
11 You came near and stood under the mountain. The mountain burned with fire to the heart of the sky, with darkness, cloud, and thick darkness.
12 The LORD spoke to you out of the middle of the fire: you heard the voice of words, but you saw no form; you only heard a voice.
13 He declared to you his covenant, which he commanded you to perform, even the ten commandments. He wrote them on two stone tablets.
14 The LORD commanded me at that time to teach you statutes and ordinances, that you might do them in the land where you go over to possess it.
15 Be very careful, for you saw no kind of form on the day that the LORD spoke to you in Horeb out of the middle of the fire,
16 lest you corrupt yourselves, and make yourself a carved image in the form of any figure, the likeness of male or female,
17 the likeness of any animal that is on the earth, the likeness of any winged bird that flies in the sky,
18 the likeness of anything that creeps on the ground, the likeness of any fish that is in the water under the earth;
19 and lest you lift up your eyes to the sky, and when you see the sun and the moon and the stars, even all the army of the sky, you are drawn away and worship them, and serve them, which the LORD your God has allotted to all the peoples under the whole sky.
20 But the LORD has taken you, and brought you out of the iron furnace, out of Egypt, to be to him a people of inheritance, as it is today.
21 Furthermore the LORD was angry with me for your sakes, and swore that I should not go over the Jordan, and that I should not go in to that good land which the LORD your God gives you for an inheritance;
22 but I must die in this land. I must not go over the Jordan, but you shall go over and possess that good land.
23 Be careful, lest you forget the covenant of the LORD your God, which he made with you, and make yourselves a carved image in the form of anything which the LORD your God has forbidden you.
24 For the LORD your God is a devouring fire, a jealous God.
25 When you father children and children's children, and you have been long in the land, and then corrupt yourselves, and make a carved image in the form of anything, and do that which is evil in the LORD your God's sight to provoke him to anger,
26 I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that you will soon utterly perish from off the land which you go over the Jordan to possess it. You will not prolong your days on it, but will utterly be destroyed.
27 The LORD will scatter you among the peoples, and you will be left few in number among the nations where the LORD will lead you away.
28 There you will serve gods, the work of men's hands, wood and stone, which neither see, nor hear, nor eat, nor smell.
29 But from there you shall seek the LORD your God, and you will find him when you search after him with all your heart and with all your soul.
30 When you are in oppression, and all these things have come on you, in the latter days you shall return to the LORD your God and listen to his voice.
31 For the LORD your God is a merciful God. He will not fail you nor destroy you, nor forget the covenant of your fathers which he swore to them.
32 For ask now of the days that are past, which were before you, since the day that God created man on the earth, and from the one end of the sky to the other, whether there has been anything as great as this thing is, or has been heard like it?

33 Did a people ever hear the voice of
God speaking out of the middle of the fire,
as you have heard, and live?
34 Or has God tried to go and take a
nation for himself from among another
nation, by trials, by signs, by wonders, by
war, by a mighty hand, by an outstretched
arm, and by great terrors, according to all
that the LORD your God did for you in
Egypt before your eyes?
35 It was shown to you so that you might
know that the LORD is God. There is no
one else besides him.
36 Out of heaven he made you to hear
his voice, that he might instruct you. On
earth he made you to see his great fire;
and you heard his words out of the middle
of the fire.
37 Because he loved your fathers,
therefore he chose their offspring after
them, and brought you out with his
presence, with his great power, out of
Egypt;
38 to drive out nations from before you
greater and mightier than you, to bring
you in, to give you their land for an
inheritance, as it is today.
39 Know therefore today, and take it to
heart, that the LORD himself is God in
heaven above and on the earth beneath.
There is no one else.
40 You shall keep his statutes and his
commandments which 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 which
the LORD your God gives you for all time.
41 Then Moses set apart three cities
beyond the Jordan toward the sunrise,
42 that the man slayer might flee there,
who kills his neighbor unintentionally
and didn't hate him in time past, and that
fleeing to one of these cities he might live:
43 Bezer in the wilderness, in the plain
country, for the Reubenites; and Ramoth
in Gilead for the Gadites; and Golan in
Bashan for the Manassites.
44 This is the law which Moses set before
the children of Israel.
45 These are the testimonies, and the
statutes, and the ordinances which Moses
spoke to the children of Israel when they
came out of Egypt,
46 beyond the Jordan, in the valley
opposite Beth Peor, in the land of Sihon
king of the Amorites, who lived at
Heshbon, whom Moses and the children
of Israel struck when they came out of
Egypt.
47 They took possession of his land and
the land of Og king of Bashan, the two
kings of the Amorites, who were beyond
the Jordan toward the sunrise;
48 from Aroer, which is on the edge of
the valley of the Arnon, even to Mount
Siyon (also called Hermon),
49 and all the Arabah beyond the Jordan
eastward, even to the sea of the Arabah,
under the slopes of Pisgah.

5

1 Moses called to all Israel, and said to
them, "Hear, Israel, the statutes and the
ordinances which I speak in your ears
today, that you may learn them, and
observe to do them."
2 The LORD our God made a covenant
with us in Horeb.
3 The LORD didn't make this covenant
with our fathers, but with us, even us,
who are all of us here alive today.
4 The LORD spoke with you face to face
on the mountain out of the middle of the
fire,
5 (I stood between the LORD and you at
that time, to show you the LORD's word;
for you were afraid because of the fire,
and didn't go up onto the mountain)
saying,
6 "I am the LORD your God, who brought
you out of the land of Egypt, out of the
house of bondage.
7 "You shall have no other gods before
me.
8 "You shall not make a carved image for
yourself—any likeness of what is in
heaven above, or what is on the earth
beneath, or that is in the water under the
earth.
9 You shall not bow yourself down to
them, nor serve them, for I, the LORD
your God, am a jealous God, visiting the
iniquity of the fathers on the children and

on the third and on the fourth generation of those who hate me
10 and showing loving kindness to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments.
11 "You shall not misuse the name of the LORD† your God;‡ for the LORD will not hold him guiltless who misuses his name.
12 "Observe the Sabbath day, to keep it holy, as the LORD your God commanded you.
13 You shall labor six days, and do all your work;
14 but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God, in which you shall not do any work—neither 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 livestock, nor your stranger who is within your gates; that your male servant and your female servant may rest as well as you.
15 You shall remember that you were a servant in the land of Egypt, and the LORD your God brought you out of there by a mighty hand and by an outstretched arm. Therefore the LORD your God commanded you to keep the Sabbath day.
16 "Honor your father and your mother, as the LORD your God commanded you, that your days may be long and that it may go well with you in the land which the LORD your God gives you.
17 "You shall not murder.
18 "You shall not commit adultery.
19 "You shall not steal.
20 "You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.
21 "You shall not covet your neighbor's wife. Neither shall you desire your neighbor's house, his field, or his male servant, or his female servant, his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is your neighbor's."
22 The LORD spoke these words to all your assembly on the mountain out of the middle of the fire, of the cloud, and of the thick darkness, with a great voice. He added no more. He wrote them on two stone tablets, and gave them to me.
23 When you heard the voice out of the middle of the darkness, while the mountain was burning with fire, you came near to me, even all the heads of your tribes, and your elders;
24 and you said, "Behold, the LORD 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 God does speak with man, and he lives.
25 Now therefore, why should we die? For this great fire will consume us. If we hear the LORD our God's voice any more, then we shall die.
26 For who is there of all flesh who has heard the voice of the living God speaking out of the middle of the fire, as we have, and lived?
27 Go near, and hear all that the LORD our God shall say, and tell us all that the LORD our God tells you; and we will hear it, and do it."
28 The LORD heard the voice of your words when you spoke to me; and the LORD said to me, "I have heard the voice of the words of this people which they have spoken to you. They have well said all that they have spoken.
29 Oh that there were such a heart in them that they would fear me and keep all my commandments always, that it might be well with them and with their children forever!
30 "Go tell them, 'Return to your tents.'
31 But as for you, stand here by me, and I will tell you all the commandments, and the statutes, and the ordinances, which you shall teach them, that they may do them in the land which I give them to possess."
32 You shall observe to do therefore as the LORD your God has commanded you. You shall not turn away to the right hand or to the left.
33 You shall walk in all the way which the LORD your God has commanded you, that you may live and that it may be well

† **5:11** LORD or GOD in all caps is from the Hebrew יהוה Yahweh except when otherwise noted as being from the short form יה Yah. ‡ **5:11** or, You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain;

with you, and that you may prolong your days in the land which you shall possess.

6

1 Now these are the commandments, the statutes, and the ordinances, which the LORD your God commanded to teach you, that you might do them in the land that you go over to possess;
2 that you might fear the LORD your God, to keep all his statutes and his commandments, which I command you—you, your son, and your son's son, all the days of your life; and that your days may be prolonged.
3 Hear therefore, Israel, and observe to do it, that it may be well with you, and that you may increase mightily, as the LORD, the God of your fathers, has promised to you, in a land flowing with milk and honey.
4 Hear, Israel: The LORD is our God. The LORD is one.
5 You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your might.
6 These words, which I command you today, shall be on your heart;
7 and you shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise up.
8 You shall bind them for a sign on your hand, and they shall be for frontlets between your eyes.
9 You shall write them on the door posts of your house and on your gates.
10 It shall be, when the LORD your God brings you into the land which he swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give you, great and goodly cities which you didn't build,
11 and houses full of all good things which you didn't fill, and cisterns dug out which you didn't dig, vineyards and olive trees which you didn't plant, and you shall eat and be full;
12 then beware lest you forget the LORD, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.
13 You shall fear the LORD your God; and you shall serve him, and shall swear by his name.
14 You shall not go after other gods, of the gods of the peoples who are around you,
15 for the LORD your God among you is a jealous God, lest the anger of the LORD your God be kindled against you, and he destroy you from off the face of the earth.
16 You shall not tempt the LORD your God, as you tempted him in Massah.
17 You shall diligently keep the commandments of the LORD your God, and his testimonies, and his statutes, which he has commanded you.
18 You shall do that which is right and good in the LORD's sight, that it may be well with you and that you may go in and possess the good land which the LORD swore to your fathers,
19 to thrust out all your enemies from before you, as the LORD has spoken.
20 When your son asks you in time to come, saying, "What do the testimonies, the statutes, and the ordinances, which the LORD our God has commanded you mean?"
21 then you shall tell your son, "We were Pharaoh's slaves in Egypt. The LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand;
22 and the LORD showed great and awesome signs and wonders on Egypt, on Pharaoh, and on all his house, before our eyes;
23 and he brought us out from there, that he might bring us in, to give us the land which he swore to our fathers.
24 The LORD commanded us to do all these statutes, to fear the LORD our God, for our good always, that he might preserve us alive, as we are today.
25 It shall be righteousness to us, if we observe to do all these commandments before the LORD our God, as he has commanded us."

7

1 When the LORD your God brings you into the land where you go to possess it, and casts out many nations before

you—the Hittite, the Girgashite, the Amorite, the Canaanite, the Perizzite, the Hivite, and the Jebusite—seven nations greater and mightier than you;
2 and when the LORD your God delivers them up before you, and you strike them, then you shall utterly destroy them. You shall make no covenant with them, nor show mercy to them.
3 You shall not make marriages with them. You shall not give your daughter to his son, nor shall you take his daughter for your son.
4 For that would turn away your sons from following me, that they may serve other gods. So the LORD's anger would be kindled against you, and he would destroy you quickly.
5 But you shall deal with them like this: you shall break down their altars, dash their pillars in pieces, cut down their Asherah poles, and burn their engraved images with fire.
6 For you are a holy people to the LORD your God. The LORD your God has chosen you to be a people for his own possession, above all peoples who are on the face of the earth.
7 The LORD didn't set his love on you nor choose you, because you were more in number than any people; for you were the fewest of all peoples;
8 but because the LORD loves you, and because he desires to keep the oath which he swore to your fathers, the LORD 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.
9 Know therefore that the LORD your God himself is God, the faithful God, who keeps covenant and loving kindness to a thousand generations with those who love him and keep his commandments,
10 and repays those who hate him to their face, to destroy them. He will not be slack to him who hates him. He will repay him to his face.
11 You shall therefore keep the commandments, the statutes, and the ordinances which I command you today, to do them.
12 It shall happen, because you listen to these ordinances and keep and do them, that the LORD your God will keep with you the covenant and the loving kindness which he swore to your fathers.
13 He 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 and your new wine and your oil, the increase of your livestock and the young of your flock, in the land which he swore to your fathers to give you.
14 You will be blessed above all peoples. There won't be male or female barren among you, or among your livestock.
15 The LORD will take away from you all sickness; and he will put none of the evil diseases of Egypt, which you know, on you, but will lay them on all those who hate you.
16 You shall consume all the peoples whom the LORD your God shall deliver to you. Your eye shall not pity them. You shall not serve their gods; for that would be a snare to you.
17 If you shall say in your heart, "These nations are more than I; how can I dispossess them?"
18 you shall not be afraid of them. You shall remember well what the LORD your God did to Pharaoh and to all Egypt:
19 the great trials which your eyes saw, the signs, the wonders, the mighty hand, and the outstretched arm, by which the LORD your God brought you out. So shall the LORD your God do to all the peoples of whom you are afraid.
20 Moreover the LORD your God will send the hornet among them, until those who are left, and hide themselves, perish from before you.
21 You shall not be scared of them; for the LORD your God is among you, a great and awesome God.
22 The LORD your God will cast out those nations before you little by little. You may not consume them at once, lest the animals of the field increase on you.
23 But the LORD your God will deliver them up before you, and will confuse

them with a great confusion, until they are destroyed.
24 He will deliver their kings into your hand, and you shall make their name perish from under the sky. No one will be able to stand before you until you have destroyed them.
25 You shall burn the engraved images of their gods with fire. You shall not covet the silver or the gold that is on them, nor take it for yourself, lest you be snared in it; for it is an abomination to the LORD your God.
26 You shall not bring an abomination into your house and become a devoted thing like it. You shall utterly detest it. You shall utterly abhor it; for it is a devoted thing.

8

1 You shall observe to do all the commandments which I command you today, that you may live, and multiply, and go in and possess the land which the LORD swore to your fathers.
2 You shall remember all the way which the LORD your God has led you these forty years in the wilderness, that he might humble you, to test you, to know what was in your heart, whether you would keep his commandments or not.
3 He humbled you, allowed you to be hungry, and fed you with manna, which you didn't know, neither did your fathers know, that he might teach you that man does not live by bread only, but man lives by every word that proceeds out of the LORD's mouth.
4 Your clothing didn't grow old on you, neither did your foot swell, these forty years.
5 You shall consider in your heart that as a man disciplines his son, so the LORD your God disciplines you.
6 You shall keep the commandments of the LORD your God, to walk in his ways, and to fear him.
7 For the LORD your God brings you into a good land, a land of brooks of water, of springs, and underground water flowing into valleys and hills;
8 a land of wheat, barley, vines, fig trees, and pomegranates; a land of olive trees and honey;
9 a land in which you shall eat bread without scarcity, you shall not lack anything in it; a land whose stones are iron, and out of whose hills you may dig copper.
10 You shall eat and be full, and you shall bless the LORD your God for the good land which he has given you.
11 Beware lest you forget the LORD your God, in not keeping his commandments, his ordinances, and his statutes, which I command you today;
12 lest, when you have eaten and are full, and have built fine houses and lived in them;
13 and when your herds and your flocks multiply, and your silver and your gold is multiplied, and all that you have is multiplied;
14 then your heart might be lifted up, and you forget the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage;
15 who led you through the great and terrible wilderness, with venomous snakes and scorpions, and thirsty ground where there was no water; who poured water for you out of the rock of flint;
16 who fed you in the wilderness with manna, which your fathers didn't know, that he might humble you, and that he might prove you, to do you good at your latter end;
17 and lest you say in your heart, "My power and the might of my hand has gotten me this wealth."
18 But you shall remember the LORD your God, for it is he who gives you power to get wealth, that he may establish his covenant which he swore to your fathers, as it is today.
19 It shall be, if you shall forget the LORD your God, and walk after other gods, and serve them and worship them, I testify against you today that you shall surely perish.
20 As the nations that the LORD makes to perish before you, so you shall perish,

because you wouldn't listen to the LORD your God's voice.

9

1 Hear, Israel! You are to pass over the Jordan today, to go in to dispossess nations greater and mightier than yourself, cities great and fortified up to the sky,
2 a people great and tall, the sons of the Anakim, whom you know, and of whom you have heard say, "Who can stand before the sons of Anak?"
3 Know therefore today that the LORD your God is he who goes over before you as a devouring fire. He will destroy them and he will bring them down before you. So you shall drive them out and make them perish quickly, as the LORD has spoken to you.
4 Don't say in your heart, after the LORD your God has thrust them out from before you, "For my righteousness the LORD has brought me in to possess this land;" because the LORD drives them out before you because of the wickedness of these nations.
5 Not for your righteousness or for the uprightness of your heart do you go in to possess their land; but for the wickedness of these nations the LORD your God does drive them out from before you, and that he may establish the word which the LORD swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.
6 Know therefore that the LORD your God doesn't give you this good land to possess for your righteousness, for you are a stiff-necked people.
7 Remember, and don't forget, how you provoked the LORD your God to wrath in the wilderness. From the day that you left the land of Egypt until you came to this place, you have been rebellious against the LORD.
8 Also in Horeb you provoked the LORD to wrath, and the LORD was angry with you to destroy you.
9 When I had gone up onto the mountain to receive the stone tablets, even the tablets of the covenant which the LORD made with you, then I stayed on the mountain forty days and forty nights. I neither ate bread nor drank water.
10 The LORD delivered to me the two stone tablets written with God's finger. On them were all the words which the LORD spoke with you on the mountain out of the middle of the fire in the day of the assembly.
11 It came to pass at the end of forty days and forty nights that the LORD gave me the two stone tablets, even the tablets of the covenant.
12 The LORD said to me, "Arise, get down quickly from here; for your people whom you have brought out of Egypt have corrupted themselves. They have quickly turned away from the way which I commanded them. They have made a molten image for themselves!"
13 Furthermore the LORD spoke to me, saying, "I have seen these people, and behold, they are a stiff-necked people.
14 Leave me alone, that I may destroy them, and blot out their name from under the sky; and I will make of you a nation mightier and greater than they."
15 So I turned and came down from the mountain, and the mountain was burning with fire. The two tablets of the covenant were in my two hands.
16 I looked, and behold, you had sinned against the LORD your God. You had made yourselves a molded calf. You had quickly turned away from the way which the LORD had commanded you.
17 I took hold of the two tablets, and threw them out of my two hands, and broke them before your eyes.
18 I fell down before the LORD, as at the first, forty days and forty nights. I neither ate bread nor drank water, because of all your sin which you sinned, in doing that which was evil in the LORD's sight, to provoke him to anger.
19 For I was afraid of the anger and hot displeasure with which the LORD was angry against you to destroy you. But the LORD listened to me that time also.
20 The LORD was angry enough with Aaron to destroy him. I prayed for Aaron also at the same time.

21 I took your sin, the calf which you had
made, and burned it with fire, and
crushed it, grinding it very small, until it
was as fine as dust. I threw its dust into
the brook that descended out of the
mountain.
22 At Taberah, at Massah, and at Kibroth
Hattaavah you provoked the LORD to
wrath.
23 When the LORD sent you from
Kadesh Barnea, saying, “Go up and
possess the land which I have given you,”
you rebelled against the commandment
of the LORD your God, and you didn’t
believe him or listen to his voice.
24 You have been rebellious against the
LORD from the day that I knew you.
25 So I fell down before the LORD the
forty days and forty nights that I fell
down, because the LORD had said he
would destroy you.
26 I prayed to the LORD, and said, “Lord
GOD, don’t destroy your people and your
inheritance that you have redeemed
through your greatness, that you have
brought out of Egypt with a mighty hand.
27 Remember your servants, Abraham,
Isaac, and Jacob. Don’t look at the
stubbornness of this people, nor at their
wickedness, nor at their sin,
28 lest the land you brought us out from
say, ‘Because the LORD was not able to
bring them into the land which he
promised to them, and because he hated
them, he has brought them out to kill
them in the wilderness.’
29 Yet they are your people and your
inheritance, which you brought out by
your great power and by your
outstretched arm.”

10

1 At that time the LORD said to me, “Cut
two stone tablets like the first, and come
up to me onto the mountain, and make an
ark of wood.
2 I will write on the tablets the words
that were on the first tablets which you
broke, and you shall put them in the ark.”
3 So I made an ark of acacia wood, and
cut two stone tablets like the first, and
went up onto the mountain, having the
two tablets in my hand.
4 He wrote on the tablets, according to
the first writing, the ten commandments,
which the LORD spoke to you on the
mountain out of the middle of the fire in
the day of the assembly; and the LORD
gave them to me.
5 I turned and came down from the
mountain, and put the tablets in the ark
which I had made; and there they are as
the LORD commanded me.
6 (The children of Israel traveled from
Beeroth Bene Jaakan to Moserah. There
Aaron died, and there he was buried; and
Eleazar his son ministered in the priest’s
office in his place.
7 From there they traveled to Gudgodah;
and from Gudgodah to Jotbathah, a land
of brooks of water.
8 At that time the LORD set apart the
tribe of Levi to bear the ark of the LORD’s
covenant, to stand before the LORD to
minister to him, and to bless in his name,
to this day.
9 Therefore Levi has no portion nor
inheritance with his brothers; the LORD is
his inheritance, according as the LORD
your God spoke to him.)
10 I stayed on the mountain, as at the
first time, forty days and forty nights; and
the LORD listened to me that time also.
The LORD would not destroy you.
11 The LORD said to me, “Arise, take
your journey before the people; and they
shall go in and possess the land which I
swore to their fathers to give to them.”
12 Now, Israel, what does the LORD your
God require of you, but to fear the LORD
your God, to walk in all his ways, to love
him, and to serve the LORD your God with
all your heart and with all your soul,
13 to keep the LORD’s commandments
and statutes, which I command you today
for your good?
14 Behold, to the LORD your God belongs
heaven, the heaven of heavens, and the
earth, with all that is therein.
15 Only the LORD had a delight in your
fathers to love them, and he chose their
offspring after them, even you above all
peoples, as it is today.
16 Circumcise therefore the foreskin of
your heart, and be no more stiff-necked.

17 For the LORD your God, he is God of
gods and Lord of lords, the great God, the
mighty, and the awesome, who doesn't
respect persons or take bribes.
18 He executes justice for the fatherless
and widow and loves the foreigner in
giving him food and clothing.
19 Therefore love the foreigner, for you
were foreigners in the land of Egypt.
20 You shall fear the LORD your God.
You shall serve him. You shall cling to
him, and you shall swear by his name.
21 He is your praise, and he is your God,
who has done for you these great and
awesome things which your eyes have
seen.
22 Your fathers went down into Egypt
with seventy persons; and now the LORD
your God has made you as the stars of the
sky for multitude.

11

1 Therefore you shall love the LORD
your God, and keep his instructions, his
statutes, his ordinances, and his
commandments, always.
2 Know this day—for I don't speak with
your children who have not known, and
who have not seen the chastisement of the
LORD your God, his greatness, his mighty
hand, his outstretched arm,
3 his signs, and his works, which he did
in the middle of Egypt to Pharaoh the king
of Egypt, and to all his land;
4 and what he did to the army of Egypt,
to their horses, and to their chariots; how
he made the water of the Red Sea to
overflow them as they pursued you, and
how the LORD has destroyed them to this
day;
5 and what he did to you in the
wilderness until you came to this place;
6 and what he did to Dathan and
Abiram, the sons of Eliab, the son of
Reuben—how the earth opened its mouth
and swallowed them up, with their
households, their tents, and every living
thing that followed them, in the middle of
all Israel;
7 but your eyes have seen all of the
LORD's great work which he did.
8 Therefore you shall keep the entire
commandment which I command you
today, that you may be strong, and go in
and possess the land that you go over to
possess;
9 and that you may prolong your days in
the land which the LORD swore to your
fathers to give to them and to their
offspring, a land flowing with milk and
honey.
10 For the land, where you go in to
possess isn't like the land of Egypt that
you came out of, where you sowed your
seed and watered it with your foot, as a
garden of herbs;
11 but the land that you go over to
possess is a land of hills and valleys which
drinks water from the rain of the sky,
12 a land which the LORD your God
cares for. The LORD your God's eyes are
always on it, from the beginning of the
year even to the end of the year.
13 It shall happen, if you shall listen
diligently to my commandments which I
command you today, to love the LORD
your God, and to serve him with all your
heart and with all your soul,
14 that I will give the rain for your land
in its season, the early rain and the latter
rain, that you may gather in your grain,
your new wine, and your oil.
15 I will give grass in your fields for your
livestock, and you shall eat and be full.
16 Be careful, lest your heart be
deceived, and you turn away to serve
other gods and worship them;
17 and the LORD's anger be kindled
against you, and he shut up the sky so that
there is no rain, and the land doesn't yield
its fruit; and you perish quickly from off
the good land which the LORD gives you.
18 Therefore you shall lay up these
words of mine in your heart and in your
soul. You shall bind them for a sign on
your hand, and they shall be for frontlets
between your eyes.
19 You shall teach them to your children,
talking of them when you sit in your
house, when you walk by the way, when
you lie down, and when you rise up.

20 You shall write them on the door
posts of your house and on your gates;
21 that your days and your children's
days may be multiplied in the land which
the LORD swore to your fathers to give
them, as the days of the heavens above
the earth.
22 For if you shall diligently keep all
these commandments which I command
you—to do them, to love the LORD your
God, to walk in all his ways, and to cling to
him—
23 then the LORD will drive out all these
nations from before you, and you shall
dispossess nations greater and mightier
than yourselves.
24 Every place on which the sole of your
foot treads shall be yours: from the
wilderness and Lebanon, from the river,
the river Euphrates, even to the western
sea shall be your border.
25 No man will be able to stand before
you. The LORD your God will lay the fear
of you and the dread of you on all the land
that you tread on, as he has spoken to you.
26 Behold, I set before you today a
blessing and a curse:
27 the blessing, if you listen to the
commandments of the LORD your God,
which I command you today;
28 and the curse, if you do not listen to
the commandments of the LORD your
God, but turn away out of the way which I
command you today, to go after other
gods which you have not known.
29 It shall happen, when the LORD your
God brings you into the land that you go to
possess, that you shall set the blessing on
Mount Gerizim, and the curse on Mount
Ebal.
30 Aren't they beyond the Jordan,
behind the way of the going down of the
sun, in the land of the Canaanites who
dwell in the Arabah near Gilgal, beside
the oaks of Moreh?
31 For you are to pass over the Jordan to
go in to possess the land which the LORD
your God gives you, and you shall possess
it and dwell in it.
32 You shall observe to do all the statutes
and the ordinances which I set before you
today.

12

1 These are the statutes and the
ordinances which you shall observe to do
in the land which the LORD, the God of
your fathers, has given you to possess all
the days that you live on the earth.
2 You shall surely destroy all the places
in which the nations that you shall
dispossess served their gods: on the high
mountains, and on the hills, and under
every green tree.
3 You shall break down their altars, dash
their pillars in pieces, and burn their
Asherah poles with fire. You shall cut
down the engraved images of their gods.
You shall destroy their name out of that
place.
4 You shall not do so to the LORD your
God.
5 But to the place which the LORD your
God shall choose out of all your tribes, to
put his name there, you shall seek his
habitation, and you shall come there.
6 You shall bring your burnt offerings,
your sacrifices, your tithes, the wave
offering of your hand, your vows, your
free will offerings, and the firstborn of
your herd and of your flock there.
7 There you shall eat before the LORD
your God, and you shall rejoice in all that
you put your hand to, you and your
households, in which the LORD your God
has blessed you.
8 You shall not do all the things that we
do here today, every man whatever is
right in his own eyes;
9 for you haven't yet come to the rest
and to the inheritance which the LORD
your God gives you.
10 But when you go over the Jordan and
dwell in the land which the LORD your
God causes you to inherit, and he gives
you rest from all your enemies around
you, so that you dwell in safety,
11 then it shall happen that to the place
which the LORD your God shall choose, to
cause his name to dwell there, there you
shall bring all that I command you: your
burnt offerings, your sacrifices, your
tithes, the wave offering of your hand,
and all your choice vows which you vow

to the LORD.
12 You shall rejoice before the LORD
your God—you, and your sons, your
daughters, your male servants, your
female servants, and the Levite who is
within your gates, because he has no
portion nor inheritance with you.
13 Be careful that you don't offer your
burnt offerings in every place that you
see;
14 but in the place which the LORD
chooses in one of your tribes, there you
shall offer your burnt offerings, and there
you shall do all that I command you.
15 Yet you may kill and eat meat within
all your gates, after all the desire of your
soul, according to the LORD your God's
blessing which he has given you. The
unclean and the clean may eat of it, as of
the gazelle and the deer.
16 Only you shall not eat the blood. You
shall pour it out on the earth like water.
17 You may not eat within your gates the
tithe of your grain, or of your new wine, or
of your oil, or the firstborn of your herd or
of your flock, nor any of your vows which
you vow, nor your free will offerings, nor
the wave offering of your hand;
18 but you shall eat them before the
LORD your God in the place which the
LORD your God shall choose: you, your
son, your daughter, your male servant,
your female servant, and the Levite who
is within your gates. You shall rejoice
before the LORD your God in all that you
put your hand to.
19 Be careful that you don't forsake the
Levite as long as you live in your land.
20 When the LORD your God enlarges
your border, as he has promised you, and
you say, "I want to eat meat," because
your soul desires to eat meat, you may eat
meat, after all the desire of your soul.
21 If the place which the LORD your God
shall choose to put his name is too far
from you, then you shall kill of your herd
and of your flock, which the LORD has
given you, as I have commanded you; and
you may eat within your gates, after all
the desire of your soul.
22 Even as the gazelle and as the deer is
eaten, so you shall eat of it. The unclean
and the clean may eat of it alike.
23 Only be sure that you don't eat the
blood; for the blood is the life. You shall
not eat the life with the meat.
24 You shall not eat it. You shall pour it
out on the earth like water.
25 You shall not eat it, that it may go well
with you and with your children after
you, when you do that which is right in
the LORD's eyes.
26 Only your holy things which you
have, and your vows, you shall take and
go to the place which the LORD shall
choose.
27 You shall offer your burnt offerings,
the meat and the blood, on the LORD your
God's altar. The blood of your sacrifices
shall be poured out on the LORD your
God's altar, and you shall eat the meat.
28 Observe and hear all these words
which I command you, that it may go well
with you and with your children after you
forever, when you do that which is good
and right in the LORD your God's eyes.
29 When the LORD your God cuts off the
nations from before you where you go in
to dispossess them, and you dispossess
them and dwell in their land,
30 be careful that you are not ensnared
to follow them after they are destroyed
from before you, and that you not inquire
after their gods, saying, "How do these
nations serve their gods? I will do
likewise."
31 You shall not do so to the LORD your
God; for every abomination to the LORD,
which he hates, they have done to their
gods; for they even burn their sons and
their daughters in the fire to their gods.
32 Whatever thing I command you, that
you shall observe to do. You shall not add
to it, nor take away from it.

13

1 If a prophet or a dreamer of dreams
arises among you, and he gives you a sign
or a wonder,
2 and the sign or the wonder comes to
pass, of which he spoke to you, saying,

“Let’s go after other gods” (which you
have not known) “and let’s serve them,”
3 you shall not listen to the words of that
prophet, or to that dreamer of dreams; for
the LORD your God is testing you, to know
whether you love the LORD your God with
all your heart and with all your soul.
4 You shall walk after the LORD your
God, fear him, keep his commandments,
and obey his voice. You shall serve him,
and cling to him.
5 That prophet, or that dreamer of
dreams, shall be put to death, because he
has spoken rebellion against the LORD
your God, who brought you out of the
land of Egypt and redeemed you out of the
house of bondage, to draw you aside out
of the way which the LORD your God
commanded you to walk in. So you shall
remove the evil from among you.

6 If your brother, the son of your
mother, or your son, or your daughter, or
the wife of your bosom, or your friend
who is as your own soul, entices you
secretly, saying, “Let’s go and serve other
gods”—which you have not known, you,
nor your fathers;
7 of the gods of the peoples who are
around you, near to you, or far off from
you, from the one end of the earth even to
the other end of the earth—
8 you shall not consent to him nor listen
to him; neither shall your eye pity him,
neither shall you spare, neither shall you
conceal him;
9 but you shall surely kill him. Your
hand shall be first on him to put him to
death, and afterwards the hands of all the
people.
10 You shall stone him to death with
stones, because he has sought to draw you
away from the LORD your God, who
brought you out of the land of Egypt, out
of the house of bondage.
11 All Israel shall hear, and fear, and
shall not do any more wickedness like this
among you.

12 If you hear about one of your cities,
which the LORD your God gives you to
dwell there, that
13 certain wicked fellows have gone out
from among you and have drawn away
the inhabitants of their city, saying, “Let’s
go and serve other gods,” which you have
not known,
14 then you shall inquire, investigate,
and ask diligently. Behold, if it is true, and
the thing certain, that such abomination
was done among you,
15 you shall surely strike the inhabitants
of that city with the edge of the sword,
destroying it utterly, with all that is
therein and its livestock, with the edge of
the sword.
16 You shall gather all its plunder into
the middle of its street, and shall burn
with fire the city, with all of its plunder, to
the LORD your God. It shall be a heap
forever. It shall not be built again.
17 Nothing of the devoted thing shall
cling to your hand, that the LORD may
turn from the fierceness of his anger and
show you mercy, and have compassion on
you and multiply you, as he has sworn to
your fathers,
18 when you listen to the LORD your
God’s voice, to keep all his
commandments which I command you
today, to do that which is right in the
LORD your God’s eyes.

14

1 You are the children of the LORD your
God. You shall not cut yourselves, nor
make any baldness between your eyes for
the dead.
2 For you are a holy people to the LORD
your God, and the LORD has chosen you to
be a people for his own possession, above
all peoples who are on the face of the
earth.
3 You shall not eat any abominable
thing.
4 These are the animals which you may
eat: the ox, the sheep, the goat,
5 the deer, the gazelle, the roebuck, the
wild goat, the ibex, the antelope, and the
chamois.
6 Every animal that parts the hoof, and
has the hoof split in two and chews the
cud, among the animals, you may eat.

7 Nevertheless these you shall not eat of
them that chew the cud, or of those who
have the hoof split: the camel, the hare,
and the rabbit. Because they chew the cud
but don't part the hoof, they are unclean
to you.
8 The pig, because it has a split hoof but
doesn't chew the cud, is unclean to you.
You shall not eat their meat. You shall not
touch their carcasses.
9 These you may eat of all that are in the
waters: you may eat whatever has fins
and scales.
10 You shall not eat whatever doesn't
have fins and scales. It is unclean to you.
11 Of all clean birds you may eat.
12 But these are they of which you shall
not eat: the eagle, the vulture, the osprey,
13 the red kite, the falcon, the kite of any
kind,
14 every raven of any kind,
15 the ostrich, the owl, the seagull, the
hawk of any kind,
16 the little owl, the great owl, the
horned owl,
17 the pelican, the vulture, the
cormorant,
18 the stork, the heron after its kind, the
hoopoe, and the bat.
19 All winged creeping things are
unclean to you. They shall not be eaten.
20 Of all clean birds you may eat.
21 You shall not eat of anything that dies
of itself. You may give it to the foreigner
living among you who is within your
gates, that he may eat it; or you may sell it
to a foreigner; for you are a holy people to
the LORD your God.
You shall not boil a young goat in its
mother's milk.
22 You shall surely tithe all the increase
of your seed, that which comes out of the
field year by year.
23 You shall eat before the LORD your
God, in the place which he chooses to
cause his name to dwell, the tithe of your
grain, of your new wine, and of your oil,
and the firstborn of your herd and of your
flock; that you may learn to fear the LORD
your God always.
24 If the way is too long for you, so that
you are not able to carry it because the
place which the LORD your God shall
choose to set his name there is too far
from you, when the LORD your God
blesses you,
25 then you shall turn it into money,
bind up the money in your hand, and
shall go to the place which the LORD your
God shall choose.
26 You shall trade the money for
whatever your soul desires: for cattle, or
for sheep, or for wine, or for strong drink,
or for whatever your soul asks of you. You
shall eat there before the LORD your God,
and you shall rejoice, you and your
household.
27 You shall not forsake the Levite who
is within your gates, for he has no portion
nor inheritance with you.
28 At the end of every three years you
shall bring all the tithe of your increase in
the same year, and shall store it within
your gates.
29 The Levite, because he has no portion
nor inheritance with you, as well as the
foreigner living among you, the
fatherless, and the widow who are within
your gates shall come, and shall eat and
be satisfied; that the LORD your God may
bless you in all the work of your hand
which you do.

15

1 At the end of every seven years, you
shall cancel debts.
2 This is the way it shall be done: every
creditor shall release that which he has
lent to his neighbor. He shall not require
payment from his neighbor and his
brother, because the LORD's release has
been proclaimed.
3 Of a foreigner you may require it; but
whatever of yours is with your brother,
your hand shall release.
4 However there will be no poor with
you (for the LORD will surely bless you in
the land which the LORD your God gives
you for an inheritance to possess)
5 if only you diligently listen to the
LORD your God's voice, to observe to do
all this commandment which I command
you today.

6 For the LORD 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.
7 If a poor man, one of your brothers, is
with you within any of your gates in your
land which the LORD your God gives you,
you shall not harden your heart, nor shut
your hand from your poor brother;
8 but you shall surely open your hand to
him, and shall surely lend him sufficient
for his need, which he lacks.
9 Beware that there not be a wicked
thought in your heart, saying, “The
seventh year, the year of release, is at
hand,” and your eye be evil against your
poor brother and you give him nothing;
and he cry to the LORD against you, and it
be sin to you.
10 You shall surely give, and your heart
shall not be grieved when you give to him,
because it is for this thing the LORD your
God will bless you in all your work and in
all that you put your hand to.
11 For the poor will never cease out of
the land. Therefore I command you to
surely open your hand to your brother, to
your needy, and to your poor, in your
land.
12 If your brother, a Hebrew man, or a
Hebrew woman, is sold to you and serves
you six years, then in the seventh year
you shall let him go free from you.
13 When you let him go free from you,
you shall not let him go empty.
14 You shall furnish him liberally out of
your flock, out of your threshing floor,
and out of your wine press. As the LORD
your God has blessed you, you shall give
to him.
15 You shall remember that you were a
slave in the land of Egypt, and the LORD
your God redeemed you. Therefore I
command you this thing today.
16 It shall be, if he tells you, “I will not go
out from you,” because he loves you and
your house, because he is well with you,
17 then you shall take an awl, and thrust
it through his ear to the door, and he shall
be your servant forever. Also to your
female servant you shall do likewise.
18 It shall not seem hard to you when
you let him go free from you, for he has
been double the value of a hired hand as
he served you six years. The LORD your
God will bless you in all that you do.
19 You shall dedicate all the firstborn
males that are born of your herd and of
your flock to the LORD your God. You shall
do no work with the firstborn of your
herd, nor shear the firstborn of your flock.
20 You shall eat it before the LORD your
God year by year in the place which the
LORD shall choose, you and your
household.
21 If it has any defect—is lame or blind,
or has any defect whatever, you shall not
sacrifice it to the LORD your God.
22 You shall eat it within your gates. The
unclean and the clean shall eat it alike, as
the gazelle and as the deer.
23 Only you shall not eat its blood. You
shall pour it out on the ground like water.

16

1 Observe the month of Abib, and keep
the Passover to the LORD your God; for in
the month of Abib the LORD your God
brought you out of Egypt by night.
2 You shall sacrifice the Passover to the
LORD your God, of the flock and the herd,
in the place which the LORD shall choose
to cause his name to dwell there.
3 You shall eat no leavened bread with
it. You shall eat unleavened bread with it
seven days, even the bread of affliction
(for you came out of the land of Egypt in
haste) that you may remember the day
when you came out of the land of Egypt all
the days of your life.
4 No yeast shall be seen with you in all
your borders seven days; neither shall
any of the meat, which you sacrifice the
first day at evening, remain all night until
the morning.
5 You may not sacrifice the Passover
within any of your gates which the LORD
your God gives you;
6 but at the place which the LORD your
God shall choose to cause his name to
dwell in, there you shall sacrifice the
Passover at evening, at the going down of

the sun, at the season that you came out of Egypt.
7 You shall roast and eat it in the place which the LORD your God chooses. In the morning you shall return to your tents.
8 Six days you shall eat unleavened bread. On the seventh day shall be a solemn assembly to the LORD your God. You shall do no work.

9 You shall count for yourselves seven weeks. From the time you begin to put the sickle to the standing grain you shall begin to count seven weeks.
10 You shall keep the feast of weeks to the LORD your God with a tribute of a free will offering of your hand, which you shall give according to how the LORD your God blesses you.
11 You shall rejoice before the LORD your God: you, your son, your daughter, your male servant, your female servant, the Levite who is within your gates, the foreigner, the fatherless, and the widow who are among you, in the place which the LORD your God shall choose to cause his name to dwell there.
12 You shall remember that you were a slave in Egypt. You shall observe and do these statutes.

13 You shall keep the feast of booths seven days, after you have gathered in from your threshing floor and from your wine press.
14 You shall rejoice in your feast, you, your son, your daughter, your male servant, your female servant, the Levite, the foreigner, the fatherless, and the widow who are within your gates.
15 You shall keep a feast to the LORD your God seven days in the place which the LORD chooses, because the LORD your God will bless you in all your increase and in all the work of your hands, and you shall be altogether joyful.
16 Three times in a year all of your males shall appear before the LORD your God in the place which he chooses: in the feast of unleavened bread, in the feast of weeks, and in the feast of booths. They shall not appear before the LORD empty.
17 Every man shall give as he is able, according to the LORD your God's blessing which he has given you.
18 You shall make judges and officers in all your gates, which the LORD your God gives you, according to your tribes; and they shall judge the people with righteous judgment.
19 You shall not pervert justice. You shall not show partiality. You shall not take a bribe, for a bribe blinds the eyes of the wise and perverts the words of the righteous.
20 You shall follow that which is altogether just, that you may live and inherit the land which the LORD your God gives you.
21 You shall not plant for yourselves an Asherah of any kind of tree beside the LORD your God's altar, which you shall make for yourselves.
22 Neither shall you set yourself up a sacred stone which the LORD your God hates.

17

1 You shall not sacrifice to the LORD your God an ox or a sheep in which is a defect or anything evil; for that is an abomination to the LORD your God.

2 If there is found among you, within any of your gates which the LORD your God gives you, a man or woman who does that which is evil in the LORD your God's sight in transgressing his covenant,
3 and has gone and served other gods and worshiped them, or the sun, or the moon, or any of the stars of the sky, which I have not commanded,
4 and you are told, and you have heard of it, then you shall inquire diligently. Behold, if it is true, and the thing certain, that such abomination is done in Israel,
5 then you shall bring out that man or that woman who has done this evil thing to your gates, even that same man or woman; and you shall stone them to death with stones.
6 At the mouth of two witnesses, or three witnesses, he who is to die shall be

put to death. At the mouth of one witness he shall not be put to death.
7 The hands of the witnesses shall be first on him to put him to death, and afterward the hands of all the people. So you shall remove the evil from among you.

8 If there arises a matter too hard for you in judgment, between blood and blood, between plea and plea, and between stroke and stroke, being matters of controversy within your gates, then you shall arise, and go up to the place which the LORD your God chooses.
9 You shall come to the priests who are Levites and to the judge who shall be in those days. You shall inquire, and they shall give you the verdict.
10 You shall do according to the decisions of the verdict which they shall give you from that place which the LORD chooses. You shall observe to do according to all that they shall teach you.
11 According to the decisions of the law which they shall teach you, and according to the judgment which they shall tell you, you shall do. You shall not turn away from the sentence which they announce to you, to the right hand, nor to the left.
12 The man who does presumptuously in not listening to the priest who stands to minister there before the LORD your God, or to the judge, even that man shall die. You shall put away the evil from Israel.
13 All the people shall hear and fear, and do no more presumptuously.

14 When you have come to the land which the LORD your God gives you, and possess it and dwell in it, and say, "I will set a king over me, like all the nations that are around me,"
15 you shall surely set him whom the LORD your God chooses as king over yourselves. You shall set as king over you one from among your brothers. You may not put a foreigner over you, who is not your brother.
16 Only he shall not multiply horses to himself, nor cause the people to return to Egypt, to the end that he may multiply horses; because the LORD has said to you, "You shall not go back that way again."
17 He shall not multiply wives to himself, that his heart not turn away. He shall not greatly multiply to himself silver and gold.
18 It shall be, when he sits on the throne of his kingdom, that he shall write himself a copy of this law in a book, out of that which is before the Levitical priests.
19 It shall be with him, and he shall read from it all the days of his life, that he may learn to fear the LORD his God, to keep all the words of this law and these statutes, to do them;
20 that his heart not be lifted up above his brothers, and that he not turn away from the commandment to the right hand, or to the left, to the end that he may prolong his days in his kingdom, he and his children, in the middle of Israel.

18

1 The priests and the Levites—all the tribe of Levi—shall have no portion nor inheritance with Israel. They shall eat the offerings of the LORD made by fire and his portion.
2 They shall have no inheritance among their brothers. The LORD is their inheritance, as he has spoken to them.
3 This shall be the priests' due from the people, from those who offer a sacrifice, whether it be ox or sheep, that they shall give to the priest: the shoulder, the two cheeks, and the inner parts.
4 You shall give him the first fruits of your grain, of your new wine, and of your oil, and the first of the fleece of your sheep.
5 For the LORD your God has chosen him out of all your tribes to stand to minister in the LORD's name, him and his sons forever.
6 If a Levite comes from any of your gates out of all Israel where he lives, and comes with all the desire of his soul to the place which the LORD shall choose,
7 then he shall minister in the name of the LORD his God, as all his brothers the Levites do, who stand there before the LORD.

8 They shall have like portions to eat, in addition to that which comes from the sale of his family possessions.
9 When you have come into the land which the LORD your God gives you, you shall not learn to imitate the abominations of those nations.
10 There shall not be found with you anyone who makes his son or his daughter to pass through the fire, one who uses divination, one who tells fortunes, or an enchanter, or a sorcerer,
11 or a charmer, or someone who consults with a familiar spirit, or a wizard, or a necromancer.
12 For whoever does these things is an abomination to the LORD. Because of these abominations, the LORD your God drives them out from before you.
13 You shall be blameless with the LORD your God.
14 For these nations that you shall dispossess listen to those who practice sorcery and to diviners; but as for you, the LORD your God has not allowed you so to do.
15 The LORD your God will raise up to you a prophet from among you, of your brothers, like me. You shall listen to him.
16 This is according to all that you desired of the LORD your God in Horeb in the day of the assembly, saying, “Let me not hear again the LORD my God’s voice, neither let me see this great fire any more, that I not die.”
17 The LORD said to me, “They have well said that which they have spoken.
18 I will raise them up a prophet from among their brothers, like you. I will put my words in his mouth, and he shall speak to them all that I shall command him.
19 It shall happen, that whoever will not listen to my words which he shall speak in my name, I will require it of him.
20 But the prophet who speaks a word presumptuously in my name, which I have not commanded him to speak, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that same prophet shall die.”
21 You may say in your heart, “How shall we know the word which the LORD has not spoken?”
22 When a prophet speaks in the LORD’s name, if the thing doesn’t follow, nor happen, that is the thing which the LORD has not spoken. The prophet has spoken it presumptuously. You shall not be afraid of him.

19

1 When the LORD your God cuts off the nations whose land the LORD your God gives you, and you succeed them and dwell in their cities and in their houses,
2 you shall set apart three cities for yourselves in the middle of your land, which the LORD your God gives you to possess.
3 You shall prepare the way, and divide the borders of your land which the LORD your God causes you to inherit into three parts, that every man slayer may flee there.
4 This is the case of the man slayer who shall flee there and live: Whoever kills his neighbor unintentionally, and didn’t hate him in time past—
5 as when a man goes into the forest with his neighbor to chop wood and his hand swings the ax to cut down the tree, and the head slips from the handle and hits his neighbor so that he dies—he shall flee to one of these cities and live.
6 Otherwise, the avenger of blood might pursue the man slayer while hot anger is in his heart and overtake him, because the way is long, and strike him mortally, even though he was not worthy of death, because he didn’t hate him in time past.
7 Therefore I command you to set apart three cities for yourselves.
8 If the LORD your God enlarges your border, as he has sworn to your fathers, and gives you all the land which he promised to give to your fathers;
9 and if you keep all this commandment to do it, which I command you today, to love the LORD your God, and to walk ever in his ways, then you shall add three cities more for yourselves, in addition to these three.
10 This is so that innocent blood will not be shed in the middle of your land which

the LORD your God gives you for an inheritance, leaving blood guilt on you.
11 But if any man hates his neighbor, lies in wait for him, rises up against him, strikes him mortally so that he dies, and he flees into one of these cities;
12 then the elders of his city shall send and bring him there, and deliver him into the hand of the avenger of blood, that he may die.
13 Your eye shall not pity him, but you shall purge the innocent blood from Israel that it may go well with you.
14 You shall not remove your neighbor's landmark, which they of old time have set, in your inheritance which you shall inherit, in the land that the LORD your God gives you to possess.
15 One witness shall not rise up against a man for any iniquity, or for any sin that he sins. At the mouth of two witnesses, or at the mouth of three witnesses, shall a matter be established.
16 If an unrighteous witness rises up against any man to testify against him of wrongdoing,
17 then both the men, between whom the controversy is, shall stand before the LORD, before the priests and the judges who shall be in those days;
18 and the judges shall make diligent inquisition; and behold, if the witness is a false witness, and has testified falsely against his brother,
19 then you shall do to him as he had thought to do to his brother. So you shall remove the evil from among you.
20 Those who remain shall hear, and fear, and will never again commit any such evil among you.
21 Your eyes shall not pity: life for life, eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot.

20

1 When you go out to battle against your enemies, and see horses, chariots, and a people more numerous than you, you shall not be afraid of them; for the LORD your God, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt, is with you.
2 It shall be, when you draw near to the battle, that the priest shall approach and speak to the people,
3 and shall tell them, "Hear, Israel, you draw near today to battle against your enemies. Don't let your heart faint! Don't be afraid, nor tremble, neither be scared of them;
4 for the LORD your God is he who goes with you, to fight for you against your enemies, to save you."
5 The officers shall speak to the people, saying, "What man is there who has built a new house, and has not dedicated it? Let him go and return to his house, lest he die in the battle, and another man dedicate it.
6 What man is there who has planted a vineyard, and has not used its fruit? Let him go and return to his house, lest he die in the battle, and another man use its fruit.
7 What man is there who has pledged to be married to a wife, and has not taken her? Let him go and return to his house, lest he die in the battle, and another man take her."
8 The officers shall speak further to the people, and they shall say, "What man is there who is fearful and faint-hearted? Let him go and return to his house, lest his brother's heart melt as his heart."
9 It shall be, when the officers have finished speaking to the people, that they shall appoint captains of armies at the head of the people.
10 When you draw near to a city to fight against it, then proclaim peace to it.
11 It shall be, if it gives you answer of peace and opens to you, then it shall be that all the people who are found therein shall become forced laborers to you, and shall serve you.
12 If it will make no peace with you, but will make war against you, then you shall besiege it.
13 When the LORD your God delivers it into your hand, you shall strike every male of it with the edge of the sword;
14 but the women, the little ones, the livestock, and all that is in the city, even all its plunder, you shall take for plunder for yourself. You may use the plunder of

your enemies, which the LORD your God has given you.
15 Thus you shall do to all the cities which are very far off from you, which are not of the cities of these nations.
16 But of the cities of these peoples that the LORD your God gives you for an inheritance, you shall save alive nothing that breathes;
17 but you shall utterly destroy them: the Hittite, the Amorite, the Canaanite, the Perizzite, the Hivite, and the Jebusite, as the LORD your God has commanded you;
18 that they not teach you to follow all their abominations, which they have done for their gods; so would you sin against the LORD your God.
19 When you shall besiege a city a long time, in making war against it to take it, you shall not destroy its trees by wielding an ax against them; for you may eat of them. You shall not cut them down, for is the tree of the field man, that it should be besieged by you?
20 Only the trees that you know are not trees for food, you shall destroy and cut them down. You shall build bulwarks against the city that makes war with you, until it falls.

21

1 If someone is found slain in the land which the LORD your God gives you to possess, lying in the field, and it isn't known who has struck him,
2 then your elders and your judges shall come out, and they shall measure to the cities which are around him who is slain.
3 It shall be that the elders of the city which is nearest to the slain man shall take a heifer of the herd, which hasn't been worked with and which has not drawn in the yoke.
4 The elders of that city shall bring the heifer down to a valley with running water, which is neither plowed nor sown, and shall break the heifer's neck there in the valley.
5 The priests the sons of Levi shall come near, for them the LORD your God has chosen to minister to him, and to bless in the LORD's name; and according to their word shall every controversy and every assault be decided.
6 All the elders of that city which is nearest to the slain man shall wash their hands over the heifer whose neck was broken in the valley.
7 They shall answer and say, "Our hands have not shed this blood, neither have our eyes seen it.
8 Forgive, LORD, your people Israel, whom you have redeemed, and don't allow innocent blood among your people Israel." The blood shall be forgiven them.
9 So you shall put away the innocent blood from among you, when you shall do that which is right in the LORD's eyes.
10 When you go out to battle against your enemies, and the LORD your God delivers them into your hands and you carry them away captive,
11 and see among the captives a beautiful woman, and you are attracted to her, and desire to take her as your wife,
12 then you shall bring her home to your house. She shall shave her head and trim her nails.
13 She shall take off the clothing of her captivity, and shall remain in your house, and bewail her father and her mother a full month. After that you shall go in to her and be her husband, and she shall be your wife.
14 It shall be, if you have no delight in her, then you shall let her go where she desires; but you shall not sell her at all for money. You shall not deal with her as a slave, because you have humbled her.
15 If a man has two wives, the one beloved and the other hated, and they have borne him children, both the beloved and the hated, and if the firstborn son is hers who was hated,
16 then it shall be, in the day that he causes his sons to inherit that which he has, that he may not give the son of the beloved the rights of the firstborn before the son of the hated, who is the firstborn;
17 but he shall acknowledge the firstborn, the son of the hated, by giving him a double portion of all that he has; for he is the beginning of his strength. The right of the firstborn is his.

18 If a man has a stubborn and
rebellious son who will not obey the voice
of his father or the voice of his mother,
and though they chasten him, will not
listen to them,
19 then his father and his mother shall
take hold of him and bring him out to the
elders of his city and to the gate of his
place.
20 They shall tell the elders of his city,
“This our son is stubborn and rebellious.
He will not obey our voice. He is a glutton
and a drunkard.”
21 All the men of his city shall stone him
to death with stones. So you shall remove
the evil from among you. All Israel shall
hear, and fear.
22 If a man has committed a sin worthy
of death, and he is put to death, and you
hang him on a tree,
23 his body shall not remain all night on
the tree, but you shall surely bury him the
same day; for he who is hanged is
accursed of God. Don’t defile your land
which the LORD your God gives you for an
inheritance.

22

1 You shall not see your brother’s ox or
his sheep go astray and hide yourself
from them. You shall surely bring them
again to your brother.
2 If your brother isn’t near to you, or if
you don’t know him, then you shall bring
it home to your house, and it shall be with
you until your brother comes looking for
it, and you shall restore it to him.
3 So you shall do with his donkey. So
you shall do with his garment. So you
shall do with every lost thing of your
brother’s, which he has lost and you have
found. You may not hide yourself.
4 You shall not see your brother’s
donkey or his ox fallen down by the way,
and hide yourself from them. You shall
surely help him to lift them up again.
5 A woman shall not wear men’s
clothing, neither shall a man put on
women’s clothing; for whoever does these
things is an abomination to the LORD
your God.
6 If you come across a bird’s nest on the
way, in any tree or on the ground, with
young ones or eggs, and the hen sitting on
the young, or on the eggs, you shall not
take the hen with the young.
7 You shall surely let the hen go, but the
young you may take for yourself, that it
may be well with you, and that you may
prolong your days.
8 When you build a new house, then you
shall make a railing around your roof, so
that you don’t bring blood on your house
if anyone falls from there.
9 You shall not sow your vineyard with
two kinds of seed, lest all the fruit be
defiled, the seed which you have sown,
and the increase of the vineyard.
10 You shall not plow with an ox and a
donkey together.
11 You shall not wear clothes of wool
and linen woven together.
12 You shall make yourselves fringes† on
the four corners of your cloak with which
you cover yourself.
13 If any man takes a wife, and goes in to
her, hates her,
14 accuses her of shameful things, gives
her a bad name, and says, “I took this
woman, and when I came near to her, I
didn’t find in her the tokens of virginity;”
15 then the young lady’s father and
mother shall take and bring the tokens of
the young lady’s virginity to the elders of
the city in the gate.
16 The young lady’s father shall tell the
elders, “I gave my daughter to this man as
his wife, and he hates her.
17 Behold, he has accused her of
shameful things, saying, ‘I didn’t find in
your daughter the tokens of virginity;’
and yet these are the tokens of my
daughter’s virginity.” They shall spread
the cloth before the elders of the city.
18 The elders of that city shall take the
man and chastise him.
19 They shall fine him one hundred
shekels of silver,‡ and give them to the

† **22:12** or, tassels ‡ **22:19** A shekel is about 10 grams or about 0.35 ounces, so 100 shekels is about a kilogram or 2.2 pounds.

father of the young lady, because he has given a bad name to a virgin of Israel. She shall be his wife. He may not put her away all his days.
20 But if this thing is true, that the tokens of virginity were not found in the young lady,
21 then they shall bring out the young lady to the door of her father's house, and the men of her city shall stone her to death with stones, because she has done folly in Israel, to play the prostitute in her father's house. So you shall remove the evil from among you.
22 If a man is found lying with a woman married to a husband, then they shall both die, the man who lay with the woman and the woman. So you shall remove the evil from Israel.
23 If there is a young lady who is a virgin pledged to be married to a husband, and a man finds her in the city, and lies with her,
24 then you shall bring them both out to the gate of that city, and you shall stone them to death with stones; the lady, because she didn't cry, being in the city; and the man, because he has humbled his neighbor's wife. So you shall remove the evil from among you.
25 But if the man finds the lady who is pledged to be married in the field, and the man forces her and lies with her, then only the man who lay with her shall die;
26 but to the lady you shall do nothing. There is in the lady no sin worthy of death; for as when a man rises against his neighbor and kills him, even so is this matter;
27 for he found her in the field, the pledged to be married lady cried, and there was no one to save her.
28 If a man finds a lady who is a virgin, who is not pledged to be married, grabs her and lies with her, and they are found,
29 then the man who lay with her shall give to the lady's father fifty shekels§ of silver. She shall be his wife, because he has humbled her. He may not put her away all his days.
30 A man shall not take his father's wife, and shall not uncover his father's skirt.

23

1 He who is emasculated by crushing or cutting shall not enter into the LORD's assembly.
2 A person born of a forbidden union shall not enter into the LORD's assembly; even to the tenth generation shall no one of his enter into the LORD's assembly.
3 An Ammonite or a Moabite shall not enter into the LORD's assembly; even to the tenth generation shall no one belonging to them enter into the LORD's assembly forever,
4 because they didn't meet you with bread and with water on the way when you came out of Egypt, and because they hired against you Balaam the son of Beor from Pethor of Mesopotamia, to curse you.
5 Nevertheless the LORD your God wouldn't listen to Balaam, but the LORD your God turned the curse into a blessing to you, because the LORD your God loved you.
6 You shall not seek their peace nor their prosperity all your days forever.
7 You shall not abhor an Edomite, for he is your brother. You shall not abhor an Egyptian, because you lived as a foreigner in his land.
8 The children of the third generation who are born to them may enter into the LORD's assembly.
9 When you go out and camp against your enemies, then you shall keep yourselves from every evil thing.
10 If there is among you any man who is not clean by reason of that which happens to him by night, then shall he go outside of the camp. He shall not come within the camp;
11 but it shall be, when evening comes, he shall bathe himself in water. When the sun is down, he shall come within the camp.
12 You shall have a place also outside of the camp where you go relieve yourself.

§ **22:29** A shekel is about 10 grams or about 0.35 ounces.

13 You shall have a trowel among your
weapons. It shall be, when you relieve
yourself, you shall dig with it, and shall
turn back and cover your excrement;
14 for the LORD your God walks in the
middle of your camp, to deliver you, and
to give up your enemies before you.
Therefore your camp shall be holy, that
he may not see an unclean thing in you,
and turn away from you.
15 You shall not deliver to his master a
servant who has escaped from his master
to you.
16 He shall dwell with you, among you,
in the place which he shall choose within
one of your gates, where it pleases him
best. You shall not oppress him.
17 There shall be no prostitute of the
daughters of Israel, neither shall there be
a sodomite of the sons of Israel.
18 You shall not bring the hire of a
prostitute, or the wages of a male
prostitute,† into the house of the LORD
your God for any vow; for both of these
are an abomination to the LORD your God.
19 You shall not lend on interest to your
brother: interest of money, interest of
food, interest of anything that is lent on
interest.
20 You may charge a foreigner interest;
but you shall not charge your brother
interest, that the LORD your God may
bless you in all that you put your hand to,
in the land where you go in to possess it.
21 When you vow a vow to the LORD
your God, you shall not be slack to pay it,
for the LORD your God will surely require
it of you; and it would be sin in you.
22 But if you refrain from making a vow,
it shall be no sin in you.
23 You shall observe and do that which
has gone out of your lips. Whatever you
have vowed to the LORD your God as a
free will offering, which you have
promised with your mouth, you must do.
24 When you come into your neighbor's
vineyard, then you may eat your fill of
grapes at your own pleasure; but you
shall not put any in your container.
25 When you come into your neighbor's
standing grain, then you may pluck the
ears with your hand; but you shall not use
a sickle on your neighbor's standing grain.

24

1 When a man takes a wife and marries
her, then it shall be, if she finds no favor
in his eyes because he has found some
unseemly thing in her, that he shall write
her a certificate of divorce, put it in her
hand, and send her out of his house.
2 When she has departed out of his
house, she may go and be another man's
wife.
3 If the latter husband hates her, and
writes her a certificate of divorce, puts it
in her hand, and sends her out of his
house; or if the latter husband dies, who
took her to be his wife;
4 her former husband, who sent her
away, may not take her again to be his
wife after she is defiled; for that would be
an abomination to the LORD. You shall not
cause the land to sin, which the LORD
your God gives you for an inheritance.
5 When a man takes a new wife, he shall
not go out in the army, neither shall he be
assigned any business. He shall be free at
home one year, and shall cheer his wife
whom he has taken.
6 No man shall take the mill or the upper
millstone as a pledge, for he takes a life in
pledge.
7 If a man is found stealing any of his
brothers of the children of Israel, and he
deals with him as a slave, or sells him,
then that thief shall die. So you shall
remove the evil from among you.
8 Be careful in the plague of leprosy,
that you observe diligently and do
according to all that the Levitical priests
teach you. As I commanded them, so you
shall observe to do.
9 Remember what the LORD your God
did to Miriam, by the way as you came out
of Egypt.
10 When you lend your neighbor any
kind of loan, you shall not go into his
house to get his pledge.

† **23:18** literally, dog

11 You shall stand outside, and the man
to whom you lend shall bring the pledge
outside to you.
12 If he is a poor man, you shall not sleep
with his pledge.
13 You shall surely restore to him the
pledge when the sun goes down, that he
may sleep in his garment and bless you. It
shall be righteousness to you before the
LORD your God.

14 You shall not oppress a hired servant
who is poor and needy, whether he is one
of your brothers or one of the foreigners
who are in your land within your gates.
15 In his day you shall give him his
wages, neither shall the sun go down on it,
for he is poor and sets his heart on it, lest
he cry against you to the LORD, and it be
sin to you.

16 The fathers shall not be put to death
for the children, neither shall the children
be put to death for the fathers. Every man
shall be put to death for his own sin.

17 You shall not deprive the foreigner or
the fatherless of justice, nor take a
widow's clothing in pledge;
18 but you shall remember that you
were a slave in Egypt, and the LORD your
God redeemed you there. Therefore I
command you to do this thing.

19 When you reap your harvest in your
field, and have forgotten a sheaf in the
field, you shall not go again to get it. It
shall be for the foreigner, for the
fatherless, and for the widow, that the
LORD your God may bless you in all the
work of your hands.
20 When you beat your olive tree, you
shall not go over the boughs again. It shall
be for the foreigner, for the fatherless,
and for the widow.

21 When you harvest your vineyard, you
shall not glean it after yourselves. It shall
be for the foreigner, for the fatherless,
and for the widow.
22 You shall remember that you were a
slave in the land of Egypt. Therefore I
command you to do this thing.

25

1 If there is a controversy between men,
and they come to judgment and the judges
judge them, then they shall justify the
righteous and condemn the wicked.
2 It shall be, if the wicked man is worthy
to be beaten, that the judge shall cause
him to lie down and to be beaten before
his face, according to his wickedness, by
number.
3 He may sentence him to no more than
forty stripes. He shall not give more, lest if
he should give more and beat him more
than that many stripes, then your brother
will be degraded in your sight.

4 You shall not muzzle the ox when he
treads out the grain.

5 If brothers dwell together, and one of
them dies and has no son, the wife of the
dead shall not be married outside to a
stranger. Her husband's brother shall go
in to her, and take her as his wife, and
perform the duty of a husband's brother
to her.
6 It shall be that the firstborn whom she
bears shall succeed in the name of his
brother who is dead, that his name not be
blotted out of Israel.
7 If the man doesn't want to take his
brother's wife, then his brother's wife
shall go up to the gate to the elders, and
say, "My husband's brother refuses to
raise up to his brother a name in Israel.
He will not perform the duty of a
husband's brother to me."
8 Then the elders of his city shall call
him, and speak to him. If he stands and
says, "I don't want to take her,"
9 then his brother's wife shall come to
him in the presence of the elders, and
loose his sandal from off his foot, and spit
in his face. She shall answer and say, "So
shall it be done to the man who does not
build up his brother's house."
10 His name shall be called in Israel,
"The house of him who had his sandal
removed."
11 When men strive against each other,
and the wife of one draws near to deliver
her husband out of the hand of him who
strikes him, and puts out her hand, and
grabs him by his private parts,

12 then you shall cut off her hand. Your
eye shall have no pity.
13 You shall not have in your bag diverse
weights, one heavy and one light.
14 You shall not have in your house
diverse measures, one large and one
small.
15 You shall have a perfect and just
weight. You shall have a perfect and just
measure, that your days may be long in
the land which the LORD your God gives
you.
16 For all who do such things, all who do
unrighteously, are an abomination to the
LORD your God.
17 Remember what Amalek did to you
by the way as you came out of Egypt,
18 how he met you by the way, and
struck the rearmost of you, all who were
feeble behind you, when you were faint
and weary; and he didn't fear God.
19 Therefore it shall be, when the LORD
your God has given you rest from all your
enemies all around, in the land which the
LORD your God gives you for an
inheritance to possess it, that you shall
blot out the memory of Amalek from
under the sky. You shall not forget.

26

1 It shall be, when you have come in to
the land which the LORD your God gives
you for an inheritance, possess it, and
dwell in it,
2 that you shall take some of the first of
all the fruit of the ground, which you shall
bring in from your land that the LORD
your God gives you. You shall put it in a
basket, and shall go to the place which the
LORD your God shall choose to cause his
name to dwell there.
3 You shall come to the priest who shall
be in those days, and tell him, "I profess
today to the LORD your God, that I have
come to the land which the LORD swore to
our fathers to give us."
4 The priest shall take the basket out of
your hand, and set it down before the
LORD your God's altar.
5 You shall answer and say before the
LORD your God, "My father† was a Syrian
ready to perish. He went down into Egypt,
and lived there, few in number. There he
became a great, mighty, and populous
nation.
6 The Egyptians mistreated us, afflicted
us, and imposed hard labor on us.
7 Then we cried to the LORD, the God of
our fathers. The LORD heard our voice,
and saw our affliction, our toil, and our
oppression.
8 The LORD brought us out of Egypt with
a mighty hand, with an outstretched arm,
with great terror, with signs, and with
wonders;
9 and he has brought us into this place,
and has given us this land, a land flowing
with milk and honey.
10 Now, behold, I have brought the first
of the fruit of the ground, which you, the
LORD, have given me." You shall set it
down before the LORD your God, and
worship before the LORD your God.
11 You shall rejoice in all the good which
the LORD your God has given to you, and
to your house, you, and the Levite, and the
foreigner who is among you.

12 When you have finished tithing all
the tithe of your increase in the third year,
which is the year of tithing, then you shall
give it to the Levite, to the foreigner, to the
fatherless, and to the widow, that they
may eat within your gates and be filled.
13 You shall say before the LORD your
God, "I have put away the holy things out
of my house, and also have given them to
the Levite, to the foreigner, to the
fatherless, and to the widow, according to
all your commandment which you have
commanded me. I have not transgressed
any of your commandments, neither have
I forgotten them.
14 I have not eaten of it in my mourning,
neither have I removed any of it while I
was unclean, nor given of it for the dead. I
have listened to the LORD my God's voice.
I have done according to all that you have
commanded me.

† **26:5** or, forefather

15 Look down from your holy
habitation, from heaven, and bless your
people Israel, and the ground which you
have given us, as you swore to our fathers,
a land flowing with milk and honey."

16 Today the LORD your God commands
you to do these statutes and ordinances.
You shall therefore keep and do them with
all your heart and with all your soul.
17 You have declared today that the
LORD is your God, and that you would
walk in his ways, keep his statutes, his
commandments, and his ordinances, and
listen to his voice.
18 The LORD has declared today that
you are a people for his own possession,
as he has promised you, and that you
should keep all his commandments.
19 He will make you high above all
nations that he has made, in praise, in
name, and in honor, and that you may be
a holy people to the LORD your God, as he
has spoken.

27

1 Moses and the elders of Israel
commanded the people, saying, "Keep all
the commandment which I command you
today.
2 It shall be on the day when you shall
pass over the Jordan to the land which the
LORD your God gives you, that you shall
set yourself up great stones, and coat
them with plaster.
3 You shall write on them all the words
of this law, when you have passed over,
that you may go in to the land which the
LORD your God gives you, a land flowing
with milk and honey, as the LORD, the
God of your fathers, has promised you.
4 It shall be, when you have crossed
over the Jordan, that you shall set up these
stones, which I command you today, on
Mount Ebal, and you shall coat them with
plaster.
5 There you shall build an altar to the
LORD your God, an altar of stones. You
shall not use any iron tool on them.
6 You shall build the LORD your God's
altar of uncut stones. You shall offer burnt
offerings on it to the LORD your God.
7 You shall sacrifice peace offerings, and
shall eat there. You shall rejoice before
the LORD your God.
8 You shall write on the stones all the
words of this law very plainly."
9 Moses and the Levitical priests spoke
to all Israel, saying, "Be silent and listen,
Israel! Today you have become the people
of the LORD your God.
10 You shall therefore obey the LORD
your God's voice, and do his
commandments and his statutes, which I
command you today."
11 Moses commanded the people the
same day, saying,
12 "These shall stand on Mount Gerizim
to bless the people, when you have
crossed over the Jordan: Simeon, Levi,
Judah, Issachar, Joseph, and Benjamin.
13 These shall stand on Mount Ebal for
the curse: Reuben, Gad, Asher, Zebulun,
Dan, and Naphtali.
14 With a loud voice, the Levites shall
say to all the men of Israel,
15 'Cursed is the man who makes an
engraved or molten image, an
abomination to the LORD, the work of the
hands of the craftsman, and sets it up in
secret.'
All the people shall answer and say,
'Amen.'
16 'Cursed is he who dishonors his
father or his mother.'
All the people shall say, 'Amen.'
17 'Cursed is he who removes his
neighbor's landmark.'
All the people shall say, 'Amen.'
18 'Cursed is he who leads the blind
astray on the road.'
All the people shall say, 'Amen.'
19 'Cursed is he who withholds justice
from the foreigner, fatherless, and
widow.'
All the people shall say, 'Amen.'
20 'Cursed is he who lies with† his
father's wife, because he dishonors his
father's bed.'
All the people shall say, 'Amen.'

† **27:20** i.e., has sexual relations with

21 ‘Cursed is he who lies with any kind of animal.’
All the people shall say, ‘Amen.’
22 ‘Cursed is he who lies with his sister, his father’s daughter or his mother’s daughter.’
All the people shall say, ‘Amen.’
23 ‘Cursed is he who lies with his mother-in-law.’
All the people shall say, ‘Amen.’
24 ‘Cursed is he who secretly kills his neighbor.’
All the people shall say, ‘Amen.’
25 ‘Cursed is he who takes a bribe to kill an innocent person.’
All the people shall say, ‘Amen.’
26 ‘Cursed is he who doesn’t uphold the words of this law by doing them.’
All the people shall say, ‘Amen.’ ”

28

1 It shall happen, if you shall listen diligently to the LORD your God’s voice, to observe to do all his commandments which I command you today, that the LORD your God will set you high above all the nations of the earth.
2 All these blessings will come upon you, and overtake you, if you listen to the LORD your God’s voice.
3 You shall be blessed in the city, and you shall be blessed in the field.
4 You shall be blessed in the fruit of your body, the fruit of your ground, the fruit of your animals, the increase of your livestock, and the young of your flock.
5 Your basket and your kneading trough shall be blessed.
6 You shall be blessed when you come in, and you shall be blessed when you go out.
7 The LORD will cause your enemies who rise up against you to be struck before you. They will come out against you one way, and will flee before you seven ways.
8 The LORD will command the blessing on you in your barns, and in all that you put your hand to. He will bless you in the land which the LORD your God gives you.
9 The LORD will establish you for a holy people to himself, as he has sworn to you, if you shall keep the commandments of the LORD your God, and walk in his ways.
10 All the peoples of the earth shall see that you are called by the LORD’s name, and they will be afraid of you.
11 The LORD will grant you abundant prosperity in the fruit of your body, in the fruit of your livestock, and in the fruit of your ground, in the land which the LORD swore to your fathers to give you.
12 The LORD will open to you his good treasure in the sky, to give the rain of your land in its season, and to bless all the work of your hand. You will lend to many nations, and you will not borrow.
13 The LORD will make you the head, and not the tail. You will be above only, and you will not be beneath, if you listen to the commandments of the LORD your God which I command you today, to observe and to do,
14 and shall not turn away from any of the words which I command you today, to the right hand or to the left, to go after other gods to serve them.
15 But it shall come to pass, if you will not listen to the LORD your God’s voice, to observe to do all his commandments and his statutes which I command you today, that all these curses will come on you and overtake you.
16 You will be cursed in the city, and you will be cursed in the field.
17 Your basket and your kneading trough will be cursed.
18 The fruit of your body, the fruit of your ground, the increase of your livestock, and the young of your flock will be cursed.
19 You will be cursed when you come in, and you will be cursed when you go out.
20 The LORD will send on you cursing, confusion, and rebuke in all that you put your hand to do, until you are destroyed and until you perish quickly, because of the evil of your doings, by which you have forsaken me.
21 The LORD will make the pestilence cling to you, until he has consumed you from off the land where you go in to possess it.

22 The LORD will strike you with consumption, with fever, with inflammation, with fiery heat, with the sword, with blight, and with mildew. They will pursue you until you perish.
23 Your sky that is over your head will be bronze, and the earth that is under you will be iron.
24 The LORD will make the rain of your land powder and dust. It will come down on you from the sky, until you are destroyed.
25 The LORD will cause you to be struck before your enemies. You will go out one way against them, and will flee seven ways before them. You will be tossed back and forth among all the kingdoms of the earth.
26 Your dead bodies will be food to all birds of the sky, and to the animals of the earth; and there will be no one to frighten them away.
27 The LORD will strike you with the boils of Egypt, with the tumors, with the scurvy, and with the itch, of which you can not be healed.
28 The LORD will strike you with madness, with blindness, and with astonishment of heart.
29 You will grope at noonday, as the blind gropes in darkness, and you shall not prosper in your ways. You will only be oppressed and robbed always, and there will be no one to save you.
30 You will betroth a wife, and another man shall lie with her. You will build a house, and you won't dwell in it. You will plant a vineyard, and not use its fruit.
31 Your ox will be slain before your eyes, and you will not eat any of it. Your donkey will be violently taken away from before your face, and will not be restored to you. Your sheep will be given to your enemies, and you will have no one to save you.
32 Your sons and your daughters will be given to another people. Your eyes will look and fail with longing for them all day long. There will be no power in your hand.
33 A nation which you don't know will eat the fruit of your ground and all of your work. You will only be oppressed and crushed always,
34 so that the sights that you see with your eyes will drive you mad.
35 The LORD will strike you in the knees and in the legs with a sore boil, of which you cannot be healed, from the sole of your foot to the crown of your head.
36 The LORD will bring you, and your king whom you will set over yourselves, to a nation that you have not known, you nor your fathers. There you will serve other gods of wood and stone.
37 You will become an astonishment, a proverb, and a byword among all the peoples where the LORD will lead you away.
38 You will carry much seed out into the field, and will gather little in, for the locust will consume it.
39 You will plant vineyards and dress them, but you will neither drink of the wine, nor harvest, because worms will eat them.
40 You will have olive trees throughout all your borders, but you won't anoint yourself with the oil, for your olives will drop off.
41 You will father sons and daughters, but they will not be yours, for they will go into captivity.
42 Locusts will consume all of your trees and the fruit of your ground.
43 The foreigner who is among you will mount up above you higher and higher, and you will come down lower and lower.
44 He will lend to you, and you won't lend to him. He will be the head, and you will be the tail.
45 All these curses will come on you, and will pursue you and overtake you, until you are destroyed, because you didn't listen to the LORD your God's voice, to keep his commandments and his statutes which he commanded you.
46 They will be for a sign and for a wonder to you and to your offspring forever.
47 Because you didn't serve the LORD your God with joyfulness and with gladness of heart, by reason of the abundance of all things;

48 therefore you will serve your enemies
whom the LORD sends against you, in
hunger, in thirst, in nakedness, and in
lack of all things. He will put an iron yoke
on your neck until he has destroyed you.
49 The LORD will bring a nation against
you from far away, from the end of the
earth, as the eagle flies: a nation whose
language you will not understand,
50 a nation of fierce facial expressions,
that doesn't respect the elderly, nor show
favor to the young.
51 They will eat the fruit of your
livestock and the fruit of your ground,
until you are destroyed. They also won't
leave you grain, new wine, oil, the
increase of your livestock, or the young of
your flock, until they have caused you to
perish.
52 They will besiege you in all your gates
until your high and fortified walls in
which you trusted come down throughout
all your land. They will besiege you in all
your gates throughout all your land which
the LORD your God has given you.
53 You will eat the fruit of your own
body, the flesh of your sons and of your
daughters, whom the LORD your God has
given you, in the siege and in the distress
with which your enemies will distress
you.
54 The man who is tender among you,
and very delicate, his eye will be evil
toward his brother, toward the wife
whom he loves, and toward the remnant
of his children whom he has remaining,
55 so that he will not give to any of them
of the flesh of his children whom he will
eat, because he has nothing left to him, in
the siege and in the distress with which
your enemy will distress you in all your
gates.
56 The tender and delicate woman
among you, who would not venture to set
the sole of her foot on the ground for
delicateness and tenderness, her eye will
be evil toward the husband that she loves,
toward her son, toward her daughter,
57 toward her young one who comes out
from between her feet, and toward her
children whom she bears; for she will eat
them secretly for lack of all things in the
siege and in the distress with which your
enemy will distress you in your gates.
58 If you will not observe to do all the
words of this law that are written in this
book, that you may fear this glorious and
fearful name, THE LORD† your God,
59 then the LORD will make your
plagues and the plagues of your offspring
fearful, even great plagues, and of long
duration, and severe sicknesses, and of
long duration.
60 He will bring on you again all the
diseases of Egypt, which you were afraid
of; and they will cling to you.
61 Also every sickness and every plague
which is not written in the book of this
law, the LORD will bring them on you
until you are destroyed.
62 You will be left few in number, even
though you were as the stars of the sky for
multitude, because you didn't listen to the
LORD your God's voice.
63 It will happen that as the LORD
rejoiced over you to do you good, and to
multiply you, so the LORD will rejoice
over you to cause you to perish and to
destroy you. You will be plucked from the
land that you are going in to possess.
64 The LORD will scatter you among all
peoples, from one end of the earth to the
other end of the earth. There you will
serve other gods which you have not
known, you nor your fathers, even wood
and stone.
65 Among these nations you will find no
ease, and there will be no rest for the sole
of your foot; but the LORD will give you
there a trembling heart, failing of eyes,
and pining of soul.
66 Your life will hang in doubt before
you. You will be afraid night and day, and
will have no assurance of your life.
67 In the morning you will say, "I wish it
were evening!" and at evening you will
say, "I wish it were morning!" for the fear
of your heart which you will fear, and for

† **28:58** LORD or GOD in all caps is from the Hebrew יהוה Yahweh except when otherwise noted as being from the short form יה Yah.

the sights which your eyes will see.
68 The LORD will bring you into Egypt
again with ships, by the way of which I
told you that you would never see it again.
There you will offer yourselves to your
enemies for male and female slaves, and
nobody will buy you.

29

1 These are the words of the covenant
which the LORD commanded Moses to
make with the children of Israel in the
land of Moab, in addition to the covenant
which he made with them in Horeb.
2 Moses called to all Israel, and said to
them:

Your eyes have seen all that the LORD
did in the land of Egypt to Pharaoh, and to
all his servants, and to all his land;
3 the great trials which your eyes saw,
the signs, and those great wonders.
4 But the LORD has not given you a
heart to know, eyes to see, and ears to
hear, to this day.
5 I have led you forty years in the
wilderness. Your clothes have not grown
old on you, and your sandals have not
grown old on your feet.
6 You have not eaten bread, neither
have you drunk wine or strong drink, that
you may know that I am the LORD your
God.
7 When you came to this place, Sihon
the king of Heshbon and Og the king of
Bashan came out against us to battle, and
we struck them.
8 We took their land, and gave it for an
inheritance to the Reubenites, and to the
Gadites, and to the half-tribe of the
Manassites.
9 Therefore keep the words of this
covenant and do them, that you may
prosper in all that you do.
10 All of you stand today in the presence
of the LORD your God: your heads, your
tribes, your elders, and your officers, even
all the men of Israel,
11 your little ones, your wives, and the
foreigners who are in the middle of your
camps, from the one who cuts your wood
to the one who draws your water,
12 that you may enter into the covenant
of the LORD your God, and into his oath,
which the LORD your God makes with you
today,
13 that he may establish you today as his
people, and that he may be your God, as
he spoke to you and as he swore to your
fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to
Jacob.
14 Neither do I make this covenant and
this oath with you only,
15 but with those who stand here with us
today before the LORD our God, and also
with those who are not here with us today
16 (for you know how we lived in the
land of Egypt, and how we came through
the middle of the nations through which
you passed;
17 and you have seen their
abominations and their idols of wood,
stone, silver, and gold, which were among
them);
18 lest there should be among you man,
woman, family, or tribe whose heart
turns away today from the LORD our God,
to go to serve the gods of those nations;
lest there should be among you a root that
produces bitter poison;
19 and it happen, when he hears the
words of this curse, that he bless himself
in his heart, saying, “I shall have peace,
though I walk in the stubbornness of my
heart,” to destroy the moist with the dry.
20 The LORD will not pardon him, but
then the LORD’s anger and his jealousy
will smoke against that man, and all the
curse that is written in this book will fall
on him, and the LORD will blot out his
name from under the sky.
21 The LORD will set him apart for evil
out of all the tribes of Israel, according to
all the curses of the covenant written in
this book of the law.
22 The generation to come—your
children who will rise up after you, and
the foreigner who will come from a far
land—will say, when they see the plagues
of that land, and the sicknesses with
which the LORD has made it sick,
23 that all of its land is sulfur, salt, and
burning, that it is not sown, doesn’t
produce, nor does any grass grow in it,

like the overthrow of Sodom, Gomorrah, Admah, and Zeboiim, which the LORD overthrew in his anger, and in his wrath.
24 Even all the nations will say, “Why has the LORD done this to this land? What does the heat of this great anger mean?”
25 Then men will say, “Because they abandoned the covenant of the LORD, the God of their fathers, which he made with them when he brought them out of the land of Egypt,
26 and went and served other gods and worshiped them, gods that they didn’t know and that he had not given to them.
27 Therefore the LORD’s anger burned against this land, to bring on it all the curses that are written in this book.
28 The LORD rooted them out of their land in anger, in wrath, and in great indignation, and thrust them into another land, as it is today.”
29 The secret things belong to the LORD our God; but the things that are revealed belong to us and to our children forever, that we may do all the words of this law.

30

1 It shall happen, when all these things have come on you, the blessing and the curse, which I have set before you, and you shall call them to mind among all the nations where the LORD your God has driven you,
2 and return to the LORD your God and obey his voice according to all that I command you today, you and your children, with all your heart and with all your soul,
3 that then the LORD your God will release you from captivity, have compassion on you, and will return and gather you from all the peoples where the LORD your God has scattered you.
4 If your outcasts are in the uttermost parts of the heavens, from there the LORD your God will gather you, and from there he will bring you back.
5 The LORD your God will bring you into the land which your fathers possessed, and you will possess it. He will do you good, and increase your numbers more than your fathers.
6 The LORD your God will circumcise your heart, and the heart of your offspring, to love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, that you may live.
7 The LORD your God will put all these curses on your enemies and on those who hate you, who persecuted you.
8 You shall return and obey the LORD’s voice, and do all his commandments which I command you today.
9 The LORD your God will make you prosperous in all the work of your hand, in the fruit of your body, in the fruit of your livestock, and in the fruit of your ground, for good; for the LORD will again rejoice over you for good, as he rejoiced over your fathers,
10 if you will obey the LORD your God’s voice, to keep his commandments and his statutes which are written in this book of the law, if you turn to the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul.
11 For this commandment which I command you today is not too hard for you or too distant.
12 It is not in heaven, that you should say, “Who will go up for us to heaven, bring it to us, and proclaim it to us, that we may do it?”
13 Neither is it beyond the sea, that you should say, “Who will go over the sea for us, bring it to us, and proclaim it to us, that we may do it?”
14 But the word is very near to you, in your mouth and in your heart, that you may do it.
15 Behold, I have set before you today life and prosperity, and death and evil.
16 For I command you today to love the LORD your God, to walk in his ways and to keep his commandments, his statutes, and his ordinances, that you may live and multiply, and that the LORD your God may bless you in the land where you go in to possess it.
17 But if your heart turns away, and you will not hear, but are drawn away and

worship other gods, and serve them,
18 I declare to you today that you will surely perish. You will not prolong your days in the land where you pass over the Jordan to go in to possess it.
19 I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, the blessing and the curse. Therefore choose life, that you may live, you and your descendants,
20 to love the LORD your God, to obey his voice, and to cling to him; for he is your life, and the length of your days, that you may dwell in the land which the LORD swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them.

31

1 Moses went and spoke these words to all Israel.
2 He said to them, "I am one hundred twenty years old today. I can no more go out and come in. The LORD has said to me, 'You shall not go over this Jordan.'
3 The LORD your God himself will go over before you. He will destroy these nations from before you, and you shall dispossess them. Joshua will go over before you, as the LORD has spoken.
4 The LORD will do to them as he did to Sihon and to Og, the kings of the Amorites, and to their land, when he destroyed them.
5 The LORD will deliver them up before you, and you shall do to them according to all the commandment which I have commanded you.
6 Be strong and courageous. Don't be afraid or scared of them, for the LORD your God himself is who goes with you. He will not fail you nor forsake you."
7 Moses called to Joshua, and said to him in the sight of all Israel, "Be strong and courageous, for you shall go with this people into the land which the LORD has sworn to their fathers to give them; and you shall cause them to inherit it.
8 The LORD himself is who goes before you. He will be with you. He will not fail you nor forsake you. Don't be afraid. Don't be discouraged."
9 Moses wrote this law and delivered it to the priests the sons of Levi, who bore the ark of the LORD's covenant, and to all the elders of Israel.
10 Moses commanded them, saying, "At the end of every seven years, in the set time of the year of release, in the feast of booths,
11 when all Israel has come to appear before the LORD your God in the place which he will choose, you shall read this law before all Israel in their hearing.
12 Assemble the people, the men and the women and the little ones, and the foreigners who are within your gates, that they may hear, learn, fear the LORD your God, and observe to do all the words of this law,
13 and that their children, who have not known, may hear and learn to fear the LORD your God, as long as you live in the land where you go over the Jordan to possess it."
14 The LORD said to Moses, "Behold, your days approach that you must die. Call Joshua, and present yourselves in the Tent of Meeting, that I may commission him."
Moses and Joshua went, and presented themselves in the Tent of Meeting.
15 The LORD appeared in the Tent in a pillar of cloud, and the pillar of cloud stood over the Tent's door.
16 The LORD said to Moses, "Behold, you shall sleep with your fathers. This people will rise up and play the prostitute after the strange gods of the land where they go to be among them, and will forsake me and break my covenant which I have made with them.
17 Then my anger shall be kindled against them in that day, and I will forsake them, and I will hide my face from them, and they shall be devoured, and many evils and troubles shall come on them; so that they will say in that day, 'Haven't these evils come on us because our God is not among us?'
18 I will surely hide my face in that day for all the evil which they have done, in that they have turned to other gods.

19 “Now therefore write this song for
yourselves, and teach it to the children of
Israel. Put it in their mouths, that this
song may be a witness for me against the
children of Israel.
20 For when I have brought them into
the land which I swore to their fathers,
flowing with milk and honey, and they
have eaten and filled themselves, and
grown fat, then they will turn to other
gods, and serve them, and despise me,
and break my covenant.
21 It will happen, when many evils and
troubles have come on them, that this
song will testify before them as a witness;
for it will not be forgotten out of the
mouths of their descendants; for I know
their ways and what they are doing today,
before I have brought them into the land
which I promised them.”
22 So Moses wrote this song the same
day, and taught it to the children of Israel.
23 He commissioned Joshua the son of
Nun, and said, “Be strong and courageous;
for you shall bring the children of Israel
into the land which I swore to them. I will
be with you.”
24 When Moses had finished writing the
words of this law in a book, until they
were finished,
25 Moses commanded the Levites, who
bore the ark of the LORD’s covenant,
saying,
26 “Take this book of the law, and put it
by the side of the ark of the LORD your
God’s covenant, that it may be there for a
witness against you.
27 For I know your rebellion and your
stiff neck. Behold, while I am yet alive
with you today, you have been rebellious
against the LORD. How much more after
my death?
28 Assemble to me all the elders of your
tribes and your officers, that I may speak
these words in their ears, and call heaven
and earth to witness against them.
29 For I know that after my death you
will utterly corrupt yourselves, and turn
away from the way which I have
commanded you; and evil will happen to
you in the latter days, because you will do
that which is evil in the LORD’s sight, to
provoke him to anger through the work of
your hands.”
30 Moses spoke in the ears of all the
assembly of Israel the words of this song,
until they were finished.

32

1 Give ear, you heavens, and I will speak.
Let the earth hear the words of my
mouth.
2 My doctrine will drop as the rain.
My speech will condense as the dew,
as the misty rain on the tender grass,
as the showers on the herb.
3 For I will proclaim the LORD’s name.
Ascribe greatness to our God!
4 The Rock: his work is perfect,
for all his ways are just.
A God of faithfulness who does no
wrong,
just and right is he.
5 They have dealt corruptly with him.
They are not his children, because of
their defect.
They are a perverse and crooked
generation.
6 Is this the way you repay the LORD,
foolish and unwise people?
Isn’t he your father who has bought you?
He has made you and established you.
7 Remember the days of old.
Consider the years of many
generations.
Ask your father, and he will show you;
your elders, and they will tell you.
8 When the Most High gave to the nations
their inheritance,
when he separated the children of
men,
he set the bounds of the peoples
according to the number of the
children of Israel.
9 For the LORD’s portion is his people.
Jacob is the lot of his inheritance.
10 He found him in a desert land,
in the waste howling wilderness.
He surrounded him.
He cared for him.
He kept him as the apple of his eye.
11 As an eagle that stirs up her nest,
that flutters over her young,

he spread abroad his wings,
he took them,
he bore them on his feathers.
12 The LORD alone led him.
There was no foreign god with him.
13 He made him ride on the high places of the earth.
He ate the increase of the field.
He caused him to suck honey out of the rock,
oil out of the flinty rock;
14 butter from the herd, and milk from the flock,
with fat of lambs,
rams of the breed of Bashan, and goats,
with the finest of the wheat.
From the blood of the grape, you drank wine.
15 But Jeshurun grew fat, and kicked.
You have grown fat.
You have grown thick.
You have become sleek.
Then he abandoned God who made him,
and rejected the Rock of his salvation.
16 They moved him to jealousy with strange gods.
They provoked him to anger with abominations.
17 They sacrificed to demons, not God,
to gods that they didn't know,
to new gods that came up recently,
which your fathers didn't dread.
18 Of the Rock who became your father, you are unmindful,
and have forgotten God who gave you birth.
19 The LORD saw and abhorred,
because of the provocation of his sons and his daughters.
20 He said, "I will hide my face from them.
I will see what their end will be;
for they are a very perverse generation,
children in whom is no faithfulness.
21 They have moved me to jealousy with that which is not God.
They have provoked me to anger with their vanities.
I will move them to jealousy with those who are not a people.
I will provoke them to anger with a foolish nation.
22 For a fire is kindled in my anger,
that burns to the lowest Sheol,†
devours the earth with its increase,
and sets the foundations of the mountains on fire.

23 "I will heap evils on them.
I will spend my arrows on them.
24 They shall be wasted with hunger,
and devoured with burning heat
and bitter destruction.
I will send the teeth of animals on them,
with the venom of vipers that glide in the dust.
25 Outside the sword will bereave,
and in the rooms,
terror on both young man and virgin,
the nursing infant with the gray-haired man.
26 I said that I would scatter them afar.
I would make their memory to cease from among men;
27 were it not that I feared the provocation of the enemy,
lest their adversaries should judge wrongly,
lest they should say, 'Our hand is exalted;
the LORD has not done all this.' "

28 For they are a nation void of counsel.
There is no understanding in them.
29 Oh that they were wise, that they understood this,
that they would consider their latter end!
30 How could one chase a thousand,
and two put ten thousand to flight,
unless their Rock had sold them,
and the LORD had delivered them up?
31 For their rock is not as our Rock,
even our enemies themselves concede.
32 For their vine is of the vine of Sodom,
of the fields of Gomorrah.
Their grapes are poison grapes.
Their clusters are bitter.
33 Their wine is the poison of serpents,
the cruel venom of asps.

34 "Isn't this laid up in store with me,
sealed up among my treasures?

† **32:22** Sheol is the place of the dead.

35 Vengeance is mine, and recompense,
at the time when their foot slides,
for the day of their calamity is at hand.
Their doom rushes at them."

36 For the LORD will judge his people,
and have compassion on his servants,
when he sees that their power is gone,
that there is no one remaining, shut
up or left at large.
37 He will say, "Where are their gods,
the rock in which they took refuge,
38 which ate the fat of their sacrifices,
and drank the wine of their drink
offering?
Let them rise up and help you!
Let them be your protection.

39 "See now that I myself am he.
There is no god with me.
I kill and I make alive.
I wound and I heal.
There is no one who can deliver out of
my hand.
40 For I lift up my hand to heaven and
declare,
as I live forever,
41 if I sharpen my glittering sword,
my hand grasps it in judgment;
I will take vengeance on my adversaries,
and will repay those who hate me.
42 I will make my arrows drunk with
blood.
My sword shall devour flesh with the
blood of the slain and the captives,
from the head of the leaders of the
enemy."

43 Rejoice, you nations, with his people,
for he will avenge the blood of his
servants.
He will take vengeance on his
adversaries,
and will make atonement for his land
and for his people.‡
44 Moses came and spoke all the words
of this song in the ears of the people, he
and Joshua the son of Nun.
45 Moses finished reciting all these
words to all Israel.
46 He said to them, "Set your heart to all
the words which I testify to you today,
which you shall command your children
to observe to do, all the words of this law.
47 For it is no vain thing for you, because
it is your life, and through this thing you
shall prolong your days in the land, where
you go over the Jordan to possess it."
48 The LORD spoke to Moses that same
day, saying,
49 "Go up into this mountain of Abarim,
to Mount Nebo, which is in the land of
Moab, that is across from Jericho; and see
the land of Canaan, which I give to the
children of Israel for a possession.
50 Die on the mountain where you go
up, and be gathered to your people, as
Aaron your brother died on Mount Hor,
and was gathered to his people;
51 because you trespassed against me
among the children of Israel at the waters
of Meribah of Kadesh, in the wilderness of
Zin; because you didn't uphold my
holiness among the children of Israel.
52 For you shall see the land from a
distance; but you shall not go there into
the land which I give the children of
Israel."

33

1 This is the blessing with which Moses
the man of God blessed the children of
Israel before his death.
2 He said,
"The LORD came from Sinai,
and rose from Seir to them.
He shone from Mount Paran.
He came from the ten thousands of
holy ones.
At his right hand was a fiery law for
them.†
3 Yes, he loves the people.
All his saints are in your hand.
They sat down at your feet.
Each receives your words.

‡ **32:43** For this verse, LXX reads: Rejoice, you heavens, with him, and let all the angels of God worship him; rejoice you Gentiles, with his people, and let all the sons of God strengthen themselves in him; for he will avenge the blood of his sons, and he will give vengeance, and recompense justice to his enemies, and will reward them that hate him; and the Lord shall purge the land of his people. † **33:2** another manuscript reads "He came with myriads of holy ones from the south, from his mountain slopes."

4 Moses commanded us a law,
an inheritance for the assembly of Jacob.
5 He was king in Jeshurun,
when the heads of the people were gathered,
all the tribes of Israel together.

6 “Let Reuben live, and not die;
Nor let his men be few.”
7 This is for Judah. He said,
“Hear, LORD, the voice of Judah.
Bring him in to his people.
With his hands he contended for himself.
You shall be a help against his adversaries.”
8 About Levi he said,
“Your Thummim and your Urim are with your godly one,
whom you proved at Massah,
with whom you contended at the waters of Meribah.
9 He said of his father, and of his mother, ‘I have not seen him.’
He didn’t acknowledge his brothers,
nor did he know his own children;
for they have observed your word,
and keep your covenant.
10 They shall teach Jacob your ordinances,
and Israel your law.
They shall put incense before you,
and whole burnt offering on your altar.
11 LORD, bless his skills.
Accept the work of his hands.
Strike through the hips of those who rise up against him,
of those who hate him, that they not rise again.”
12 About Benjamin he said,
“The beloved of the LORD will dwell in safety by him.
He covers him all day long.
He dwells between his shoulders.”
13 About Joseph he said,
“His land is blessed by the LORD,
for the precious things of the heavens, for the dew,
for the deep that couches beneath,
14 for the precious things of the fruits of the sun,
for the precious things that the moon can yield,
15 for the best things of the ancient mountains,
for the precious things of the everlasting hills,
16 for the precious things of the earth and its fullness,
the good will of him who lived in the bush.‡
Let this come on the head of Joseph,
on the crown of the head of him who was separated from his brothers.
17 Majesty belongs to the firstborn of his herd.
His horns are the horns of the wild ox.
With them he will push all the peoples to the ends of the earth.
They are the ten thousands of Ephraim.
They are the thousands of Manasseh.”
18 About Zebulun he said,
“Rejoice, Zebulun, in your going out;
and Issachar, in your tents.
19 They will call the peoples to the mountain.
There they will offer sacrifices of righteousness,
for they will draw out the abundance of the seas,
the hidden treasures of the sand.”
20 About Gad he said,
“He who enlarges Gad is blessed.
He dwells as a lioness,
and tears the arm and the crown of the head.
21 He provided the first part for himself,
for the lawgiver’s portion was reserved for him.
He came with the heads of the people.
He executed the righteousness of the LORD,
His ordinances with Israel.”
22 About Dan he said,
“Dan is a lion’s cub
that leaps out of Bashan.”
23 About Naphtali he said,
“Naphtali, satisfied with favor,
full of the LORD’s blessing,
Possess the west and the south.”
24 About Asher he said,
“Asher is blessed with children.
Let him be acceptable to his brothers.

‡ **33:16** i.e., the burning bush of Exodus 3:3-4.

Let him dip his foot in oil.
25 Your bars will be iron and bronze.
As your days, so your strength will be.

26 “There is no one like God, Jeshurun,
who rides on the heavens for your help,
in his excellency on the skies.
27 The eternal God is your dwelling place.
Underneath are the everlasting arms.
He thrust out the enemy from before you,
and said, ‘Destroy!’
28 Israel dwells in safety,
the fountain of Jacob alone,
In a land of grain and new wine.
Yes, his heavens drop down dew.
29 You are happy, Israel!
Who is like you, a people saved by the LORD,
the shield of your help,
the sword of your excellency?
Your enemies will submit themselves to you.
You will tread on their high places.”

34

1 Moses went up from the plains of Moab to Mount Nebo, to the top of Pisgah, that is opposite Jericho. The LORD showed him all the land of Gilead to Dan,
2 and all Naphtali, and the land of Ephraim and Manasseh, and all the land of Judah, to the Western Sea,
3 and the south,† and the Plain of the valley of Jericho the city of palm trees, to Zoar.
4 The LORD said to him, “This is the land which I swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, saying, ‘I will give it to your offspring.’ I have caused you to see it with your eyes, but you shall not go over there.”
5 So Moses the servant of the LORD died there in the land of Moab, according to the LORD’s word.
6 He buried him in the valley in the land of Moab opposite Beth Peor, but no man knows where his tomb is to this day.
7 Moses was one hundred twenty years old when he died. His eye was not dim, nor his strength gone.
8 The children of Israel wept for Moses in the plains of Moab thirty days, until the days of weeping in the mourning for Moses were ended.
9 Joshua the son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom, for Moses had laid his hands on him. The children of Israel listened to him, and did as the LORD commanded Moses.
10 Since then, there has not arisen a prophet in Israel like Moses, whom the LORD knew face to face,
11 in all the signs and the wonders which the LORD sent him to do in the land of Egypt, to Pharaoh, and to all his servants, and to all his land,
12 and in all the mighty hand, and in all the awesome deeds, which Moses did in the sight of all Israel.

† **34:3** or, Negev

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1 Now after the death of Moses the servant of the LORD,† the LORD spoke to Joshua the son of Nun, Moses' servant, saying,
2 "Moses my servant is dead. Now therefore arise, go across this Jordan, you and all these people, to the land which I am giving to them, even to the children of Israel.
3 I have given you every place that the sole of your foot will tread on, as I told Moses.
4 From the wilderness and this Lebanon even to the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, and to the great sea toward the going down of the sun, shall be your border.
5 No man will be able to stand before you all the days of your life. As I was with Moses, so I will be with you. I will not fail you nor forsake you.
6 "Be strong and courageous; for you shall cause this people to inherit the land which I swore to their fathers to give them.
7 Only be strong and very courageous. Be careful to observe to do according to all the law which Moses my servant commanded you. Don't turn from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may have good success wherever you go.
8 This book of the law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it; for then you shall make your way prosperous, and then you shall have good success.
9 Haven't I commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Don't be afraid. Don't be dismayed, for the LORD your God‡ is with you wherever you go."
10 Then Joshua commanded the officers of the people, saying,
11 "Pass through the middle of the camp, and command the people, saying, 'Prepare food; for within three days you are to pass over this Jordan, to go in to possess the land which the LORD your God gives you to possess.' "
12 Joshua spoke to the Reubenites, and to the Gadites, and to the half-tribe of Manasseh, saying,
13 "Remember the word which Moses the servant of the LORD commanded you, saying, 'The LORD your God gives you rest, and will give you this land.
14 Your wives, your little ones, and your livestock shall live in the land which Moses gave you beyond the Jordan; but you shall pass over before your brothers armed, all the mighty men of valor, and shall help them
15 until the LORD has given your brothers rest, as he has given you, and they have also possessed the land which the LORD your God gives them. Then you shall return to the land of your possession and possess it, which Moses the servant of the LORD gave you beyond the Jordan toward the sunrise.' "
16 They answered Joshua, saying, "All that you have commanded us we will do, and wherever you send us we will go.
17 Just as we listened to Moses in all things, so will we listen to you. Only may the LORD your God be with you, as he was with Moses.
18 Whoever rebels against your commandment, and doesn't listen to your words in all that you command him shall himself be put to death. Only be strong and courageous."

2

1 Joshua the son of Nun secretly sent two men out of Shittim as spies, saying, "Go, view the land, including Jericho." They went and came into the house of a prostitute whose name was Rahab, and slept there.

† **1:1** When rendered in ALL CAPITAL LETTERS, "LORD" or "GOD" is the translation of God's Proper Name (Hebrew "יהוה", usually pronounced Yahweh). ‡ **1:9** The Hebrew word rendered "God" is "אֱלֹהִים" (Elohim).

2 The king of Jericho was told, “Behold,† men of the children of Israel came in here tonight to spy out the land.”

3 Jericho’s king sent to Rahab, saying, “Bring out the men who have come to you, who have entered into your house; for they have come to spy out all the land.”

4 The woman took the two men and hid them. Then she said, “Yes, the men came to me, but I didn’t know where they came from.
5 About the time of the shutting of the gate, when it was dark, the men went out. Where the men went, I don’t know. Pursue them quickly. You may catch up with them.”
6 But she had brought them up to the roof, and hidden them under the stalks of flax which she had laid in order on the roof.
7 The men pursued them along the way to the fords of the Jordan River. As soon as those who pursued them had gone out, they shut the gate.
8 Before they had lain down, she came up to them on the roof.
9 She said to the men, “I know that the LORD has given you the land, and that the fear of you has fallen upon us, and that all the inhabitants of the land melt away before you.
10 For we have heard how the LORD dried up the water of the Red Sea before you, when you came out of Egypt; and what you did to the two kings of the Amorites, who were beyond the Jordan, to Sihon and to Og, whom you utterly destroyed.
11 As soon as we had heard it, our hearts melted, and there wasn’t any more spirit in any man, because of you: for the LORD your God, he is God in heaven above, and on earth beneath.
12 Now therefore, please swear to me by the LORD, since I have dealt kindly with you, that you also will deal kindly with my father’s house, and give me a true sign;
13 and that you will save alive my father, my mother, my brothers, and my sisters, and all that they have, and will deliver our lives from death.”
14 The men said to her, “Our life for yours, if you don’t talk about this business of ours; and it shall be, when the LORD gives us the land, that we will deal kindly and truly with you.”
15 Then she let them down by a cord through the window; for her house was on the side of the wall, and she lived on the wall.
16 She said to them, “Go to the mountain, lest the pursuers find you. Hide yourselves there three days, until the pursuers have returned. Afterward, you may go your way.”
17 The men said to her, “We will be guiltless of this your oath which you’ve made us to swear.
18 Behold, when we come into the land, tie this line of scarlet thread in the window which you used to let us down. Gather to yourself into the house your father, your mother, your brothers, and all your father’s household.
19 It shall be that whoever goes out of the doors of your house into the street, his blood will be on his head, and we will be guiltless. Whoever is with you in the house, his blood shall be on our head, if any hand is on him.
20 But if you talk about this business of ours, then we shall be guiltless of your oath which you’ve made us to swear.”
21 She said, “Let it be as you have said.” She sent them away, and they departed. Then she tied the scarlet line in the window.
22 They went and came to the mountain, and stayed there three days, until the pursuers had returned. The pursuers sought them all along the way, but didn’t find them.
23 Then the two men returned, descended from the mountain, crossed the river, and came to Joshua the son of Nun. They told him all that had happened to them.
24 They said to Joshua, “Truly the LORD has delivered all the land into our hands.

† **2:2** “Behold”, from “הִנֵּה”, means look at, take notice, observe, see, or gaze at. It is often used as an interjection.

Moreover, all the inhabitants of the land
melt away before us."

3

1 Joshua got up early in the morning;
and they moved from Shittim and came to
the Jordan, he and all the children of
Israel. They camped there before they
crossed over.
2 After three days, the officers went
through the middle of the camp;
3 and they commanded the people,
saying, "When you see the ark of the
LORD your God's covenant, and the
Levitical priests bearing it, then leave
your place and follow it.
4 Yet there shall be a space between you
and it of about two thousand cubits† by
measure—don't come closer to it—that you
may know the way by which you must go;
for you have not passed this way before."
5 Joshua said to the people, "Sanctify
yourselves; for tomorrow the LORD will
do wonders among you."
6 Joshua spoke to the priests, saying,
"Take up the ark of the covenant, and
cross over before the people." They took
up the ark of the covenant, and went
before the people.
7 The LORD said to Joshua, "Today I will
begin to magnify you in the sight of all
Israel, that they may know that as I was
with Moses, so I will be with you.
8 You shall command the priests who
bear the ark of the covenant, saying,
'When you come to the brink of the waters
of the Jordan, you shall stand still in the
Jordan.' "
9 Joshua said to the children of Israel,
"Come here, and hear the words of the
LORD your God."
10 Joshua said, "By this you shall know
that the living God is among you, and that
he will without fail drive the Canaanite,
the Hittite, the Hivite, the Perizzite, the
Girgashite, the Amorite, and the Jebusite
out from before you.
11 Behold, the ark of the covenant of the
Lord‡ of all the earth passes over before
you into the Jordan.
12 Now therefore take twelve men out of
the tribes of Israel, for every tribe a man.
13 It shall be that when the soles of the
feet of the priests who bear the ark of
GOD,§ the Lord of all the earth, rest in the
waters of the Jordan, that the waters of
the Jordan will be cut off. The waters that
come down from above shall stand in one
heap."
14 When the people moved from their
tents to pass over the Jordan, the priests
who bore the ark of the covenant being
before the people,
15 and when those who bore the ark had
come to the Jordan, and the feet of the
priests who bore the ark had dipped in
the edge of the water (for the Jordan
overflows all its banks all the time of
harvest),
16 the waters which came down from
above stood, and rose up in one heap a
great way off, at Adam, the city that is
beside Zarethan; and those that went
down toward the sea of the Arabah, even
the Salt Sea, were wholly cut off. Then the
people passed over near Jericho.
17 The priests who bore the ark of the
LORD's covenant stood firm on dry
ground in the middle of the Jordan; and
all Israel crossed over on dry ground,
until all the nation had passed completely
over the Jordan.

4

1 When all the nation had completely
crossed over the Jordan, the LORD spoke
to Joshua, saying,
2 "Take twelve men out of the people, a
man out of every tribe,
3 and command them, saying, 'Take
from out of the middle of the Jordan, out
of the place where the priests' feet stood
firm, twelve stones, carry them over with
you, and lay them down in the place
where you'll camp tonight.' "

† **3:4** A cubit is the length from the tip of the middle finger to the elbow on a man's arm, or about 18 inches or 46 centimeters, so 2,000 cubits is about 920 meters. ‡ **3:11** The word translated "Lord" is "Adonai." § **3:13** When rendered in ALL CAPITAL LETTERS, "LORD" or "GOD" is the translation of God's Proper Name (Hebrew "יהוה", usually pronounced Yahweh).

4 Then Joshua called the twelve men
whom he had prepared of the children of
Israel, a man out of every tribe.
5 Joshua said to them, “Cross before the
ark of the LORD your God into the middle
of the Jordan, and each of you pick up a
stone and put it on your shoulder,
according to the number of the tribes of
the children of Israel;
6 that this may be a sign among you, that
when your children ask in the future,
saying, ‘What do you mean by these
stones?’
7 then you shall tell them, ‘Because the
waters of the Jordan were cut off before
the ark of the LORD’s covenant. When it
crossed over the Jordan, the waters of the
Jordan were cut off. These stones shall be
for a memorial to the children of Israel
forever.’ ”
8 The children of Israel did as Joshua
commanded, and took up twelve stones
out of the middle of the Jordan, as the
LORD spoke to Joshua, according to the
number of the tribes of the children of
Israel. They carried them over with them
to the place where they camped, and laid
them down there.
9 Joshua set up twelve stones in the
middle of the Jordan, in the place where
the feet of the priests who bore the ark of
the covenant stood; and they are there to
this day.
10 For the priests who bore the ark stood
in the middle of the Jordan until
everything was finished that the LORD
commanded Joshua to speak to the
people, according to all that Moses
commanded Joshua; and the people
hurried and passed over.
11 When all the people had completely
crossed over, the LORD’s ark crossed over
with the priests in the presence of the
people.
12 The children of Reuben, and the
children of Gad, and the half-tribe of
Manasseh crossed over armed before the
children of Israel, as Moses spoke to them.
13 About forty thousand men, ready and
armed for war, passed over before the
LORD to battle, to the plains of Jericho.
14 On that day, the LORD magnified
Joshua in the sight of all Israel; and they
feared him, as they feared Moses, all the
days of his life.
15 The LORD spoke to Joshua, saying,
16 “Command the priests who bear the
ark of the covenant, that they come up out
of the Jordan.”
17 Joshua therefore commanded the
priests, saying, “Come up out of the
Jordan!”
18 When the priests who bore the ark of
the LORD’s covenant had come up out of
the middle of the Jordan, and the soles of
the priests’ feet had been lifted up to the
dry ground, the waters of the Jordan
returned to their place, and went over all
its banks, as before.
19 The people came up out of the Jordan
on the tenth day of the first month, and
encamped in Gilgal, on the east border of
Jericho.
20 Joshua set up those twelve stones,
which they took out of the Jordan, in
Gilgal.
21 He spoke to the children of Israel,
saying, “When your children ask their
fathers in time to come, saying, ‘What do
these stones mean?’
22 Then you shall let your children
know, saying, ‘Israel came over this
Jordan on dry land.
23 For the LORD your God dried up the
waters of the Jordan from before you until
you had crossed over, as the LORD your
God did to the Red Sea, which he dried up
from before us, until we had crossed over,
24 that all the peoples of the earth may
know that the LORD’s hand is mighty, and
that you may fear the LORD your God
forever.’ ”

5

1 When all the kings of the Amorites,
who were beyond the Jordan westward,
and all the kings of the Canaanites, who
were by the sea, heard how the LORD had
dried up the waters of the Jordan from
before the children of Israel until we had
crossed over, their heart melted, and

there was no more spirit in them, because of the children of Israel.
2 At that time, the LORD said to Joshua, “Make flint knives, and circumcise again the sons of Israel the second time.”
3 Joshua made himself flint knives, and circumcised the sons of Israel at the hill of the foreskins.
4 This is the reason Joshua circumcised them: all the people who came out of Egypt, who were males, even all the men of war, died in the wilderness along the way, after they came out of Egypt.
5 For all the people who came out were circumcised; but all the people who were born in the wilderness along the way as they came out of Egypt had not been circumcised.
6 For the children of Israel walked forty years in the wilderness until all the nation, even the men of war who came out of Egypt, were consumed, because they didn’t listen to the LORD’s voice. The LORD swore to them that he wouldn’t let them see the land which the LORD swore to their fathers that he would give us, a land flowing with milk and honey.
7 Their children, whom he raised up in their place, were circumcised by Joshua, for they were uncircumcised, because they had not circumcised them on the way.
8 When they were done circumcising the whole nation, they stayed in their places in the camp until they were healed.
9 The LORD said to Joshua, “Today I have rolled away the reproach of Egypt from you.” Therefore the name of that place was called Gilgal† to this day.
10 The children of Israel encamped in Gilgal. They kept the Passover on the fourteenth day of the month at evening in the plains of Jericho.
11 They ate unleavened cakes and parched grain of the produce of the land on the next day after the Passover, in the same day.
12 The manna ceased on the next day, after they had eaten of the produce of the land. The children of Israel didn’t have manna any more, but they ate of the fruit of the land of Canaan that year.
13 When Joshua was by Jericho, he lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, a man stood in front of him with his sword drawn in his hand. Joshua went to him and said to him, “Are you for us, or for our enemies?”
14 He said, “No; but I have come now as commander of the LORD’s army.”

Joshua fell on his face to the earth, and worshiped, and asked him, “What does my lord say to his servant?”
15 The prince of the LORD’s army said to Joshua, “Take off your sandals, for the place on which you stand is holy.” Joshua did so.

6

1 Now Jericho was tightly shut up because of the children of Israel. No one went out, and no one came in.
2 The LORD said to Joshua, “Behold, I have given Jericho into your hand, with its king and the mighty men of valor.
3 All of your men of war shall march around the city, going around the city once. You shall do this six days.
4 Seven priests shall bear seven trumpets of rams’ horns before the ark. On the seventh day, you shall march around the city seven times, and the priests shall blow the trumpets.
5 It shall be that when they make a long blast with the ram’s horn, and when you hear the sound of the trumpet, all the people shall shout with a great shout; then the city wall will fall down flat, and the people shall go up, every man straight in front of him.”
6 Joshua the son of Nun called the priests, and said to them, “Take up the ark of the covenant, and let seven priests bear seven trumpets of rams’ horns before the LORD’s ark.”
7 They said to the people, “Advance! March around the city, and let the armed men pass on before the LORD’s ark.”
8 It was so, that when Joshua had spoken to the people, the seven priests

† **5:9** “Gilgal” sounds like the Hebrew for “roll.”

bearing the seven trumpets of rams' horns before the LORD advanced and blew the trumpets, and the ark of the LORD's covenant followed them.
9 The armed men went before the priests who blew the trumpets, and the ark went after them. The trumpets sounded as they went.

10 Joshua commanded the people, saying, "You shall not shout nor let your voice be heard, neither shall any word proceed out of your mouth until the day I tell you to shout. Then you shall shout."
11 So he caused the LORD's ark to go around the city, circling it once. Then they came into the camp, and stayed in the camp.
12 Joshua rose early in the morning, and the priests took up the LORD's ark.
13 The seven priests bearing the seven trumpets of rams' horns in front of the LORD's ark went on continually, and blew the trumpets. The armed men went in front of them. The rear guard came after the LORD's ark. The trumpets sounded as they went.
14 The second day they marched around the city once, and returned into the camp. They did this six days.

15 On the seventh day, they rose early at the dawning of the day, and marched around the city in the same way seven times. On this day only they marched around the city seven times.
16 At the seventh time, when the priests blew the trumpets, Joshua said to the people, "Shout, for the LORD has given you the city!
17 The city shall be devoted, even it and all that is in it, to the LORD. Only Rahab the prostitute shall live, she and all who are with her in the house, because she hid the messengers that we sent.
18 But as for you, only keep yourselves from what is devoted to destruction, lest when you have devoted it, you take of the devoted thing; so you would make the camp of Israel accursed and trouble it.
19 But all the silver, gold, and vessels of bronze and iron are holy to the LORD. They shall come into the LORD's treasury."

20 So the people shouted and the priests blew the trumpets. When the people heard the sound of the trumpet, the people shouted with a great shout, and the wall fell down flat, so that the people went up into the city, every man straight in front of him, and they took the city.
21 They utterly destroyed all that was in the city, both man and woman, both young and old, and ox, sheep, and donkey, with the edge of the sword.
22 Joshua said to the two men who had spied out the land, "Go into the prostitute's house, and bring the woman and all that she has out from there, as you swore to her."
23 The young men who were spies went in, and brought out Rahab with her father, her mother, her brothers, and all that she had. They also brought out all of her relatives, and they set them outside of the camp of Israel.
24 They burned the city with fire, and all that was in it. Only they put the silver, the gold, and the vessels of bronze and of iron into the treasury of the LORD's house.
25 But Rahab the prostitute, her father's household, and all that she had, Joshua saved alive. She lives in the middle of Israel to this day, because she hid the messengers whom Joshua sent to spy out Jericho.

26 Joshua commanded them with an oath at that time, saying, "Cursed is the man before the LORD who rises up and builds this city Jericho. With the loss of his firstborn he will lay its foundation, and with the loss of his youngest son he will set up its gates."
27 So the LORD was with Joshua; and his fame was in all the land.

7

1 But the children of Israel committed a trespass in the devoted things; for Achan, the son of Carmi, the son of Zabdi, the son of Zerah, of the tribe of Judah, took some of the devoted things. Therefore the

LORD's anger burned against the children of Israel.
2 Joshua sent men from Jericho to Ai, which is beside Beth Aven, on the east side of Bethel, and spoke to them, saying, "Go up and spy out the land."

The men went up and spied out Ai.
3 They returned to Joshua, and said to him, "Don't let all the people go up, but let about two or three thousand men go up and strike Ai. Don't make all the people to toil there, for there are only a few of them."
4 So about three thousand men of the people went up there, and they fled before the men of Ai.
5 The men of Ai struck about thirty-six men of them. They chased them from before the gate even to Shebarim, and struck them at the descent. The hearts of the people melted, and became like water.
6 Joshua tore his clothes, and fell to the earth on his face before the LORD's ark until the evening, he and the elders of Israel; and they put dust on their heads.
7 Joshua said, "Alas, Lord GOD, why have you brought this people over the Jordan at all, to deliver us into the hand of the Amorites, to cause us to perish? I wish that we had been content and lived beyond the Jordan!
8 Oh, Lord, what shall I say, after Israel has turned their backs before their enemies?
9 For the Canaanites and all the inhabitants of the land will hear of it, and will surround us, and cut off our name from the earth. What will you do for your great name?"
10 The LORD said to Joshua, "Get up! Why have you fallen on your face like that?
11 Israel has sinned. Yes, they have even transgressed my covenant which I commanded them. Yes, they have even taken some of the devoted things, and have also stolen, and also deceived. They have even put it among their own stuff.
12 Therefore the children of Israel can't stand before their enemies. They turn their backs before their enemies, because they have become devoted for destruction. I will not be with you any more, unless you destroy the devoted things from among you.
13 Get up! Sanctify the people, and say, 'Sanctify yourselves for tomorrow, for the LORD, the God of Israel, says, "There is a devoted thing among you, Israel. You cannot stand before your enemies until you take away the devoted thing from among you."
14 In the morning therefore you shall be brought near by your tribes. It shall be that the tribe which the LORD selects shall come near by families. The family which the LORD selects shall come near by households. The household which the LORD selects shall come near man by man.
15 It shall be, that he who is taken with the devoted thing shall be burned with fire, he and all that he has, because he has transgressed the LORD's covenant, and because he has done a disgraceful thing in Israel.' "
16 So Joshua rose up early in the morning and brought Israel near by their tribes. The tribe of Judah was selected.
17 He brought near the family of Judah, and he selected the family of the Zerahites. He brought near the family of the Zerahites man by man, and Zabdi was selected.
18 He brought near his household man by man, and Achan, the son of Carmi, the son of Zabdi, the son of Zerah, of the tribe of Judah, was selected.
19 Joshua said to Achan, "My son, please give glory to the LORD, the God of Israel, and make confession to him. Tell me now what you have done! Don't hide it from me!"
20 Achan answered Joshua, and said, "I have truly sinned against the LORD, the God of Israel, and this is what I have done.
21 When I saw among the plunder a beautiful Babylonian robe, two hundred shekels† of silver, and a wedge of gold weighing fifty shekels, then I coveted them and took them. Behold, they are

† **7:21** A shekel is about 10 grams or about 0.35 ounces.

hidden in the ground in the middle of my tent, with the silver under it."
22 So Joshua sent messengers, and they ran to the tent. Behold, it was hidden in his tent, with the silver under it.
23 They took them from the middle of the tent, and brought them to Joshua and to all the children of Israel. They laid them down before the LORD.
24 Joshua, and all Israel with him, took Achan the son of Zerah, the silver, the robe, the wedge of gold, his sons, his daughters, his cattle, his donkeys, his sheep, his tent, and all that he had; and they brought them up to the valley of Achor.
25 Joshua said, "Why have you troubled us? The LORD will trouble you today." All Israel stoned him with stones, and they burned them with fire and stoned them with stones.
26 They raised over him a great heap of stones that remains to this day. The LORD turned from the fierceness of his anger. Therefore the name of that place was called "The valley of Achor" to this day.

8

1 The LORD said to Joshua, "Don't be afraid, and don't be dismayed. Take all the warriors with you, and arise, go up to Ai. Behold, I have given into your hand the king of Ai, with his people, his city, and his land.
2 You shall do to Ai and her king as you did to Jericho and her king, except you shall take its goods and its livestock for yourselves. Set an ambush for the city behind it."
3 So Joshua arose, with all the warriors, to go up to Ai. Joshua chose thirty thousand men, the mighty men of valor, and sent them out by night.
4 He commanded them, saying, "Behold, you shall lie in ambush against the city, behind the city. Don't go very far from the city, but all of you be ready.
5 I and all the people who are with me will approach the city. It shall happen, when they come out against us, as at the first, that we will flee before them.
6 They will come out after us until we have drawn them away from the city; for they will say, 'They flee before us, like the first time.' So we will flee before them,
7 and you shall rise up from the ambush, and take possession of the city; for the LORD your God will deliver it into your hand.
8 It shall be, when you have seized the city, that you shall set the city on fire. You shall do this according to the LORD's word. Behold, I have commanded you."
9 Joshua sent them out; and they went to set up the ambush, and stayed between Bethel and Ai on the west side of Ai; but Joshua stayed among the people that night.
10 Joshua rose up early in the morning, mustered the people, and went up, he and the elders of Israel, before the people to Ai.
11 All the people, even the men of war who were with him, went up and came near, and came before the city and encamped on the north side of Ai. Now there was a valley between him and Ai.
12 He took about five thousand men, and set them in ambush between Bethel and Ai, on the west side of the city.
13 So they set the people, even all the army who was on the north of the city, and their ambush on the west of the city; and Joshua went that night into the middle of the valley.
14 When the king of Ai saw it, they hurried and rose up early, and the men of the city went out against Israel to battle, he and all his people, at the time appointed, before the Arabah; but he didn't know that there was an ambush against him behind the city.
15 Joshua and all Israel made as if they were beaten before them, and fled by the way of the wilderness.
16 All the people who were in the city were called together to pursue after them. They pursued Joshua, and were drawn away from the city.
17 There was not a man left in Ai or Bethel who didn't go out after Israel. They left the city open, and pursued Israel.

18 The LORD said to Joshua, “Stretch out the javelin that is in your hand toward Ai, for I will give it into your hand.”

Joshua stretched out the javelin that was in his hand toward the city.

19 The ambush arose quickly out of their place, and they ran as soon as he had stretched out his hand and entered into the city and took it. They hurried and set the city on fire.

20 When the men of Ai looked behind them, they saw, and behold, the smoke of the city ascended up to heaven, and they had no power to flee this way or that way. The people who fled to the wilderness turned back on the pursuers.

21 When Joshua and all Israel saw that the ambush had taken the city, and that the smoke of the city ascended, then they turned back and killed the men of Ai.

22 The others came out of the city against them, so they were in the middle of Israel, some on this side, and some on that side. They struck them, so that they let none of them remain or escape.

23 They captured the king of Ai alive, and brought him to Joshua.

24 When Israel had finished killing all the inhabitants of Ai in the field, in the wilderness in which they pursued them, and they had all fallen by the edge of the sword until they were consumed, all Israel returned to Ai and struck it with the edge of the sword.

25 All that fell that day, both of men and women, were twelve thousand, even all the people of Ai.

26 For Joshua didn’t draw back his hand, with which he stretched out the javelin, until he had utterly destroyed all the inhabitants of Ai.

27 Israel took for themselves only the livestock and the goods of that city, according to the LORD’s word which he commanded Joshua.

28 So Joshua burned Ai and made it a heap forever, even a desolation, to this day.

29 He hanged the king of Ai on a tree until the evening. At sundown, Joshua commanded, and they took his body down from the tree and threw it at the entrance of the gate of the city, and raised a great heap of stones on it that remains to this day.

30 Then Joshua built an altar to the LORD, the God of Israel, on Mount Ebal,

31 as Moses the servant of the LORD commanded the children of Israel, as it is written in the book of the law of Moses: an altar of uncut stones, on which no one had lifted up any iron. They offered burnt offerings on it to the LORD and sacrificed peace offerings.

32 He wrote there on the stones a copy of Moses’ law, which he wrote in the presence of the children of Israel.

33 All Israel, with their elders, officers, and judges, stood on both sides of the ark before the Levitical priests, who carried the ark of the LORD’s covenant, the foreigner as well as the native; half of them in front of Mount Gerizim, and half of them in front of Mount Ebal, as Moses the servant of the LORD had commanded at the first, that they should bless the people of Israel.

34 Afterward he read all the words of the law, the blessing and the curse, according to all that is written in the book of the law.

35 There was not a word of all that Moses commanded which Joshua didn’t read before all the assembly of Israel, with the women, the little ones, and the foreigners who were among them.

9

1 When all the kings who were beyond the Jordan, in the hill country, and in the lowland, and on all the shore of the great sea in front of Lebanon, the Hittite, the Amorite, the Canaanite, the Perizzite, the Hivite, and the Jebusite, heard of it

2 they gathered themselves together to fight with Joshua and with Israel, with one accord.

3 But when the inhabitants of Gibeon heard what Joshua had done to Jericho and to Ai,

4 they also resorted to a ruse, and went and made as if they had been ambassadors, and took old sacks on their donkeys, and old, torn-up and bound up wineskins,

5 and old and patched sandals on their
feet, and wore old garments. All the bread
of their food supply was dry and moldy.
6 They went to Joshua at the camp at
Gilgal, and said to him and to the men of
Israel, “We have come from a far country.
Now therefore make a covenant with us.”
7 The men of Israel said to the Hivites,
“What if you live among us? How could
we make a covenant with you?”
8 They said to Joshua, “We are your
servants.”
Joshua said to them, “Who are you?
Where do you come from?”
9 They said to him, “Your servants have
come from a very far country because of
the name of the LORD† your God; for we
have heard of his fame, all that he did in
Egypt,
10 and all that he did to the two kings of
the Amorites who were beyond the
Jordan, to Sihon king of Heshbon and to
Og king of Bashan, who was at Ashtaroth.
11 Our elders and all the inhabitants of
our country spoke to us, saying, ‘Take
supplies in your hand for the journey, and
go to meet them. Tell them, “We are your
servants. Now make a covenant with us.” ’
12 This our bread we took hot for our
supplies out of our houses on the day we
went out to go to you; but now, behold, it
is dry, and has become moldy.
13 These wineskins, which we filled,
were new; and behold, they are torn.
These our garments and our sandals have
become old because of the very long
journey.”
14 The men sampled their provisions,
and didn’t ask counsel from the LORD’s
mouth.
15 Joshua made peace with them, and
made a covenant with them, to let them
live. The princes of the congregation
swore to them.
16 At the end of three days after they had
made a covenant with them, they heard
that they were their neighbors, and that
they lived among them.
17 The children of Israel traveled and
came to their cities on the third day. Now
their cities were Gibeon, Chephirah,
Beeroth, and Kiriath Jearim.
18 The children of Israel didn’t strike
them, because the princes of the
congregation had sworn to them by the
LORD, the God of Israel. All the
congregation murmured against the
princes.
19 But all the princes said to all the
congregation, “We have sworn to them by
the LORD, the God of Israel. Now
therefore we may not touch them.
20 We will do this to them, and let them
live; lest wrath be on us, because of the
oath which we swore to them.”
21 The princes said to them, “Let them
live.” So they became wood cutters and
drawers of water for all the congregation,
as the princes had spoken to them.
22 Joshua called for them, and he spoke
to them, saying, “Why have you deceived
us, saying, ‘We are very far from you,’
when you live among us?
23 Now therefore you are cursed, and
some of you will never fail to be slaves,
both wood cutters and drawers of water
for the house of my God.”
24 They answered Joshua, and said,
“Because your servants were certainly
told how the LORD your God commanded
his servant Moses to give you all the land,
and to destroy all the inhabitants of the
land from before you. Therefore we were
very afraid for our lives because of you,
and have done this thing.
25 Now, behold, we are in your hand. Do
to us as it seems good and right to you to
do.”
26 He did so to them, and delivered them
out of the hand of the children of Israel, so
that they didn’t kill them.
27 That day Joshua made them wood
cutters and drawers of water for the
congregation and for the LORD’s altar to
this day, in the place which he should
choose.

10

1 Now when Adoni-Zedek king of
Jerusalem heard how Joshua had taken

† **9:9** LORD or GOD in all caps is from the Hebrew יהוה Yahweh except when otherwise noted as being from the short form יה Yah.

Ai, and had utterly destroyed it; as he had done to Jericho and her king, so he had done to Ai and her king; and how the inhabitants of Gibeon had made peace with Israel, and were among them,
2 they were very afraid, because Gibeon was a great city, as one of the royal cities, and because it was greater than Ai, and all its men were mighty.
3 Therefore Adoni-Zedek king of Jerusalem sent to Hoham king of Hebron, Piram king of Jarmuth, Japhia king of Lachish, and Debir king of Eglon, saying,
4 "Come up to me and help me. Let's strike Gibeon; for they have made peace with Joshua and with the children of Israel."
5 Therefore the five kings of the Amorites, the king of Jerusalem, the king of Hebron, the king of Jarmuth, the king of Lachish, and the king of Eglon, gathered themselves together and went up, they and all their armies, and encamped against Gibeon, and made war against it.
6 The men of Gibeon sent to Joshua at the camp at Gilgal, saying, "Don't abandon your servants! Come up to us quickly and save us! Help us; for all the kings of the Amorites that dwell in the hill country have gathered together against us."
7 So Joshua went up from Gilgal, he and the whole army with him, including all the mighty men of valor.
8 The LORD said to Joshua, "Don't fear them, for I have delivered them into your hands. Not a man of them will stand before you."
9 Joshua therefore came to them suddenly. He marched from Gilgal all night.
10 The LORD confused them before Israel. He killed them with a great slaughter at Gibeon, and chased them by the way of the ascent of Beth Horon, and struck them to Azekah and to Makkedah.
11 As they fled from before Israel, while they were at the descent of Beth Horon, the LORD hurled down great stones from the sky on them to Azekah, and they died. There were more who died from the hailstones than those whom the children of Israel killed with the sword.
12 Then Joshua spoke to the LORD in the day when the LORD delivered up the Amorites before the children of Israel. He said in the sight of Israel, "Sun, stand still on Gibeon! You, moon, stop in the valley of Aijalon!"
13 The sun stood still, and the moon stayed, until the nation had avenged themselves of their enemies. Isn't this written in the book of Jashar? The sun stayed in the middle of the sky, and didn't hurry to go down about a whole day.
14 There was no day like that before it or after it, that the LORD listened to the voice of a man; for the LORD fought for Israel.
15 Joshua returned, and all Israel with him, to the camp to Gilgal.
16 These five kings fled, and hid themselves in the cave at Makkedah.
17 Joshua was told, saying, "The five kings have been found, hidden in the cave at Makkedah."
18 Joshua said, "Roll large stones to cover the cave's entrance, and set men by it to guard them;
19 but don't stay there. Pursue your enemies, and attack them from the rear. Don't allow them to enter into their cities; for the LORD your God has delivered them into your hand."
20 When Joshua and the children of Israel had finished killing them with a very great slaughter until they were consumed, and the remnant which remained of them had entered into the fortified cities,
21 all the people returned to the camp to Joshua at Makkedah in peace. None moved his tongue against any of the children of Israel.
22 Then Joshua said, "Open the cave entrance, and bring those five kings out of the cave to me."
23 They did so, and brought those five kings out of the cave to him: the king of Jerusalem, the king of Hebron, the king of Jarmuth, the king of Lachish, and the king of Eglon.
24 When they brought those kings out to Joshua, Joshua called for all the men of

Israel, and said to the chiefs of the men of war who went with him, “Come near. Put your feet on the necks of these kings.”
They came near, and put their feet on their necks.
25 Joshua said to them, “Don’t be afraid, nor be dismayed. Be strong and courageous, for the LORD will do this to all your enemies against whom you fight.”
26 Afterward Joshua struck them, put them to death, and hanged them on five trees. They were hanging on the trees until the evening.
27 At the time of the going down of the sun, Joshua commanded, and they took them down off the trees, and threw them into the cave in which they had hidden themselves, and laid great stones on the mouth of the cave, which remain to this very day.
28 Joshua took Makkedah on that day, and struck it with the edge of the sword, with its king. He utterly destroyed it and all the souls who were in it. He left no one remaining. He did to the king of Makkedah as he had done to the king of Jericho.
29 Joshua passed from Makkedah, and all Israel with him, to Libnah, and fought against Libnah.
30 The LORD delivered it also, with its king, into the hand of Israel. He struck it with the edge of the sword, and all the souls who were in it. He left no one remaining in it. He did to its king as he had done to the king of Jericho.
31 Joshua passed from Libnah, and all Israel with him, to Lachish, and encamped against it, and fought against it.
32 The LORD delivered Lachish into the hand of Israel. He took it on the second day, and struck it with the edge of the sword, with all the souls who were in it, according to all that he had done to Libnah.
33 Then Horam king of Gezer came up to help Lachish; and Joshua struck him and his people, until he had left him no one remaining.
34 Joshua passed from Lachish, and all Israel with him, to Eglon; and they encamped against it and fought against it.
35 They took it on that day, and struck it with the edge of the sword. He utterly destroyed all the souls who were in it that day, according to all that he had done to Lachish.
36 Joshua went up from Eglon, and all Israel with him, to Hebron; and they fought against it.
37 They took it, and struck it with the edge of the sword, with its king and all its cities, and all the souls who were in it. He left no one remaining, according to all that he had done to Eglon; but he utterly destroyed it, and all the souls who were in it.
38 Joshua returned, and all Israel with him, to Debir, and fought against it.
39 He took it, with its king and all its cities. They struck them with the edge of the sword, and utterly destroyed all the souls who were in it. He left no one remaining. As he had done to Hebron, so he did to Debir, and to its king; as he had done also to Libnah, and to its king.
40 So Joshua struck all the land, the hill country, the South, the lowland, the slopes, and all their kings. He left no one remaining, but he utterly destroyed all that breathed, as the LORD, the God of Israel, commanded.
41 Joshua struck them from Kadesh Barnea even to Gaza, and all the country of Goshen, even to Gibeon.
42 Joshua took all these kings and their land at one time because the LORD, the God of Israel, fought for Israel.
43 Joshua returned, and all Israel with him, to the camp to Gilgal.

11

1 When Jabin king of Hazor heard of it, he sent to Jobab king of Madon, to the king of Shimron, to the king of Achshaph,
2 and to the kings who were on the north, in the hill country, in the Arabah south of Chinneroth, in the lowland, and in the heights of Dor on the west,
3 to the Canaanite on the east and on the west, the Amorite, the Hittite, the Perizzite, the Jebusite in the hill country, and the Hivite under Hermon in the land of Mizpah.

4 They went out, they and all their
armies with them, many people, even as
the sand that is on the seashore in
multitude, with very many horses and
chariots.
5 All these kings met together; and they
came and encamped together at the
waters of Merom, to fight with Israel.

6 The LORD said to Joshua, “Don’t be
afraid because of them; for tomorrow at
this time, I will deliver them up all slain
before Israel. You shall hamstring their
horses and burn their chariots with fire.”

7 So Joshua came suddenly, with all the
warriors, against them by the waters of
Merom, and attacked them.
8 The LORD delivered them into the
hand of Israel, and they struck them, and
chased them to great Sidon, and to
Misrephoth Maim, and to the valley of
Mizpah eastward. They struck them until
they left them no one remaining.
9 Joshua did to them as the LORD told
him. He hamstrung their horses and
burned their chariots with fire.
10 Joshua turned back at that time, and
took Hazor, and struck its king with the
sword; for Hazor used to be the head of all
those kingdoms.
11 They struck all the souls who were in
it with the edge of the sword, utterly
destroying them. There was no one left
who breathed. He burned Hazor with fire.
12 Joshua captured all the cities of those
kings, with their kings, and he struck
them with the edge of the sword, and
utterly destroyed them, as Moses the
servant of the LORD commanded.
13 But as for the cities that stood on their
mounds, Israel burned none of them,
except Hazor only. Joshua burned that.
14 The children of Israel took all the
plunder of these cities, with the livestock,
as plunder for themselves; but every man
they struck with the edge of the sword,
until they had destroyed them. They
didn’t leave any who breathed.

15 As the LORD commanded Moses his
servant, so Moses commanded Joshua.
Joshua did so. He left nothing undone of
all that the LORD commanded Moses.

16 So Joshua captured all that land, the
hill country, all the South, all the land of
Goshen, the lowland, the Arabah, the hill
country of Israel, and the lowland of the
same,
17 from Mount Halak, that goes up to
Seir, even to Baal Gad in the valley of
Lebanon under Mount Hermon. He took
all their kings, struck them, and put them
to death.
18 Joshua made war a long time with all
those kings.
19 There was not a city that made peace
with the children of Israel, except the
Hivites, the inhabitants of Gibeon. They
took all in battle.
20 For it was of the LORD to harden their
hearts, to come against Israel in battle,
that he might utterly destroy them, that
they might have no favor, but that he
might destroy them, as the LORD
commanded Moses.
21 Joshua came at that time, and cut off
the Anakim from the hill country, from
Hebron, from Debir, from Anab, and from
all the hill country of Judah, and from all
the hill country of Israel. Joshua utterly
destroyed them with their cities.
22 There were none of the Anakim left in
the land of the children of Israel. Only in
Gaza, in Gath, and in Ashdod, did some
remain.
23 So Joshua took the whole land,
according to all that the LORD spoke to
Moses; and Joshua gave it for an
inheritance to Israel according to their
divisions by their tribes. Then the land
had rest from war.

12

1 Now these are the kings of the land,
whom the children of Israel struck, and
possessed their land beyond the Jordan
toward the sunrise, from the valley of the
Arnon to Mount Hermon, and all the
Arabah eastward:
2 Sihon king of the Amorites, who lived
in Heshbon, and ruled from Aroer, which
is on the edge of the valley of the Arnon,
and the middle of the valley, and half
Gilead, even to the river Jabbok, the
border of the children of Ammon;

3 and the Arabah to the sea of
Chinneroth, eastward, and to the sea of
the Arabah, even the Salt Sea, eastward,
the way to Beth Jeshimoth; and on the
south, under the slopes of Pisgah:
4 and the border of Og king of Bashan, of
the remnant of the Rephaim, who lived at
Ashtaroth and at Edrei,
5 and ruled in Mount Hermon, and in
Salecah, and in all Bashan, to the border
of the Geshurites and the Maacathites,
and half Gilead, the border of Sihon king
of Heshbon.
6 Moses the servant of the LORD and the
children of Israel struck them. Moses the
servant of the LORD gave it for a
possession to the Reubenites, and the
Gadites, and the half-tribe of Manasseh.
7 These are the kings of the land whom
Joshua and the children of Israel struck
beyond the Jordan westward, from Baal
Gad in the valley of Lebanon even to
Mount Halak, that goes up to Seir. Joshua
gave it to the tribes of Israel for a
possession according to their divisions;
8 in the hill country, and in the lowland,
and in the Arabah, and in the slopes, and
in the wilderness, and in the South; the
Hittite, the Amorite, and the Canaanite,
the Perizzite, the Hivite, and the Jebusite:
9 the king of Jericho, one;
the king of Ai, which is beside Bethel, one;
10 the king of Jerusalem, one;
the king of Hebron, one;
11 the king of Jarmuth, one;
the king of Lachish, one;
12 the king of Eglon, one;
the king of Gezer, one;
13 the king of Debir, one;
the king of Geder, one;
14 the king of Hormah, one;
the king of Arad, one;
15 the king of Libnah, one;
the king of Adullam, one;
16 the king of Makkedah, one;
the king of Bethel, one;
17 the king of Tappuah, one;
the king of Hepher, one;
18 the king of Aphek, one;
the king of Lassharon, one;
19 the king of Madon, one;
the king of Hazor, one;
20 the king of Shimron Meron, one;
the king of Achshaph, one;
21 the king of Taanach, one;
the king of Megiddo, one;
22 the king of Kedesh, one;
the king of Jokneam in Carmel, one;
23 the king of Dor in the height of Dor, one;
the king of Goiim in Gilgal, one;
24 the king of Tirzah, one:
all the kings thirty-one.

13

1 Now Joshua was old and well
advanced in years. The LORD said to him,
“You are old and advanced in years, and
there remains yet very much land to be
possessed.
2 “This is the land that still remains: all
the regions of the Philistines, and all the
Geshurites;
3 from the Shihor, which is before Egypt,
even to the border of Ekron northward,
which is counted as Canaanite; the five
lords of the Philistines; the Gazites, and
the Ashdodites, the Ashkelonites, the
Gittites, and the Ekronites; also the Avvim,
4 on the south; all the land of the
Canaanites, and Mearah that belongs to
the Sidonians, to Aphek, to the border of
the Amorites;
5 and the land of the Gebalites, and all
Lebanon, toward the sunrise, from Baal
Gad under Mount Hermon to the entrance
of Hamath;
6 all the inhabitants of the hill country
from Lebanon to Misrephoth Maim, even
all the Sidonians. I will drive them out
from before the children of Israel. Just
allocate it to Israel for an inheritance, as I
have commanded you.
7 Now therefore divide this land for an
inheritance to the nine tribes and the
half-tribe of Manasseh.”
8 With him the Reubenites and the
Gadites received their inheritance, which
Moses gave them, beyond the Jordan
eastward, even as Moses the servant of
the LORD gave them:
9 from Aroer, that is on the edge of the
valley of the Arnon, and the city that is in
the middle of the valley, and all the plain
of Medeba to Dibon;

10 and all the cities of Sihon king of the Amorites, who reigned in Heshbon, to the border of the children of Ammon;
11 and Gilead, and the border of the Geshurites and Maacathites, and all Mount Hermon, and all Bashan to Salecah;
12 all the kingdom of Og in Bashan, who reigned in Ashtaroth and in Edrei (who was left of the remnant of the Rephaim); for Moses attacked these, and drove them out.
13 Nevertheless the children of Israel didn't drive out the Geshurites, nor the Maacathites: but Geshur and Maacath live within Israel to this day.
14 Only he gave no inheritance to the tribe of Levi. The offerings of the LORD, the God of Israel, made by fire are his inheritance, as he spoke to him.
15 Moses gave to the tribe of the children of Reuben according to their families.
16 Their border was from Aroer, that is on the edge of the valley of the Arnon, and the city that is in the middle of the valley, and all the plain by Medeba;
17 Heshbon, and all its cities that are in the plain; Dibon, Bamoth Baal, Beth Baal Meon,
18 Jahaz, Kedemoth, Mephaath,
19 Kiriathaim, Sibmah, Zereth Shahar in the mount of the valley,
20 Beth Peor, the slopes of Pisgah, Beth Jeshimoth,
21 all the cities of the plain, and all the kingdom of Sihon king of the Amorites, who reigned in Heshbon, whom Moses struck with the chiefs of Midian, Evi, Rekem, Zur, Hur, and Reba, the princes of Sihon, who lived in the land.
22 The children of Israel also killed Balaam the son of Beor, the soothsayer, with the sword, among the rest of their slain.
23 The border of the children of Reuben was the bank of the Jordan. This was the inheritance of the children of Reuben according to their families, the cities and its villages.
24 Moses gave to the tribe of Gad, to the children of Gad, according to their families.
25 Their border was Jazer, and all the cities of Gilead, and half the land of the children of Ammon, to Aroer that is near Rabbah;
26 and from Heshbon to Ramath Mizpeh, and Betonim; and from Mahanaim to the border of Debir;
27 and in the valley, Beth Haram, Beth Nimrah, Succoth, and Zaphon, the rest of the kingdom of Sihon king of Heshbon, the Jordan's bank, to the uttermost part of the sea of Chinnereth beyond the Jordan eastward.
28 This is the inheritance of the children of Gad according to their families, the cities and its villages.
29 Moses gave an inheritance to the half-tribe of Manasseh. It was for the half-tribe of the children of Manasseh according to their families.
30 Their border was from Mahanaim, all Bashan, all the kingdom of Og king of Bashan, and all the villages of Jair, which are in Bashan, sixty cities.
31 Half Gilead, Ashtaroth, and Edrei, the cities of the kingdom of Og in Bashan, were for the children of Machir the son of Manasseh, even for the half of the children of Machir according to their families.
32 These are the inheritances which Moses distributed in the plains of Moab, beyond the Jordan at Jericho, eastward.
33 But Moses gave no inheritance to the tribe of Levi. The LORD, the God of Israel, is their inheritance, as he spoke to them.

14

1 These are the inheritances which the children of Israel took in the land of Canaan, which Eleazar the priest, Joshua the son of Nun, and the heads of the fathers' houses of the tribes of the children of Israel, distributed to them,
2 by the lot of their inheritance, as the LORD commanded by Moses, for the nine tribes, and for the half-tribe.
3 For Moses had given the inheritance of the two tribes and the half-tribe beyond the Jordan; but to the Levites he gave no inheritance among them.
4 For the children of Joseph were two tribes, Manasseh and Ephraim. They gave

no portion to the Levites in the land, except cities to dwell in, with their pasture lands for their livestock and for their property.

5 The children of Israel did as the LORD commanded Moses, and they divided the land.

6 Then the children of Judah came near to Joshua in Gilgal. Caleb the son of Jephunneh the Kenizzite said to him, “You know the thing that the LORD spoke to Moses the man of God concerning me and concerning you in Kadesh Barnea.

7 I was forty years old when Moses the servant of the LORD sent me from Kadesh Barnea to spy out the land. I brought him word again as it was in my heart.

8 Nevertheless, my brothers who went up with me made the heart of the people melt; but I wholly followed the LORD my God.

9 Moses swore on that day, saying, ‘Surely the land where you walked shall be an inheritance to you and to your children forever, because you have wholly followed the LORD my God.’

10 “Now, behold, the LORD has kept me alive, as he spoke, these forty-five years, from the time that the LORD spoke this word to Moses, while Israel walked in the wilderness. Now, behold, I am eighty-five years old, today.

11 As yet I am as strong today as I was in the day that Moses sent me. As my strength was then, even so is my strength now for war, to go out and to come in.

12 Now therefore give me this hill country, of which the LORD spoke in that day; for you heard in that day how the Anakim were there, and great and fortified cities. It may be that the LORD will be with me, and I shall drive them out, as the LORD said.”

13 Joshua blessed him; and he gave Hebron to Caleb the son of Jephunneh for an inheritance.

14 Therefore Hebron became the inheritance of Caleb the son of Jephunneh the Kenizzite to this day, because he followed the LORD, the God of Israel wholeheartedly.

15 Now the name of Hebron before was Kiriath Arba, after the greatest man among the Anakim. Then the land had rest from war.

15

1 The lot for the tribe of the children of Judah according to their families was to the border of Edom, even to the wilderness of Zin southward, at the uttermost part of the south.

2 Their south border was from the uttermost part of the Salt Sea, from the bay that looks southward;

3 and it went out southward of the ascent of Akrabbim, and passed along to Zin, and went up by the south of Kadesh Barnea, and passed along by Hezron, went up to Addar, and turned toward Karka;

4 and it passed along to Azmon, went out at the brook of Egypt; and the border ended at the sea. This shall be your south border.

5 The east border was the Salt Sea, even to the end of the Jordan. The border of the north quarter was from the bay of the sea at the end of the Jordan.

6 The border went up to Beth Hoglah, and passed along by the north of Beth Arabah; and the border went up to the stone of Bohan the son of Reuben.

7 The border went up to Debir from the valley of Achor, and so northward, looking toward Gilgal, that faces the ascent of Adummim, which is on the south side of the river. The border passed along to the waters of En Shemesh, and ended at En Rogel.

8 The border went up by the valley of the son of Hinnom to the side of the Jebusite (also called Jerusalem) southward; and the border went up to the top of the mountain that lies before the valley of Hinnom westward, which is at the farthest part of the valley of Rephaim northward.

9 The border extended from the top of the mountain to the spring of the waters of Nephtoah, and went out to the cities of Mount Ephron; and the border extended to Baalah (also called Kiriath Jearim);

10 and the border turned about from
Baalah westward to Mount Seir, and
passed along to the side of Mount Jearim
(also called Chesalon) on the north, and
went down to Beth Shemesh, and passed
along by Timnah;
11 and the border went out to the side of
Ekron northward; and the border
extended to Shikkeron, and passed along
to Mount Baalah, and went out at Jabneel;
and the goings out of the border were at
the sea.
12 The west border was to the shore of
the great sea. This is the border of the
children of Judah according to their
families.
13 He gave to Caleb the son of
Jephunneh a portion among the children
of Judah, according to the commandment
of the LORD to Joshua, even Kiriath Arba,
named after the father of Anak (also
called Hebron).
14 Caleb drove out the three sons of
Anak: Sheshai, and Ahiman, and Talmai,
the children of Anak.
15 He went up against the inhabitants of
Debir: now the name of Debir before was
Kiriath Sepher.
16 Caleb said, “He who strikes Kiriath
Sepher, and takes it, to him I will give
Achsah my daughter as wife.”
17 Othniel the son of Kenaz, the brother
of Caleb, took it: and he gave him Achsah
his daughter as wife.
18 When she came, she had him ask her
father for a field. She got off her donkey,
and Caleb said, “What do you want?”
19 She said, “Give me a blessing. Because
you have set me in the land of the South,
give me also springs of water.”
So he gave her the upper springs and
the lower springs.
20 This is the inheritance of the tribe of
the children of Judah according to their
families.
21 The farthest cities of the tribe of the
children of Judah toward the border of
Edom in the South were Kabzeel, Eder,
Jagur,
22 Kinah, Dimonah, Adadah,
23 Kedesh, Hazor, Ithnan,
24 Ziph, Telem, Bealoth,
25 Hazor Hadattah, Kerioth Hezron (also
called Hazor),
26 Amam, Shema, Moladah,
27 Hazar Gaddah, Heshmon, Beth Pelet,
28 Hazar Shual, Beersheba, Biziothiah,
29 Baalah, Iim, Ezem,
30 Eltolad, Chesil, Hormah,
31 Ziklag, Madmannah, Sansannah,
32 Lebaoth, Shilhim, Ain, and Rimmon.
All the cities are twenty-nine, with their
villages.
33 In the lowland, Eshtaol, Zorah, Ashnah,
34 Zanoah, En Gannim, Tappuah, Enam,
35 Jarmuth, Adullam, Socoh, Azekah,
36 Shaaraim, Adithaim and Gederah (or
Gederothaim); fourteen cities with their
villages.
37 Zenan, Hadashah, Migdal Gad,
38 Dilean, Mizpah, Joktheel,
39 Lachish, Bozkath, Eglon,
40 Cabbon, Lahmam, Chitlish,
41 Gederoth, Beth Dagon, Naamah, and
Makkedah; sixteen cities with their
villages.
42 Libnah, Ether, Ashan,
43 Iphtah, Ashnah, Nezib,
44 Keilah, Achzib, and Mareshah; nine
cities with their villages.
45 Ekron, with its towns and its villages;
46 from Ekron even to the sea, all that were
by the side of Ashdod, with their villages.
47 Ashdod, its towns and its villages; Gaza,
its towns and its villages; to the brook of
Egypt, and the great sea with its coastline.
48 In the hill country, Shamir, Jattir, Socoh,
49 Dannah, Kiriath Sannah (which is
Debir),
50 Anab, Eshtemoh, Anim,
51 Goshen, Holon, and Giloh; eleven cities
with their villages.
52 Arab, Dumah, Eshan,
53 Janim, Beth Tappuah, Aphekah,
54 Humtah, Kiriath Arba (also called
Hebron), and Zior; nine cities with their
villages.
55 Maon, Carmel, Ziph, Jutah,
56 Jezreel, Jokdeam, Zanoah,
57 Kain, Gibeah, and Timnah; ten cities
with their villages.
58 Halhul, Beth Zur, Gedor,
59 Maarath, Beth Anoth, and Eltekon; six
cities with their villages.

60 Kiriath Baal (also called Kiriath Jearim),
and Rabbah; two cities with their villages.
61 In the wilderness, Beth Arabah, Middin,
Secacah,
62 Nibshan, the City of Salt, and En Gedi;
six cities with their villages.
63 As for the Jebusites, the inhabitants of
Jerusalem, the children of Judah couldn't
drive them out; but the Jebusites live with
the children of Judah at Jerusalem to this
day.

16

1 The lot came out for the children of
Joseph from the Jordan at Jericho, at the
waters of Jericho on the east, even the
wilderness, going up from Jericho
through the hill country to Bethel.
2 It went out from Bethel to Luz, and
passed along to the border of the Archites
to Ataroth;
3 and it went down westward to the
border of the Japhletites, to the border of
Beth Horon the lower, and on to Gezer;
and ended at the sea.
4 The children of Joseph, Manasseh and
Ephraim, took their inheritance.
5 This was the border of the children of
Ephraim according to their families. The
border of their inheritance eastward was
Ataroth Addar, to Beth Horon the upper.
6 The border went out westward at
Michmethath on the north. The border
turned about eastward to Taanath Shiloh,
and passed along it on the east of Janoah.
7 It went down from Janoah to Ataroth,
to Naarah, reached to Jericho, and went
out at the Jordan.
8 From Tappuah the border went along
westward to the brook of Kanah; and
ended at the sea. This is the inheritance of
the tribe of the children of Ephraim
according to their families;
9 together with the cities which were set
apart for the children of Ephraim in the
middle of the inheritance of the children
of Manasseh, all the cities with their
villages.
10 They didn't drive out the Canaanites
who lived in Gezer; but the Canaanites
dwell in the territory of Ephraim to this
day, and have become servants to do
forced labor.

17

1 This was the lot for the tribe of
Manasseh, for he was the firstborn of
Joseph. As for Machir the firstborn of
Manasseh, the father of Gilead, because
he was a man of war, therefore he had
Gilead and Bashan.
2 So this was for the rest of the children
of Manasseh according to their families:
for the children of Abiezer, for the
children of Helek, for the children of
Asriel, for the children of Shechem, for
the children of Hepher, and for the
children of Shemida. These were the male
children of Manasseh the son of Joseph
according to their families.
3 But Zelophehad, the son of Hepher, the
son of Gilead, the son of Machir, the son of
Manasseh, had no sons, but daughters.
These are the names of his daughters:
Mahlah, Noah, Hoglah, Milcah, and
Tirzah.
4 They came to Eleazar the priest, and to
Joshua the son of Nun, and to the princes,
saying, "The LORD commanded Moses to
give us an inheritance among our
brothers." Therefore according to the
commandment of the LORD he gave them
an inheritance among the brothers of
their father.
5 Ten parts fell to Manasseh, in addition
to the land of Gilead and Bashan, which is
beyond the Jordan;
6 because the daughters of Manasseh
had an inheritance among his sons. The
land of Gilead belonged to the rest of the
sons of Manasseh.
7 The border of Manasseh was from
Asher to Michmethath, which is before
Shechem. The border went along to the
right hand, to the inhabitants of En
Tappuah.
8 The land of Tappuah belonged to
Manasseh; but Tappuah on the border of
Manasseh belonged to the children of
Ephraim.
9 The border went down to the brook of
Kanah, southward of the brook. These
cities belonged to Ephraim among the
cities of Manasseh. The border of
Manasseh was on the north side of the
brook, and ended at the sea.
10 Southward it was Ephraim's, and

northward it was Manasseh's, and the sea was his border. They reached to Asher on the north, and to Issachar on the east.
11 Manasseh had three heights in Issachar, in Asher Beth Shean and its towns, and Ibleam and its towns, and the inhabitants of Dor and its towns, and the inhabitants of Endor and its towns, and the inhabitants of Taanach and its towns, and the inhabitants of Megiddo and its towns.
12 Yet the children of Manasseh couldn't drive out the inhabitants of those cities; but the Canaanites would dwell in that land.
13 When the children of Israel had grown strong, they put the Canaanites to forced labor, and didn't utterly drive them out.
14 The children of Joseph spoke to Joshua, saying, "Why have you given me just one lot and one part for an inheritance, since we are a numerous people, because the LORD has blessed us so far?"
15 Joshua said to them, "If you are a numerous people, go up to the forest, and clear land for yourself there in the land of the Perizzites and of the Rephaim, since the hill country of Ephraim is too narrow for you."
16 The children of Joseph said, "The hill country is not enough for us. All the Canaanites who dwell in the land of the valley have chariots of iron, both those who are in Beth Shean and its towns, and those who are in the valley of Jezreel."
17 Joshua spoke to the house of Joseph, that is, to Ephraim and to Manasseh, saying, "You are a numerous people, and have great power. You shall not have one lot only;
18 but the hill country shall be yours. Although it is a forest, you shall cut it down, and it's farthest extent shall be yours; for you shall drive out the Canaanites, though they have chariots of iron, and though they are strong."

18

1 The whole congregation of the children of Israel assembled themselves together at Shiloh, and set up the Tent of Meeting there. The land was subdued before them.
2 Seven tribes remained among the children of Israel, which had not yet divided their inheritance.
3 Joshua said to the children of Israel, "How long will you neglect to go in to possess the land, which the LORD, the God of your fathers, has given you?
4 Appoint for yourselves three men from each tribe. I will send them, and they shall arise, walk through the land, and describe it according to their inheritance; then they shall come to me.
5 They shall divide it into seven portions. Judah shall live in his borders on the south, and the house of Joseph shall live in their borders on the north.
6 You shall survey the land into seven parts, and bring the description here to me; and I will cast lots for you here before the LORD our God.
7 However, the Levites have no portion among you; for the priesthood of the LORD is their inheritance. Gad, Reuben, and the half-tribe of Manasseh have received their inheritance east of the Jordan, which Moses the servant of the LORD gave them."
8 The men arose and went. Joshua commanded those who went to survey the land, saying, "Go walk through the land, survey it, and come again to me. I will cast lots for you here before the LORD in Shiloh."
9 The men went and passed through the land, and surveyed it by cities into seven portions in a book. They came to Joshua to the camp at Shiloh.
10 Joshua cast lots for them in Shiloh before the LORD. There Joshua divided the land to the children of Israel according to their divisions.
11 The lot of the tribe of the children of Benjamin came up according to their families. The border of their lot went out between the children of Judah and the children of Joseph.
12 Their border on the north quarter was from the Jordan. The border went up to the side of Jericho on the north, and went up through the hill country

westward. It ended at the wilderness of Beth Aven.
13 The border passed along from there to Luz, to the side of Luz (also called Bethel), southward. The border went down to Ataroth Addar, by the mountain that lies on the south of Beth Horon the lower.
14 The border extended, and turned around on the west quarter southward, from the mountain that lies before Beth Horon southward; and ended at Kiriath Baal (also called Kiriath Jearim), a city of the children of Judah. This was the west quarter.
15 The south quarter was from the farthest part of Kiriath Jearim. The border went out westward, and went out to the spring of the waters of Nephtoah.
16 The border went down to the farthest part of the mountain that lies before the valley of the son of Hinnom, which is in the valley of Rephaim northward. It went down to the valley of Hinnom, to the side of the Jebusite southward, and went down to En Rogel.
17 It extended northward, went out at En Shemesh, and went out to Geliloth, which is opposite the ascent of Adummim. It went down to the stone of Bohan the son of Reuben.
18 It passed along to the side opposite the Arabah northward, and went down to the Arabah.
19 The border passed along to the side of Beth Hoglah northward; and the border ended at the north bay of the Salt Sea, at the south end of the Jordan. This was the south border.
20 The Jordan was its border on the east quarter. This was the inheritance of the children of Benjamin, by the borders around it, according to their families.
21 Now the cities of the tribe of the children of Benjamin according to their families were Jericho, Beth Hoglah, Emek Keziz,
22 Beth Arabah, Zemaraim, Bethel,
23 Avvim, Parah, Ophrah,
24 Chephar Ammoni, Ophni, and Geba; twelve cities with their villages.
25 Gibeon, Ramah, Beeroth,
26 Mizpeh, Chephirah, Mozah,
27 Rekem, Irpeel, Taralah,
28 Zelah, Eleph, the Jebusite (also called Jerusalem), Gibeath, and Kiriath; fourteen cities with their villages. This is the inheritance of the children of Benjamin according to their families.

19

1 The second lot came out for Simeon, even for the tribe of the children of Simeon according to their families. Their inheritance was in the middle of the inheritance of the children of Judah.
2 They had for their inheritance Beersheba (or Sheba), Moladah,
3 Hazar Shual, Balah, Ezem,
4 Eltolad, Bethul, Hormah,
5 Ziklag, Beth Marcaboth, Hazar Susah,
6 Beth Lebaoth, and Sharuhen; thirteen cities with their villages;
7 Ain, Rimmon, Ether, and Ashan; four cities with their villages;
8 and all the villages that were around these cities to Baalath Beer, Ramah of the South. This is the inheritance of the tribe of the children of Simeon according to their families.
9 Out of the part of the children of Judah was the inheritance of the children of Simeon; for the portion of the children of Judah was too much for them. Therefore the children of Simeon had inheritance in the middle of their inheritance.
10 The third lot came up for the children of Zebulun according to their families. The border of their inheritance was to Sarid.
11 Their border went up westward, even to Maralah, and reached to Dabbesheth. It reached to the brook that is before Jokneam.
12 It turned from Sarid eastward toward the sunrise to the border of Chisloth Tabor. It went out to Daberath, and went up to Japhia.
13 From there it passed along eastward to Gath Hepher, to Ethkazin; and it went out at Rimmon which stretches to Neah.
14 The border turned around it on the north to Hannathon; and it ended at the valley of Iphtah El;
15 Kattath, Nahalal, Shimron, Idalah, and Bethlehem: twelve cities with their villages.

16 This is the inheritance of the children of Zebulun according to their families, these cities with their villages.
17 The fourth lot came out for Issachar, even for the children of Issachar according to their families.
18 Their border was to Jezreel, Chesulloth, Shunem,
19 Hapharaim, Shion, Anaharath,
20 Rabbith, Kishion, Ebez,
21 Remeth, Engannim, En Haddah, and Beth Pazzez.
22 The border reached to Tabor, Shahazumah, and Beth Shemesh. Their border ended at the Jordan: sixteen cities with their villages.
23 This is the inheritance of the tribe of the children of Issachar according to their families, the cities with their villages.
24 The fifth lot came out for the tribe of the children of Asher according to their families.
25 Their border was Helkath, Hali, Beten, Achshaph,
26 Allammelech, Amad, Mishal. It reached to Carmel westward, and to Shihorlibnath.
27 It turned toward the sunrise to Beth Dagon, and reached to Zebulun, and to the valley of Iphtah El northward to Beth Emek and Neiel. It went out to Cabul on the left hand,
28 and Ebron, Rehob, Hammon, and Kanah, even to great Sidon.
29 The border turned to Ramah, to the fortified city of Tyre; and the border turned to Hosah. It ended at the sea by the region of Achzib;
30 Ummah also, and Aphek, and Rehob: twenty-two cities with their villages.
31 This is the inheritance of the tribe of the children of Asher according to their families, these cities with their villages.
32 The sixth lot came out for the children of Naphtali, even for the children of Naphtali according to their families.
33 Their border was from Heleph, from the oak in Zaanannim, Adami-nekeb, and Jabneel, to Lakkum. It ended at the Jordan.
34 The border turned westward to Aznoth Tabor, and went out from there to Hukkok. It reached to Zebulun on the south, and reached to Asher on the west, and to Judah at the Jordan toward the sunrise.
35 The fortified cities were Ziddim, Zer, Hammath, Rakkath, Chinnereth,
36 Adamah, Ramah, Hazor,
37 Kedesh, Edrei, En Hazor,
38 Iron, Migdal El, Horem, Beth Anath, and Beth Shemesh; nineteen cities with their villages.
39 This is the inheritance of the tribe of the children of Naphtali according to their families, the cities with their villages.
40 The seventh lot came out for the tribe of the children of Dan according to their families.
41 The border of their inheritance was Zorah, Eshtaol, Irshemesh,
42 Shaalabbin, Aijalon, Ithlah,
43 Elon, Timnah, Ekron,
44 Eltekeh, Gibbethon, Baalath,
45 Jehud, Bene Berak, Gath Rimmon,
46 Me Jarkon, and Rakkon, with the border opposite Joppa.
47 The border of the children of Dan went out beyond them; for the children of Dan went up and fought against Leshem, and took it, and struck it with the edge of the sword, and possessed it, and lived therein, and called Leshem, Dan, after the name of Dan their forefather.
48 This is the inheritance of the tribe of the children of Dan according to their families, these cities with their villages.
49 So they finished distributing the land for inheritance by its borders. The children of Israel gave an inheritance to Joshua the son of Nun among them.
50 According to the LORD's commandment, they gave him the city which he asked, even Timnathserah in the hill country of Ephraim; and he built the city, and lived there.
51 These are the inheritances, which Eleazar the priest, Joshua the son of Nun, and the heads of the fathers' houses of the tribes of the children of Israel, distributed for inheritance by lot in Shiloh before the LORD, at the door of the Tent of Meeting. So they finished dividing the land.

20

1 The LORD spoke to Joshua, saying,

2 “Speak to the children of Israel, saying, ‘Assign the cities of refuge, of which I spoke to you by Moses,
3 that the man slayer who kills any person accidentally or unintentionally may flee there. They shall be to you for a refuge from the avenger of blood.
4 He shall flee to one of those cities, and shall stand at the entrance of the gate of the city, and declare his case in the ears of the elders of that city. They shall take him into the city with them, and give him a place, that he may live among them.
5 If the avenger of blood pursues him, then they shall not deliver up the man slayer into his hand; because he struck his neighbor unintentionally, and didn’t hate him before.
6 He shall dwell in that city until he stands before the congregation for judgment, until the death of the high priest that shall be in those days. Then the man slayer shall return, and come to his own city, and to his own house, to the city he fled from.’ ”
7 They set apart Kedesh in Galilee in the hill country of Naphtali, Shechem in the hill country of Ephraim, and Kiriath Arba (also called Hebron) in the hill country of Judah.
8 Beyond the Jordan at Jericho eastward, they assigned Bezer in the wilderness in the plain out of the tribe of Reuben, Ramoth in Gilead out of the tribe of Gad, and Golan in Bashan out of the tribe of Manasseh.
9 These were the appointed cities for all the children of Israel, and for the alien who lives among them, that whoever kills any person unintentionally might flee there, and not die by the hand of the avenger of blood, until he stands trial before the congregation.

21

1 Then the heads of fathers’ houses of the Levites came near to Eleazar the priest, and to Joshua the son of Nun, and to the heads of fathers’ houses of the tribes of the children of Israel.
2 They spoke to them at Shiloh in the land of Canaan, saying, “The LORD commanded through Moses to give us cities to dwell in, with their pasture lands for our livestock.”
3 The children of Israel gave to the Levites out of their inheritance, according to the commandment of the LORD, these cities with their pasture lands.
4 The lot came out for the families of the Kohathites. The children of Aaron the priest, who were of the Levites, had thirteen cities by lot out of the tribe of Judah, out of the tribe of the Simeonites, and out of the tribe of Benjamin.
5 The rest of the children of Kohath had ten cities by lot out of the families of the tribe of Ephraim, out of the tribe of Dan, and out of the half-tribe of Manasseh.
6 The children of Gershon had thirteen cities by lot out of the families of the tribe of Issachar, out of the tribe of Asher, out of the tribe of Naphtali, and out of the half-tribe of Manasseh in Bashan.
7 The children of Merari according to their families had twelve cities out of the tribe of Reuben, out of the tribe of Gad, and out of the tribe of Zebulun.
8 The children of Israel gave these cities with their pasture lands by lot to the Levites, as the LORD commanded by Moses.
9 They gave out of the tribe of the children of Judah, and out of the tribe of the children of Simeon, these cities which are mentioned by name:
10 and they were for the children of Aaron, of the families of the Kohathites, who were of the children of Levi; for theirs was the first lot.
11 They gave them Kiriath Arba, named after the father of Anak (also called Hebron), in the hill country of Judah, with its pasture lands around it.
12 But they gave the fields of the city and its villages to Caleb the son of Jephunneh for his possession.
13 To the children of Aaron the priest they gave Hebron with its pasture lands, the city of refuge for the man slayer, Libnah with its pasture lands,
14 Jattir with its pasture lands, Eshtemoa with its pasture lands,
15 Holon with its pasture lands, Debir with its pasture lands,

16 Ain with its pasture lands, Juttah with
its pasture lands, and Beth Shemesh with
its pasture lands: nine cities out of those
two tribes.
17 Out of the tribe of Benjamin, Gibeon
with its pasture lands, Geba with its
pasture lands,
18 Anathoth with its pasture lands, and
Almon with its pasture lands: four cities.
19 All the cities of the children of Aaron,
the priests, were thirteen cities with their
pasture lands.

20 The families of the children of
Kohath, the Levites, even the rest of the
children of Kohath, had the cities of their
lot out of the tribe of Ephraim.
21 They gave them Shechem with its
pasture lands in the hill country of
Ephraim, the city of refuge for the man
slayer, and Gezer with its pasture lands,
22 Kibzaim with its pasture lands, and
Beth Horon with its pasture lands: four
cities.
23 Out of the tribe of Dan, Elteke with its
pasture lands, Gibbethon with its pasture
lands,
24 Aijalon with its pasture lands, Gath
Rimmon with its pasture lands: four
cities.
25 Out of the half-tribe of Manasseh,
Taanach with its pasture lands, and Gath
Rimmon with its pasture lands: two cities.
26 All the cities of the families of the rest
of the children of Kohath were ten with
their pasture lands.

27 They gave to the children of Gershon,
of the families of the Levites, out of the
half-tribe of Manasseh Golan in Bashan
with its pasture lands, the city of refuge
for the man slayer, and Be Eshterah with
its pasture lands: two cities.
28 Out of the tribe of Issachar, Kishion
with its pasture lands, Daberath with its
pasture lands,
29 Jarmuth with its pasture lands, En
Gannim with its pasture lands: four cities.
30 Out of the tribe of Asher, Mishal with
its pasture lands, Abdon with its pasture
lands,
31 Helkath with its pasture lands, and
Rehob with its pasture lands: four cities.
32 Out of the tribe of Naphtali, Kedesh in
Galilee with its pasture lands, the city of
refuge for the man slayer, Hammothdor
with its pasture lands, and Kartan with its
pasture lands: three cities.
33 All the cities of the Gershonites
according to their families were thirteen
cities with their pasture lands.
34 To the families of the children of
Merari, the rest of the Levites, out of the
tribe of Zebulun, Jokneam with its pasture
lands, Kartah with its pasture lands,
35 Dimnah with its pasture lands, and
Nahalal with its pasture lands: four cities.
36 Out of the tribe of Reuben, Bezer with
its pasture lands, Jahaz with its pasture
lands,
37 Kedemoth with its pasture lands, and
Mephaath with its pasture lands: four
cities.
38 Out of the tribe of Gad, Ramoth in
Gilead with its pasture lands, the city of
refuge for the man slayer, and Mahanaim
with its pasture lands,
39 Heshbon with its pasture lands, Jazer
with its pasture lands: four cities in all.
40 All these were the cities of the
children of Merari according to their
families, even the rest of the families of
the Levites. Their lot was twelve cities.
41 All the cities of the Levites among the
possessions of the children of Israel were
forty-eight cities with their pasture lands.
42 Each of these cities included their
pasture lands around them. It was this
way with all these cities.

43 So the LORD gave to Israel all the land
which he swore to give to their fathers.
They possessed it, and lived in it.
44 The LORD gave them rest all around,
according to all that he swore to their
fathers. Not a man of all their enemies
stood before them. The LORD delivered
all their enemies into their hand.
45 Nothing failed of any good thing
which the LORD had spoken to the house
of Israel. All came to pass.

22

1 Then Joshua called the Reubenites, the
Gadites, and the half-tribe of Manasseh,

2 and said to them, “You have kept all
that Moses the servant of the LORD
commanded you, and have listened to my
voice in all that I commanded you.
3 You have not left your brothers these
many days to this day, but have
performed the duty of the commandment
of the LORD your God.
4 Now the LORD your God has given rest
to your brothers, as he spoke to them.
Therefore now return and go to your
tents, to the land of your possession,
which Moses the servant of the LORD
gave you beyond the Jordan.
5 Only take diligent heed to do the
commandment and the law which Moses
the servant of the LORD commanded you,
to love the LORD your God, to walk in all
his ways, to keep his commandments, to
hold fast to him, and to serve him with all
your heart and with all your soul.”
6 So Joshua blessed them, and sent them
away; and they went to their tents.
7 Now to the one half-tribe of Manasseh
Moses had given inheritance in Bashan;
but Joshua gave to the other half among
their brothers beyond the Jordan
westward. Moreover when Joshua sent
them away to their tents, he blessed them,
8 and spoke to them, saying, “Return
with much wealth to your tents, with very
much livestock, with silver, with gold,
with bronze, with iron, and with very
much clothing. Divide the plunder of your
enemies with your brothers.”
9 The children of Reuben and the
children of Gad and the half-tribe of
Manasseh returned, and departed from
the children of Israel out of Shiloh, which
is in the land of Canaan, to go to the land
of Gilead, to the land of their possession,
which they owned, according to the
commandment of the LORD by Moses.
10 When they came to the region near
the Jordan, that is in the land of Canaan,
the children of Reuben and the children
of Gad and the half-tribe of Manasseh
built an altar there by the Jordan, a great
altar to look at.
11 The children of Israel heard this,
“Behold, the children of Reuben and the
children of Gad and the half-tribe of
Manasseh have built an altar along the
border of the land of Canaan, in the
region around the Jordan, on the side that
belongs to the children of Israel.”
12 When the children of Israel heard of
it, the whole congregation of the children
of Israel gathered themselves together at
Shiloh, to go up against them to war.
13 The children of Israel sent to the
children of Reuben, and to the children of
Gad, and to the half-tribe of Manasseh,
into the land of Gilead, Phinehas the son
of Eleazar the priest.
14 With him were ten princes, one
prince of a fathers’ house for each of the
tribes of Israel; and they were each head
of their fathers’ houses among the
thousands of Israel.
15 They came to the children of Reuben,
and to the children of Gad, and to the
half-tribe of Manasseh, to the land of
Gilead, and they spoke with them, saying,
16 “The whole congregation of the LORD
says, ‘What trespass is this that you have
committed against the God of Israel, to
turn away today from following the
LORD, in that you have built yourselves
an altar, to rebel today against the LORD?
17 Is the iniquity of Peor too little for us,
from which we have not cleansed
ourselves to this day, although there came
a plague on the congregation of the LORD,
18 that you must turn away today from
following the LORD? It will be, since you
rebel today against the LORD, that
tomorrow he will be angry with the whole
congregation of Israel.
19 However, if the land of your
possession is unclean, then pass over to
the land of the possession of the LORD, in
which the LORD’s tabernacle dwells, and
take possession among us; but don’t rebel
against the LORD, nor rebel against us, in
building an altar other than the LORD our
God’s altar.
20 Didn’t Achan the son of Zerah commit
a trespass in the devoted thing, and wrath
fell on all the congregation of Israel? That
man didn’t perish alone in his iniquity.’ ”

21 Then the children of Reuben and the
children of Gad and the half-tribe of

Manasseh answered, and spoke to the heads of the thousands of Israel,
22 "The Mighty One, God, the LORD, the Mighty One, God, the LORD, he knows; and Israel shall know: if it was in rebellion, or if in trespass against the LORD (don't save us today),
23 that we have built us an altar to turn away from following the LORD; or if to offer burnt offering or meal offering, or if to offer sacrifices of peace offerings, let the LORD himself require it.
24 "If we have not out of concern done this, and for a reason, saying, 'In time to come your children might speak to our children, saying, "What have you to do with the LORD, the God of Israel?
25 For the LORD has made the Jordan a border between us and you, you children of Reuben and children of Gad. You have no portion in the LORD." ' So your children might make our children cease from fearing the LORD.
26 "Therefore we said, 'Let's now prepare to build ourselves an altar, not for burnt offering, nor for sacrifice;
27 but it will be a witness between us and you, and between our generations after us, that we may perform the service of the LORD before him with our burnt offerings, with our sacrifices, and with our peace offerings;' that your children may not tell our children in time to come, 'You have no portion in the LORD.'
28 "Therefore we said, 'It shall be, when they tell us or our generations this in time to come, that we shall say, "Behold the pattern of the LORD's altar, which our fathers made, not for burnt offering, nor for sacrifice; but it is a witness between us and you." '
29 "Far be it from us that we should rebel against the LORD, and turn away today from following the LORD, to build an altar for burnt offering, for meal offering, or for sacrifice, besides the LORD our God's altar that is before his tabernacle!"
30 When Phinehas the priest, and the princes of the congregation, even the heads of the thousands of Israel that were with him, heard the words that the children of Reuben and the children of Gad and the children of Manasseh spoke, it pleased them well.
31 Phinehas the son of Eleazar the priest said to the children of Reuben, to the children of Gad, and to the children of Manasseh, "Today we know that the LORD is among us, because you have not committed this trespass against the LORD. Now you have delivered the children of Israel out of the LORD's hand."
32 Phinehas the son of Eleazar the priest, and the princes, returned from the children of Reuben, and from the children of Gad, out of the land of Gilead, to the land of Canaan, to the children of Israel, and brought them word again.
33 The thing pleased the children of Israel; and the children of Israel blessed God, and spoke no more of going up against them to war, to destroy the land in which the children of Reuben and the children of Gad lived.
34 The children of Reuben and the children of Gad named the altar "A Witness Between Us that the LORD is God."

23

1 After many days, when the LORD had given rest to Israel from their enemies all around, and Joshua was old and well advanced in years,
2 Joshua called for all Israel, for their elders and for their heads, and for their judges and for their officers, and said to them, "I am old and well advanced in years.
3 You have seen all that the LORD your God has done to all these nations because of you; for it is the LORD your God who has fought for you.
4 Behold, I have allotted to you these nations that remain, to be an inheritance for your tribes, from the Jordan, with all the nations that I have cut off, even to the great sea toward the going down of the sun.
5 The LORD your God will thrust them out from before you, and drive them from out of your sight. You shall possess their land, as the LORD your God spoke to you.
6 "Therefore be very courageous to keep and to do all that is written in the book of

the law of Moses, that you not turn away from it to the right hand or to the left;
7 that you not come among these nations, these that remain among you; neither make mention of the name of their gods, nor cause to swear by them, neither serve them, nor bow down yourselves to them;
8 but hold fast to the LORD your God, as you have done to this day.
9 "For the LORD has driven great and strong nations out from before you. But as for you, no man has stood before you to this day.
10 One man of you shall chase a thousand; for it is the LORD your God who fights for you, as he spoke to you.
11 Take good heed therefore to yourselves, that you love the LORD your God.
12 "But if you do at all go back, and hold fast to the remnant of these nations, even these who remain among you, and make marriages with them, and go in to them, and they to you;
13 know for a certainty that the LORD your God will no longer drive these nations from out of your sight; but they shall be a snare and a trap to you, a scourge in your sides, and thorns in your eyes, until you perish from off this good land which the LORD your God has given you.
14 "Behold, today I am going the way of all the earth. You know in all your hearts and in all your souls that not one thing has failed of all the good things which the LORD your God spoke concerning you. All have happened to you. Not one thing has failed of it.
15 It shall happen that as all the good things have come on you of which the LORD your God spoke to you, so the LORD will bring on you all the evil things, until he has destroyed you from off this good land which the LORD your God has given you,
16 when you disobey the covenant of the LORD your God, which he commanded you, and go and serve other gods, and bow down yourselves to them. Then the LORD's anger will be kindled against you, and you will perish quickly from off the good land which he has given to you."

24

1 Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and called for the elders of Israel, for their heads, for their judges, and for their officers; and they presented themselves before God.
2 Joshua said to all the people, "The LORD, the God of Israel, says, 'Your fathers lived of old time beyond the River, even Terah, the father of Abraham, and the father of Nahor. They served other gods.
3 I took your father Abraham from beyond the River, and led him throughout all the land of Canaan, and multiplied his offspring,† and gave him Isaac.
4 I gave to Isaac Jacob and Esau: and I gave to Esau Mount Seir, to possess it. Jacob and his children went down into Egypt.
5 " 'I sent Moses and Aaron, and I plagued Egypt, according to that which I did among them: and afterward I brought you out.
6 I brought your fathers out of Egypt: and you came to the sea. The Egyptians pursued your fathers with chariots and with horsemen to the Red Sea.
7 When they cried out to the LORD, he put darkness between you and the Egyptians, and brought the sea on them, and covered them; and your eyes saw what I did in Egypt. You lived in the wilderness many days.
8 " 'I brought you into the land of the Amorites, that lived beyond the Jordan. They fought with you, and I gave them into your hand. You possessed their land, and I destroyed them from before you.
9 Then Balak the son of Zippor, king of Moab, arose and fought against Israel. He sent and called Balaam the son of Beor to curse you,
10 but I would not listen to Balaam; therefore he blessed you still. So I delivered you out of his hand.

† **24:3** or, seed

11 “ ‘You went over the Jordan, and came
to Jericho. The men of Jericho fought
against you, the Amorite, the Perizzite, the
Canaanite, the Hittite, the Girgashite, the
Hivite, and the Jebusite; and I delivered
them into your hand.
12 I sent the hornet before you, which
drove them out from before you, even the
two kings of the Amorites; not with your
sword, nor with your bow.
13 I gave you a land on which you had
not labored, and cities which you didn’t
build, and you live in them. You eat of
vineyards and olive groves which you
didn’t plant.’

14 “Now therefore fear the LORD, and
serve him in sincerity and in truth. Put
away the gods which your fathers served
beyond the River, in Egypt; and serve the
LORD.
15 If it seems evil to you to serve the
LORD, choose today whom you will serve;
whether the gods which your fathers
served that were beyond the River, or the
gods of the Amorites, in whose land you
dwell; but as for me and my house, we
will serve the LORD.”

16 The people answered, “Far be it from
us that we should forsake the LORD, to
serve other gods;
17 for it is the LORD our God who
brought us and our fathers up out of the
land of Egypt, from the house of bondage,
and who did those great signs in our sight,
and preserved us in all the way in which
we went, and among all the peoples
through the middle of whom we passed.
18 The LORD drove out from before us
all the peoples, even the Amorites who
lived in the land. Therefore we also will
serve the LORD; for he is our God.”

19 Joshua said to the people, “You can’t
serve the LORD, for he is a holy God. He is
a jealous God. He will not forgive your
disobedience nor your sins.
20 If you forsake the LORD, and serve
foreign gods, then he will turn and do you
evil, and consume you, after he has done
you good.”
21 The people said to Joshua, “No, but we
will serve the LORD.”
22 Joshua said to the people, “You are
witnesses against yourselves that you
have chosen the LORD yourselves, to
serve him.”
They said, “We are witnesses.”
23 “Now therefore put away the foreign
gods which are among you, and incline
your heart to the LORD, the God of Israel.”
24 The people said to Joshua, “We will
serve the LORD our God, and we will
listen to his voice.”
25 So Joshua made a covenant with the
people that day, and made for them a
statute and an ordinance in Shechem.
26 Joshua wrote these words in the book
of the law of God; and he took a great
stone, and set it up there under the oak
that was by the sanctuary of the LORD.
27 Joshua said to all the people, “Behold,
this stone shall be a witness against us, for
it has heard all the LORD’s words which
he spoke to us. It shall be therefore a
witness against you, lest you deny your
God.”
28 So Joshua sent the people away, each
to his own inheritance.
29 After these things, Joshua the son of
Nun, the servant of the LORD, died, being
one hundred ten years old.
30 They buried him in the border of his
inheritance in Timnathserah, which is in
the hill country of Ephraim, on the north
of the mountain of Gaash.
31 Israel served the LORD all the days of
Joshua, and all the days of the elders who
outlived Joshua, and had known all the
work of the LORD, that he had worked for
Israel.
32 They buried the bones of Joseph,
which the children of Israel brought up
out of Egypt, in Shechem, in the parcel of
ground which Jacob bought from the sons
of Hamor the father of Shechem for a
hundred pieces of silver.‡ They became
the inheritance of the children of Joseph.
33 Eleazar the son of Aaron died. They
buried him in the hill of Phinehas his son,
which was given him in the hill country of
Ephraim.

‡ **24:32** Hebrew: kesitahs. A kesitah was a kind of silver coin.

The Book of Judges

1 After the death of Joshua, the children
of Israel asked of the LORD,† saying, "Who
should go up for us first against the
Canaanites, to fight against them?"
2 The LORD said, "Judah shall go up.
Behold,‡ I have delivered the land into his
hand."
3 Judah said to Simeon his brother,
"Come up with me into my lot, that we
may fight against the Canaanites; and I
likewise will go with you into your lot." So
Simeon went with him.
4 Judah went up, and the LORD
delivered the Canaanites and the
Perizzites into their hand. They struck ten
thousand men in Bezek.
5 They found Adoni-Bezek in Bezek, and
they fought against him. They struck the
Canaanites and the Perizzites.
6 But Adoni-Bezek fled. They pursued
him, caught him, and cut off his thumbs
and his big toes.
7 Adoni-Bezek said, "Seventy kings,
having their thumbs and their big toes cut
off, scavenged under my table. As I have
done, so God§ has done to me." They
brought him to Jerusalem, and he died
there.
8 The children of Judah fought against
Jerusalem, took it, struck it with the edge
of the sword, and set the city on fire.
9 After that, the children of Judah went
down to fight against the Canaanites who
lived in the hill country, and in the South,
and in the lowland.
10 Judah went against the Canaanites
who lived in Hebron. (The name of
Hebron before that was Kiriath Arba.)
They struck Sheshai, Ahiman, and Talmai.
11 From there he went against the
inhabitants of Debir. (The name of Debir
before that was Kiriath Sepher.)
12 Caleb said, "I will give Achsah my
daughter as wife to the man who strikes
Kiriath Sepher, and takes it."
13 Othniel the son of Kenaz, Caleb's
younger brother, took it, so he gave him
Achsah his daughter as his wife.
14 When she came, she got him to ask
her father for a field. She got off her
donkey; and Caleb said to her, "What
would you like?"
15 She said to him, "Give me a blessing;
because you have set me in the land of the
South, give me also springs of water."
Then Caleb gave her the upper springs
and the lower springs.
16 The children of the Kenite, Moses'
brother-in-law, went up out of the city of
palm trees with the children of Judah into
the wilderness of Judah, which is in the
south of Arad; and they went and lived
with the people.
17 Judah went with Simeon his brother,
and they struck the Canaanites who
inhabited Zephath, and utterly destroyed
it. The name of the city was called
Hormah.
18 Also Judah took Gaza with its border,
and Ashkelon with its border, and Ekron
with its border.
19 The LORD was with Judah, and drove
out the inhabitants of the hill country; for
he could not drive out the inhabitants of
the valley, because they had chariots of
iron.
20 They gave Hebron to Caleb, as Moses
had said, and he drove the three sons of
Anak out of there.
21 The children of Benjamin didn't drive
out the Jebusites who inhabited
Jerusalem, but the Jebusites dwell with
the children of Benjamin in Jerusalem to
this day.
22 The house of Joseph also went up
against Bethel, and the LORD was with
them.
23 The house of Joseph sent to spy out
Bethel. (The name of the city before that
was Luz.)

† **1:1** When rendered in ALL CAPITAL LETTERS, "LORD" or "GOD" is the translation of God's Proper Name (Hebrew "יהוה", usually pronounced Yahweh). ‡ **1:2** "Behold", from "הִנֵּה", means look at, take notice, observe, see, or gaze at. It is often used as an interjection. § **1:7** The Hebrew word rendered "God" is "אֱלֹהִים" (Elohim).

24 The watchers saw a man come out of the city, and they said to him, “Please show us the entrance into the city, and we will deal kindly with you.”
25 He showed them the entrance into the city, and they struck the city with the edge of the sword; but they let the man and all his family go.
26 The man went into the land of the Hittites, built a city, and called its name Luz, which is its name to this day.
27 Manasseh didn’t drive out the inhabitants of Beth Shean and its towns, nor Taanach and its towns, nor the inhabitants of Dor and its towns, nor the inhabitants of Ibleam and its towns, nor the inhabitants of Megiddo and its towns; but the Canaanites would dwell in that land.
28 When Israel had grown strong, they put the Canaanites to forced labor, and didn’t utterly drive them out.
29 Ephraim didn’t drive out the Canaanites who lived in Gezer, but the Canaanites lived in Gezer among them.
30 Zebulun didn’t drive out the inhabitants of Kitron, nor the inhabitants of Nahalol; but the Canaanites lived among them, and became subject to forced labor.
31 Asher didn’t drive out the inhabitants of Acco, nor the inhabitants of Sidon, nor of Ahlab, nor of Achzib, nor of Helbah, nor of Aphik, nor of Rehob;
32 but the Asherites lived among the Canaanites, the inhabitants of the land, for they didn’t drive them out.
33 Naphtali didn’t drive out the inhabitants of Beth Shemesh, nor the inhabitants of Beth Anath; but he lived among the Canaanites, the inhabitants of the land. Nevertheless the inhabitants of Beth Shemesh and of Beth Anath became subject to forced labor.
34 The Amorites forced the children of Dan into the hill country, for they would not allow them to come down to the valley;
35 but the Amorites would dwell in Mount Heres, in Aijalon, and in Shaalbim. Yet the hand of the house of Joseph prevailed, so that they became subject to forced labor.
36 The border of the Amorites was from the ascent of Akrabbim, from the rock, and upward.

2

1 The LORD’s angel came up from Gilgal to Bochim. He said, “I brought you out of Egypt, and have brought you to the land which I swore to give your fathers. I said, ‘I will never break my covenant with you.
2 You shall make no covenant with the inhabitants of this land. You shall break down their altars.’ But you have not listened to my voice. Why have you done this?
3 Therefore I also said, ‘I will not drive them out from before you; but they shall be in your sides, and their gods will be a snare to you.’ ”
4 When the LORD’s angel spoke these words to all the children of Israel, the people lifted up their voice and wept.
5 They called the name of that place Bochim,† and they sacrificed there to the LORD.
6 Now when Joshua had sent the people away, the children of Israel each went to his inheritance to possess the land.
7 The people served the LORD all the days of Joshua, and all the days of the elders who outlived Joshua, who had seen all the great work of the LORD that he had worked for Israel.
8 Joshua the son of Nun, the servant of the LORD, died, being one hundred ten years old.
9 They buried him in the border of his inheritance in Timnath Heres, in the hill country of Ephraim, on the north of the mountain of Gaash.
10 After all that generation were gathered to their fathers, another generation arose after them who didn’t know the LORD, nor the work which he had done for Israel.
11 The children of Israel did that which was evil in the LORD’s sight, and served the Baals.
12 They abandoned the LORD, the God of their fathers, who brought them out of the land of Egypt, and followed other gods, of

† **2:5** “Bochim” means “weepers”.

the gods of the peoples who were around them, and bowed themselves down to them; and they provoked the LORD to anger.
13 They abandoned the LORD, and served Baal and the Ashtaroth.
14 The LORD's anger burned against Israel, and he delivered them into the hands of raiders who plundered them. He sold them into the hands of their enemies all around, so that they could no longer stand before their enemies.
15 Wherever they went out, the LORD's hand was against them for evil, as the LORD had spoken, and as the LORD had sworn to them; and they were very distressed.
16 The LORD raised up judges, who saved them out of the hand of those who plundered them.
17 Yet they didn't listen to their judges; for they prostituted themselves to other gods, and bowed themselves down to them. They quickly turned away from the way in which their fathers walked, obeying the LORD's commandments. They didn't do so.
18 When the LORD raised up judges for them, then the LORD was with the judge, and saved them out of the hand of their enemies all the days of the judge; for it grieved the LORD because of their groaning by reason of those who oppressed them and troubled them.
19 But when the judge was dead, they turned back, and dealt more corruptly than their fathers in following other gods to serve them and to bow down to them. They didn't cease what they were doing, or give up their stubborn ways.
20 The LORD's anger burned against Israel; and he said, "Because this nation transgressed my covenant which I commanded their fathers, and has not listened to my voice,
21 I also will no longer drive out any of the nations that Joshua left when he died from before them;
22 that by them I may test Israel, to see if they will keep the LORD's way to walk therein, as their fathers kept it, or not."
23 So the LORD left those nations, without driving them out hastily. He didn't deliver them into Joshua's hand.

3

1 Now these are the nations which the LORD left, to test Israel by them, even as many as had not known all the wars of Canaan;
2 only that the generations of the children of Israel might know, to teach them war, at least those who knew nothing of it before:
3 the five lords of the Philistines, all the Canaanites, the Sidonians, and the Hivites who lived on Mount Lebanon, from Mount Baal Hermon to the entrance of Hamath.
4 They were left to test Israel by them, to know whether they would listen to the LORD's commandments, which he commanded their fathers by Moses.
5 The children of Israel lived among the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites.
6 They took their daughters to be their wives, and gave their own daughters to their sons and served their gods.
7 The children of Israel did that which was evil in the LORD's sight, and forgot the LORD their God, and served the Baals and the Asheroth.
8 Therefore the LORD's anger burned against Israel, and he sold them into the hand of Cushan Rishathaim king of Mesopotamia; and the children of Israel served Cushan Rishathaim eight years.
9 When the children of Israel cried to the LORD, the LORD raised up a savior to the children of Israel, who saved them, even Othniel the son of Kenaz, Caleb's younger brother.
10 The LORD's Spirit came on him, and he judged Israel; and he went out to war, and the LORD delivered Cushan Rishathaim king of Mesopotamia into his hand. His hand prevailed against Cushan Rishathaim.
11 The land had rest forty years, then Othniel the son of Kenaz died.
12 The children of Israel again did that which was evil in the LORD's sight, and the LORD strengthened Eglon the king of Moab against Israel, because they had

done that which was evil in the LORD's sight.
13 He gathered the children of Ammon and Amalek to himself; and he went and struck Israel, and they possessed the city of palm trees.
14 The children of Israel served Eglon the king of Moab eighteen years.
15 But when the children of Israel cried to the LORD, the LORD raised up a savior for them: Ehud the son of Gera, the Benjamite, a left-handed man. The children of Israel sent tribute by him to Eglon the king of Moab.
16 Ehud made himself a sword which had two edges, a cubit† in length; and he wore it under his clothing on his right thigh.
17 He offered the tribute to Eglon king of Moab. Now Eglon was a very fat man.
18 When Ehud had finished offering the tribute, he sent away the people who carried the tribute.
19 But he himself turned back from the stone idols that were by Gilgal, and said, "I have a secret message for you, O king."

The king said, "Keep silence!" All who stood by him left him.

20 Ehud came to him; and he was sitting by himself alone in the cool upper room. Ehud said, "I have a message from God to you." He arose out of his seat.
21 Ehud put out his left hand, and took the sword from his right thigh, and thrust it into his body.
22 The handle also went in after the blade; and the fat closed on the blade, for he didn't draw the sword out of his body; and it came out behind.
23 Then Ehud went out onto the porch, and shut the doors of the upper room on him, and locked them.
24 After he had gone, his servants came and saw that the doors of the upper room were locked. They said, "Surely he is covering his feet‡ in the upper room."
25 They waited until they were ashamed; and behold, he didn't open the doors of the upper room. Therefore they took the key and opened them, and behold, their lord had fallen down dead on the floor.
26 Ehud escaped while they waited, passed beyond the stone idols, and escaped to Seirah.
27 When he had come, he blew a trumpet in the hill country of Ephraim; and the children of Israel went down with him from the hill country, and he led them.
28 He said to them, "Follow me; for the LORD has delivered your enemies the Moabites into your hand." They followed him, and took the fords of the Jordan against the Moabites, and didn't allow any man to pass over.
29 They struck at that time about ten thousand men of Moab, every strong man and every man of valor. No man escaped.
30 So Moab was subdued that day under the hand of Israel. Then the land had rest eighty years.
31 After him was Shamgar the son of Anath, who struck six hundred men of the Philistines with an ox goad. He also saved Israel.

4

1 The children of Israel again did that which was evil in the LORD's sight, when Ehud was dead.
2 The LORD sold them into the hand of Jabin king of Canaan, who reigned in Hazor; the captain of whose army was Sisera, who lived in Harosheth of the Gentiles.
3 The children of Israel cried to the LORD, for he had nine hundred chariots of iron; and he mightily oppressed the children of Israel for twenty years.
4 Now Deborah, a prophetess, the wife of Lappidoth, judged Israel at that time.
5 She lived under Deborah's palm tree between Ramah and Bethel in the hill country of Ephraim; and the children of Israel came up to her for judgment.
6 She sent and called Barak the son of Abinoam out of Kedesh Naphtali, and said to him, "Hasn't the LORD, the God of Israel, commanded, 'Go and lead the way

† **3:16** A cubit is the length from the tip of the middle finger to the elbow on a man's arm, or about 18 inches or 46 centimeters. ‡ **3:24** or, "relieving himself".

to Mount Tabor, and take with you ten
thousand men of the children of Naphtali
and of the children of Zebulun?
7 I will draw to you, to the river Kishon,
Sisera, the captain of Jabin's army, with
his chariots and his multitude; and I will
deliver him into your hand.' "
8 Barak said to her, "If you will go with
me, then I will go; but if you will not go
with me, I will not go."
9 She said, "I will surely go with you.
Nevertheless, the journey that you take
won't be for your honor; for the LORD will
sell Sisera into a woman's hand." Deborah
arose, and went with Barak to Kedesh.
10 Barak called Zebulun and Naphtali
together to Kedesh. Ten thousand men
followed him; and Deborah went up with
him.
11 Now Heber the Kenite had separated
himself from the Kenites, even from the
children of Hobab, Moses' brother-in-law,
and had pitched his tent as far as the oak
in Zaanannim, which is by Kedesh.
12 They told Sisera that Barak the son of
Abinoam had gone up to Mount Tabor.
13 Sisera gathered together all his
chariots, even nine hundred chariots of
iron, and all the people who were with
him, from Harosheth of the Gentiles, to
the river Kishon.
14 Deborah said to Barak, "Go; for this is
the day in which the LORD has delivered
Sisera into your hand. Hasn't the LORD
gone out before you?" So Barak went
down from Mount Tabor, and ten
thousand men after him.
15 The LORD confused Sisera, all his
chariots, and all his army, with the edge of
the sword before Barak. Sisera
abandoned his chariot and fled away on
his feet.
16 But Barak pursued the chariots and
the army to Harosheth of the Gentiles;
and all the army of Sisera fell by the edge
of the sword. There was not a man left.
17 However Sisera fled away 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.
18 Jael went out to meet Sisera, and said
to him, "Turn in, my lord, turn in to me;
don't be afraid." He came in to her into
the tent, and she covered him with a rug.
19 He said to her, "Please give me a little
water to drink; for I am thirsty."
She opened a container of milk, and
gave him a drink, and covered him.
20 He said to her, "Stand in the door of
the tent, and if any man comes and
inquires of you, and says, 'Is there any
man here?' you shall say, 'No.' "
21 Then Jael, Heber's wife, took a tent
peg, and took a hammer in her hand, and
went softly to him, and struck the pin into
his temples, and it pierced through into
the ground, for he was in a deep sleep; so
he fainted and died.
22 Behold, as Barak pursued Sisera, Jael
came out to meet him, and said to him,
"Come, and I will show you the man
whom you seek." He came to her; and
behold, Sisera lay dead, and the tent peg
was in his temples.
23 So God subdued Jabin the king of
Canaan before the children of Israel on
that day.
24 The hand of the children of Israel
prevailed more and more against Jabin
the king of Canaan, until they had
destroyed Jabin king of Canaan.

5

1 Then Deborah and Barak the son of
Abinoam sang on that day, saying,
2 "Because the leaders took the lead in
Israel,
because the people offered
themselves willingly,
be blessed, LORD!

3 "Hear, you kings!
Give ear, you princes!
I, even I, will sing to the LORD.
I will sing praise to the LORD, the God
of Israel.

4 "LORD, when you went out of Seir,
when you marched out of the field of
Edom,
the earth trembled, the sky also dropped.
Yes, the clouds dropped water.

5 The mountains quaked at the LORD's
presence,
even Sinai at the presence of the
LORD, the God of Israel.

6 "In the days of Shamgar the son of Anath,
in the days of Jael, the highways were
unoccupied.
The travelers walked through
byways.
7 The rulers ceased in Israel.
They ceased until I, Deborah, arose;
Until I arose a mother in Israel.
8 They chose new gods.
Then war was in the gates.
Was there a shield or spear seen
among forty thousand in Israel?
9 My heart is toward the governors of
Israel,
who offered themselves willingly
among the people.
Bless the LORD!

10 "Speak, you who ride on white donkeys,
you who sit on rich carpets,
and you who walk by the way.
11 Far from the noise of archers, in the
places of drawing water,
there they will rehearse the LORD's
righteous acts,
the righteous acts of his rule in Israel.

"Then the LORD's people went down to
the gates.
12 'Awake, awake, Deborah!
Awake, awake, utter a song!
Arise, Barak, and lead away your
captives, you son of Abinoam.'

13 "Then a remnant of the nobles and the
people came down.
The LORD came down for me against
the mighty.
14 Those whose root is in Amalek came out
of Ephraim,
after you, Benjamin, among your
peoples.
Governors come down out of Machir.
Those who handle the marshal's staff
came out of Zebulun.
15 The princes of Issachar were with
Deborah.
As was Issachar, so was Barak.
They rushed into the valley at his feet.
By the watercourses of Reuben,
there were great resolves of heart.
16 Why did you sit among the sheepfolds?
To hear the whistling for the flocks?
At the watercourses of Reuben,
there were great searchings of heart.
17 Gilead lived beyond the Jordan.
Why did Dan remain in ships?
Asher sat still at the haven of the sea,
and lived by his creeks.
18 Zebulun was a people that jeopardized
their lives to the death;
Naphtali also, on the high places of
the field.

19 "The kings came and fought,
then the kings of Canaan fought at
Taanach by the waters of Megiddo.
They took no plunder of silver.
20 From the sky the stars fought.
From their courses, they fought
against Sisera.
21 The river Kishon swept them away,
that ancient river, the river Kishon.
My soul, march on with strength.
22 Then the horse hoofs stamped because
of the prancing,
the prancing of their strong ones.
23 'Curse Meroz,' said the LORD's angel.
'Curse bitterly its inhabitants,
because they didn't come to help the
LORD,
to help the LORD against the mighty.'

24 "Jael shall be blessed above women,
the wife of Heber the Kenite;
blessed shall she be above women in
the tent.
25 He asked for water.
She gave him milk.
She brought him butter in a lordly
dish.
26 She put her hand to the tent peg,
and her right hand to the workmen's
hammer.
With the hammer she struck Sisera.
She struck through his head.
Yes, she pierced and struck through
his temples.
27 At her feet he bowed, he fell, he lay.
At her feet he bowed, he fell.

Where he bowed, there he fell down
dead.

28 “Through the window she looked out,
and cried:
Sisera’s mother looked through the
lattice.
‘Why is his chariot so long in coming?
Why do the wheels of his chariots
wait?’
29 Her wise ladies answered her,
Yes, she returned answer to herself,
30 ‘Have they not found, have they not
divided the plunder?
A lady, two ladies to every man;
to Sisera a plunder of dyed garments,
a plunder of dyed garments
embroidered,
of dyed garments embroidered on
both sides, on the necks of the
plunder?’

31 “So let all your enemies perish, LORD,
but let those who love him be as the
sun when it rises in its strength.”

Then the land had rest forty years.

6

1 The children of Israel did that which
was evil in the LORD’s sight, so the LORD
delivered them into the hand of Midian
seven years.
2 The hand of Midian prevailed against
Israel; and because of Midian the children
of Israel made themselves the dens which
are in the mountains, the caves, and the
strongholds.
3 So it was, when Israel had sown, that
the Midianites, the Amalekites, and the
children of the east came up against them.
4 They encamped against them, and
destroyed the increase of the earth, until
you come to Gaza. They left no sustenance
in Israel, and no sheep, ox, or donkey.
5 For they came up with their livestock
and their tents. They came in as locusts
for multitude. Both they and their camels
were without number; and they came into
the land to destroy it.
6 Israel was brought very low because of
Midian; and the children of Israel cried to
the LORD.
7 When the children of Israel cried to
the LORD because of Midian,
8 The LORD sent a prophet to the
children of Israel; and he said to them,
“The LORD, the God of Israel, says, ‘I
brought you up from Egypt, and brought
you out of the house of bondage.
9 I delivered you out of the hand of the
Egyptians and out of the hand of all who
oppressed you, and drove them out from
before you, and gave you their land.
10 I said to you, “I am the LORD your
God. You shall not fear the gods of the
Amorites, in whose land you dwell.” But
you have not listened to my voice.’ ”

11 The LORD’s angel came and sat under
the oak which was in Ophrah, that
belonged to Joash the Abiezrite. His son
Gideon was beating out wheat in the wine
press, to hide it from the Midianites.
12 The LORD’s angel appeared to him,
and said to him, “The LORD is with you,
you mighty man of valor!”

13 Gideon said to him, “Oh, my lord, if
the LORD is with us, why then has all this
happened to us? Where are all his
wondrous works which our fathers told
us of, saying, ‘Didn’t the LORD bring us up
from Egypt?’ But now the LORD has cast
us off, and delivered us into the hand of
Midian.”

14 The LORD looked at him, and said,
“Go in this your might, and save Israel
from the hand of Midian. Haven’t I sent
you?”

15 He said to him, “O Lord,† how shall I
save Israel? Behold, my family is the
poorest in Manasseh, and I am the least in
my father’s house.”

16 The LORD said to him, “Surely I will
be with you, and you shall strike the
Midianites as one man.”

17 He said to him, “If now I have found
favor in your sight, then show me a sign
that it is you who talk with me.

† **6:15** The word translated “Lord” is “Adonai.”

18 Please don't go away until I come to
you, and bring out my present, and lay it
before you."
He said, "I will wait until you come
back."
19 Gideon went in and prepared a young
goat and unleavened cakes of an ephah‡
of meal. He put the meat in a basket and
he put the broth in a pot, and brought it
out to him under the oak, and presented it.
20 The angel of God said to him, "Take
the meat and the unleavened cakes, and
lay them on this rock, and pour out the
broth."
He did so.
21 Then the LORD's angel stretched out
the end of the staff that was in his hand,
and touched the meat and the unleavened
cakes; and fire went up out of the rock
and consumed the meat and the
unleavened cakes. Then the LORD's angel
departed out of his sight.
22 Gideon saw that he was the LORD's
angel; and Gideon said, "Alas, Lord GOD!
Because I have seen the LORD's angel face
to face!"
23 The LORD said to him, "Peace be to
you! Don't be afraid. You shall not die."
24 Then Gideon built an altar there to
the LORD, and called it "The LORD is
Peace."§ To this day it is still in Ophrah of
the Abiezrites.
25 That same night, the LORD said to
him, "Take your father's bull, even the
second bull seven years old, and throw
down the altar of Baal that your father
has, and cut down the Asherah that is by
it.
26 Then build an altar to the LORD your
God on the top of this stronghold, in an
orderly way, and take the second bull, and
offer a burnt offering with the wood of
the Asherah which you shall cut down."
27 Then Gideon took ten men of his
servants, and did as the LORD had spoken
to him. Because he feared his father's
household and the men of the city, he
could not do it by day, but he did it by
night.
28 When the men of the city arose early
in the morning, behold, the altar of Baal
was broken down, and the Asherah was
cut down that was by it, and the second
bull was offered on the altar that was
built.
29 They said to one another, "Who has
done this thing?"
When they inquired and asked, they
said, "Gideon the son of Joash has done
this thing."
30 Then the men of the city said to Joash,
"Bring out your son, that he may die,
because he has broken down the altar of
Baal, and because he has cut down the
Asherah that was by it."
31 Joash said to all who stood against
him, "Will you contend for Baal? Or will
you save him? He who will contend for
him, let him be put to death by morning!
If he is a god, let him contend for himself,
because someone has broken down his
altar!"
32 Therefore on that day he named him
Jerub-Baal,† saying, "Let Baal contend
against him, because he has broken down
his altar."
33 Then all the Midianites and the
Amalekites and the children of the east
assembled themselves together; and they
passed over, and encamped in the valley
of Jezreel.
34 But the LORD's Spirit came on Gideon,
and he blew a trumpet; and Abiezer was
gathered together to follow him.
35 He sent messengers throughout all
Manasseh, and they also were gathered
together to follow him. He sent
messengers to Asher, to Zebulun, and to
Naphtali; and they came up to meet them.
36 Gideon said to God, "If you will save
Israel by my hand, as you have spoken,
37 behold, I will put a fleece of wool on
the threshing floor. If there is dew on the
fleece only, and it is dry on all the ground,
then I'll know that you will save Israel by
my hand, as you have spoken."
38 It was so; for he rose up early on the
next day, and pressed the fleece together,
and wrung the dew out of the fleece, a
bowl full of water.

‡ **6:19** 1 ephah is about 22 liters or about 2/3 of a bushel
§ **6:24** or, Shalom † **6:32** "Jerub-Baal" means "Let Baal contend".

39 Gideon said to God, “Don’t let your
anger be kindled against me, and I will
speak but this once. Please let me make a
trial just this once with the fleece. Let it
now be dry only on the fleece, and on all
the ground let there be dew.”
40 God did so that night; for it was dry on
the fleece only, and there was dew on all
the ground.

7

1 Then Jerubbaal, who is Gideon, and all
the people who were with him, rose up
early and encamped beside the spring of
Harod. Midian’s camp was on the north
side of them, by the hill of Moreh, in the
valley.
2 The LORD said to Gideon, “The people
who are with you are too many for me to
give the Midianites into their hand, lest
Israel brag against me, saying, ‘My own
hand has saved me.’
3 Now therefore proclaim in the ears of
the people, saying, ‘Whoever is fearful
and trembling, let him return and depart
from Mount Gilead.’ ” So twenty-two
thousand of the people returned, and ten
thousand remained.
4 The LORD said to Gideon, “There are
still too many people. Bring them down to
the water, and I will test them for you
there. It shall be, that those whom I tell
you, ‘This shall go with you,’ shall go with
you; and whoever I tell you, ‘This shall not
go with you,’ shall not go.”
5 So he brought down the people to the
water; and the LORD said to Gideon,
“Everyone who laps of the water with his
tongue, like a dog laps, you shall set him
by himself; likewise everyone who bows
down on his knees to drink.”
6 The number of those who lapped,
putting their hand to their mouth, was
three hundred men; but all the rest of the
people bowed down on their knees to
drink water.
7 The LORD said to Gideon, “I will save
you by the three hundred men who
lapped, and deliver the Midianites into
your hand. Let all the other people go,
each to his own place.”
8 So the people took food in their hand,
and their trumpets; and he sent all the
rest of the men of Israel to their own tents,
but retained the three hundred men; and
the camp of Midian was beneath him in
the valley.
9 That same night, the LORD said to him,
“Arise, go down into the camp, for I have
delivered it into your hand.
10 But if you are afraid to go down, go
with Purah your servant down to the
camp.
11 You will hear what they say; and
afterward your hands will be
strengthened to go down into the camp.”
Then went he down with Purah his
servant to the outermost part of the
armed men who were in the camp.
12 The Midianites and the Amalekites
and all the children of the east lay along in
the valley like locusts for multitude; and
their camels were without number, as the
sand which is on the seashore for
multitude.
13 When Gideon had come, behold,
there was a man telling a dream to his
fellow. He said, “Behold, I dreamed a
dream; and behold, a cake of barley bread
tumbled into the camp of Midian, came to
the tent, and struck it so that it fell, and
turned it upside down, so that the tent lay
flat.”
14 His fellow answered, “This is nothing
other than the sword of Gideon the son of
Joash, a man of Israel. God has delivered
Midian into his hand, with all the army.”
15 It was so, when Gideon heard the
telling of the dream and its interpretation,
that he worshiped. Then he returned into
the camp of Israel and said, “Arise, for the
LORD has delivered the army of Midian
into your hand!”
16 He divided the three hundred men
into three companies, and he put into the
hands of all of them trumpets and empty
pitchers, with torches within the pitchers.
17 He said to them, “Watch me, and do
likewise. Behold, when I come to the
outermost part of the camp, it shall be
that, as I do, so you shall do.
18 When I blow the trumpet, I and all
who are with me, then blow the trumpets

also on every side of all the camp, and shout, ‘For the LORD and for Gideon!’ ”
19 So Gideon and the hundred men who were with him came to the outermost part of the camp in the beginning of the middle watch, when they had but newly set the watch. Then they blew the trumpets and broke in pieces the pitchers that were in their hands.
20 The three companies blew the trumpets, broke the pitchers, and held the torches in their left hands and the trumpets in their right hands with which to blow; and they shouted, “The sword of the LORD and of Gideon!”
21 They each stood in his place around the camp, and all the army ran; and they shouted, and put them to flight.
22 They blew the three hundred trumpets, and the LORD set every man’s sword against his fellow and against all the army; and the army fled as far as Beth Shittah toward Zererah, as far as the border of Abel Meholah, by Tabbath.
23 The men of Israel were gathered together out of Naphtali, out of Asher, and out of all Manasseh, and pursued Midian.
24 Gideon sent messengers throughout all the hill country of Ephraim, saying, “Come down against Midian and take the waters before them as far as Beth Barah, even the Jordan!” So all the men of Ephraim were gathered together and took the waters as far as Beth Barah, even the Jordan.
25 They took the two princes of Midian, Oreb and Zeeb. They killed Oreb at Oreb’s rock, and Zeeb they killed at Zeeb’s wine press, as they pursued Midian. Then they brought the heads of Oreb and Zeeb to Gideon beyond the Jordan.

8

1 The men of Ephraim said to him, “Why have you treated us this way, that you didn’t call us when you went to fight with Midian?” They rebuked him sharply.
2 He said to them, “What have I now done in comparison with you? Isn’t the gleaning of the grapes of Ephraim better than the vintage of Abiezer?
3 God has delivered into your hand the princes of Midian, Oreb and Zeeb! What was I able to do in comparison with you?” Then their anger was abated toward him when he had said that.
4 Gideon came to the Jordan and passed over, he and the three hundred men who were with him, faint, yet pursuing.
5 He said to the men of Succoth, “Please give loaves of bread to the people who follow me; for they are faint, and I am pursuing after Zebah and Zalmunna, the kings of Midian.”
6 The princes of Succoth said, “Are the hands of Zebah and Zalmunna now in your hand, that we should give bread to your army?”
7 Gideon said, “Therefore when the LORD has delivered Zebah and Zalmunna into my hand, then I will tear your flesh with the thorns of the wilderness and with briers.”
8 He went up there to Penuel, and spoke to them in the same way; and the men of Penuel answered him as the men of Succoth had answered.
9 He spoke also to the men of Penuel, saying, “When I come again in peace, I will break down this tower.”
10 Now Zebah and Zalmunna were in Karkor, and their armies with them, about fifteen thousand men, all who were left of all the army of the children of the east; for there fell one hundred twenty thousand men who drew sword.
11 Gideon went up by the way of those who lived in tents on the east of Nobah and Jogbehah, and struck the army; for the army felt secure.
12 Zebah and Zalmunna fled and he pursued them. He took the two kings of Midian, Zebah and Zalmunna, and confused all the army.
13 Gideon the son of Joash returned from the battle from the ascent of Heres.
14 He caught a young man of the men of Succoth, and inquired of him; and he described for him the princes of Succoth, and its elders, seventy-seven men.
15 He came to the men of Succoth, and said, “See Zebah and Zalmunna, concerning whom you taunted me, saying, ‘Are the hands of Zebah and

Zalmunna now in your hand, that we should give bread to your men who are weary?' "
16 He took the elders of the city, and thorns of the wilderness and briers, and with them he taught the men of Succoth.
17 He broke down the tower of Penuel, and killed the men of the city.
18 Then he said to Zebah and Zalmunna, "What kind of men were they whom you killed at Tabor?"
They answered, "They were like you. They all resembled the children of a king."
19 He said, "They were my brothers, the sons of my mother. As the LORD lives, if you had saved them alive, I would not kill you."
20 He said to Jether his firstborn, "Get up and kill them!" But the youth didn't draw his sword; for he was afraid, because he was yet a youth.
21 Then Zebah and Zalmunna said, "You rise and fall on us; for as the man is, so is his strength." Gideon arose, and killed Zebah and Zalmunna, and took the crescents that were on their camels' necks.
22 Then the men of Israel said to Gideon, "Rule over us, both you, your son, and your son's son also; for you have saved us out of the hand of Midian."
23 Gideon said to them, "I will not rule over you, neither shall my son rule over you. The LORD shall rule over you."
24 Gideon said to them, "I do have a request: that you would each give me the earrings of his plunder." (For they had golden earrings, because they were Ishmaelites.)
25 They answered, "We will willingly give them." They spread a garment, and every man threw the earrings of his plunder into it.
26 The weight of the golden earrings that he requested was one thousand and seven hundred shekels† of gold, in addition to the crescents, and the pendants, and the purple clothing that was on the kings of Midian, and in addition to the chains that were about their camels' necks.
27 Gideon made an ephod out of it, and put it in Ophrah, his city. Then all Israel played the prostitute with it there; and it became a snare to Gideon and to his house.
28 So Midian was subdued before the children of Israel, and they lifted up their heads no more. The land had rest forty years in the days of Gideon.
29 Jerubbaal the son of Joash went and lived in his own house.
30 Gideon had seventy sons conceived from his body, for he had many wives.
31 His concubine who was in Shechem also bore him a son, and he named him Abimelech.
32 Gideon the son of Joash died in a good old age, and was buried in the tomb of Joash his father, in Ophrah of the Abiezrites.
33 As soon as Gideon was dead, the children of Israel turned again and played the prostitute following the Baals, and made Baal Berith their god.
34 The children of Israel didn't remember the LORD their God, who had delivered them out of the hand of all their enemies on every side;
35 neither did they show kindness to the house of Jerubbaal, that is, Gideon, according to all the goodness which he had shown to Israel.

9

1 Abimelech the son of Jerubbaal went to Shechem to his mother's brothers, and spoke with them and with all the family of the house of his mother's father, saying,
2 "Please speak in the ears of all the men of Shechem, 'Is it better for you that all the sons of Jerubbaal, who are seventy persons, rule over you, or that one rule over you?' Remember also that I am your bone and your flesh."
3 His mother's brothers spoke of him in the ears of all the men of Shechem all these words. Their hearts inclined to follow Abimelech; for they said, "He is our brother."
4 They gave him seventy pieces of silver out of the house of Baal Berith, with

† **8:26** A shekel is about 10 grams or about 0.32 Troy ounces, so 1700 shekels is about 17 kilograms or 37.4 pounds.

which Abimelech hired vain and reckless
fellows who followed him.
5 He went to his father's house at
Ophrah, and killed his brothers the sons
of Jerubbaal, being seventy persons, on
one stone; but Jotham the youngest son of
Jerubbaal was left, for he hid himself.
6 All the men of Shechem assembled
themselves together with all the house of
Millo, and went and made Abimelech king
by the oak of the pillar that was in
Shechem.
7 When they told it to Jotham, he went
and stood on the top of Mount Gerizim
and lifted up his voice, cried out, and said
to them, "Listen to me, you men of
Shechem, that God may listen to you.
8 The trees set out to anoint a king over
themselves. They said to the olive tree,
'Reign over us.'
9 "But the olive tree said to them,
'Should I stop producing my oil, with
which they honor God and man by me,
and go to wave back and forth over the
trees?'
10 "The trees said to the fig tree, 'Come
and reign over us.'
11 "But the fig tree said to them, 'Should I
leave my sweetness, and my good fruit,
and go to wave back and forth over the
trees?'
12 "The trees said to the vine, 'Come and
reign over us.'
13 "The vine said to them, 'Should I leave
my new wine, which cheers God and man,
and go to wave back and forth over the
trees?'
14 "Then all the trees said to the
bramble, 'Come and reign over us.'
15 "The bramble said to the trees, 'If in
truth you anoint me king over you, then
come and take refuge in my shade; and if
not, let fire come out of the bramble, and
devour the cedars of Lebanon.'
16 "Now therefore, if you have dealt
truly and righteously, in that you have
made Abimelech king, and if you have
dealt well with Jerubbaal and his house,
and have done to him according to the
deserving of his hands
17 (for my father fought for you, risked
his life, and delivered you out of the hand
of Midian;
18 and you have risen up against my
father's house today and have slain his
sons, seventy persons, on one stone, and
have made Abimelech, the son of his
female servant, king over the men of
Shechem, because he is your brother);
19 if you then have dealt truly and
righteously with Jerubbaal and with his
house today, then rejoice in Abimelech,
and let him also rejoice in you;
20 but if not, let fire come out from
Abimelech and devour the men of
Shechem and the house of Millo; and let
fire come out from the men of Shechem
and from the house of Millo and devour
Abimelech."
21 Jotham ran away and fled, and went
to Beer† and lived there, for fear of
Abimelech his brother.
22 Abimelech was prince over Israel
three years.
23 Then God sent an evil spirit between
Abimelech and the men of Shechem; and
the men of Shechem dealt treacherously
with Abimelech,
24 that the violence done to the seventy
sons of Jerubbaal might come, and that
their blood might be laid on Abimelech
their brother who killed them, and on the
men of Shechem who strengthened his
hands to kill his brothers.
25 The men of Shechem set an ambush
for him on the tops of the mountains, and
they robbed all who came along that way
by them; and Abimelech was told about it.
26 Gaal the son of Ebed came with his
brothers and went over to Shechem; and
the men of Shechem put their trust in him.
27 They went out into the field,
harvested their vineyards, trod the
grapes, celebrated, and went into the
house of their god and ate and drank, and
cursed Abimelech.
28 Gaal the son of Ebed said, "Who is
Abimelech, and who is Shechem, that we
should serve him? Isn't he the son of
Jerubbaal? Isn't Zebul his officer? Serve

† **9:21** "Beer" is Hebrew for "well", i.e., a village named for its well.

the men of Hamor the father of Shechem,
but why should we serve him?
29 I wish that this people were under my
hand! Then I would remove Abimelech."
He said to Abimelech, "Increase your
army and come out!"
30 When Zebul the ruler of the city
heard the words of Gaal the son of Ebed,
his anger burned.
31 He sent messengers to Abimelech
craftily, saying, "Behold, Gaal the son of
Ebed and his brothers have come to
Shechem; and behold, they incite the city
against you.
32 Now therefore, go up by night, you
and the people who are with you, and lie
in wait in the field.
33 It shall be that in the morning, as soon
as the sun is up, you shall rise early and
rush on the city. Behold, when he and the
people who are with him come out
against you, then may you do to them as
you shall find occasion."
34 Abimelech rose up, and all the people
who were with him, by night, and they
laid wait against Shechem in four
companies.
35 Gaal the son of Ebed went out, and
stood in the entrance of the gate of the
city. Abimelech rose up, and the people
who were with him, from the ambush.
36 When Gaal saw the people, he said to
Zebul, "Behold, people are coming down
from the tops of the mountains."
Zebul said to him, "You see the shadows
of the mountains as if they were men."
37 Gaal spoke again and said, "Behold,
people are coming down by the middle of
the land, and one company comes by the
way of the oak of Meonenim."
38 Then Zebul said to him, "Now where
is your mouth, that you said, 'Who is
Abimelech, that we should serve him?'
Isn't this the people that you have
despised? Please go out now and fight
with them."
39 Gaal went out before the men of
Shechem, and fought with Abimelech.
40 Abimelech chased him, and he fled
before him, and many fell wounded, even
to the entrance of the gate.
41 Abimelech lived at Arumah; and
Zebul drove out Gaal and his brothers,
that they should not dwell in Shechem.
42 On the next day, the people went out
into the field; and they told Abimelech.
43 He took the people and divided them
into three companies, and laid wait in the
field; and he looked, and behold, the
people came out of the city. So, he rose up
against them and struck them.
44 Abimelech and the companies that
were with him rushed forward and stood
in the entrance of the gate of the city; and
the two companies rushed on all who
were in the field and struck them.
45 Abimelech fought against the city all
that day; and he took the city and killed
the people in it. He beat down the city and
sowed it with salt.
46 When all the men of the tower of
Shechem heard of it, they entered into the
stronghold of the house of Elberith.
47 Abimelech was told that all the men
of the tower of Shechem were gathered
together.
48 Abimelech went up to Mount Zalmon,
he and all the people who were with him;
and Abimelech took an ax in his hand,
and cut down a bough from the trees, and
took it up, and laid it on his shoulder.
Then he said to the people who were with
him, "What you have seen me do, make
haste, and do as I have done!"
49 All the people likewise each cut down
his bough, followed Abimelech, and put
them at the base of the stronghold, and set
the stronghold on fire over them, so that
all the people of the tower of Shechem
died also, about a thousand men and
women.
50 Then Abimelech went to Thebez and
encamped against Thebez, and took it.
51 But there was a strong tower within
the city, and all the men and women of
the city fled there, and shut themselves in,
and went up to the roof of the tower.
52 Abimelech came to the tower and
fought against it, and came near to the
door of the tower to burn it with fire.
53 A certain woman cast an upper
millstone on Abimelech's head, and broke
his skull.

54 Then he called hastily to the young man, his armor bearer, and said to him, “Draw your sword and kill me, that men not say of me, ‘A woman killed him.’ His young man thrust him through, and he died.”
55 When the men of Israel saw that Abimelech was dead, they each departed to his place.
56 Thus God repaid the wickedness of Abimelech, which he did to his father in killing his seventy brothers;
57 and God repaid all the wickedness of the men of Shechem on their heads; and the curse of Jotham the son of Jerubbaal came on them.

10

1 After Abimelech, Tola the son of Puah, the son of Dodo, a man of Issachar, arose to save Israel. He lived in Shamir in the hill country of Ephraim.
2 He judged Israel twenty-three years, and died, and was buried in Shamir.
3 After him Jair, the Gileadite, arose. He judged Israel twenty-two years.
4 He had thirty sons who rode on thirty donkey colts. They had thirty cities, which are called Havvoth Jair to this day, which are in the land of Gilead.
5 Jair died, and was buried in Kamon.
6 The children of Israel again did that which was evil in the LORD’s sight, and served the Baals, the Ashtaroth, the gods of Syria, the gods of Sidon, the gods of Moab, the gods of the children of Ammon, and the gods of the Philistines. They abandoned the LORD, and didn’t serve him.
7 The LORD’s anger burned against Israel, and he sold them into the hand of the Philistines and into the hand of the children of Ammon.
8 They troubled and oppressed the children of Israel that year. For eighteen years they oppressed all the children of Israel that were beyond the Jordan in the land of the Amorites, which is in Gilead.
9 The children of Ammon passed over the Jordan to fight also against Judah, and against Benjamin, and against the house of Ephraim, so that Israel was very distressed.
10 The children of Israel cried to the LORD, saying, “We have sinned against you, even because we have forsaken our God, and have served the Baals.”
11 The LORD said to the children of Israel, “Didn’t I save you from the Egyptians, and from the Amorites, from the children of Ammon, and from the Philistines?
12 The Sidonians also, and the Amalekites, and the Maonites, oppressed you; and you cried to me, and I saved you out of their hand.
13 Yet you have forsaken me and served other gods. Therefore I will save you no more.
14 Go and cry to the gods which you have chosen. Let them save you in the time of your distress!”
15 The children of Israel said to the LORD, “We have sinned! Do to us whatever seems good to you; only deliver us, please, today.”
16 They put away the foreign gods from among them and served the LORD; and his soul was grieved for the misery of Israel.
17 Then the children of Ammon were gathered together and encamped in Gilead. The children of Israel assembled themselves together and encamped in Mizpah.
18 The people, the princes of Gilead, said to one another, “Who is the man who will begin to fight against the children of Ammon? He shall be head over all the inhabitants of Gilead.”

11

1 Now Jephthah the Gileadite was a mighty man of valor. He was the son of a prostitute. Gilead became the father of Jephthah.
2 Gilead’s wife bore him sons. When his wife’s sons grew up, they drove Jephthah out and said to him, “You will not inherit in our father’s house, for you are the son of another woman.”
3 Then Jephthah fled from his brothers and lived in the land of Tob. Outlaws joined up with Jephthah, and they went out with him.

4 After a while, the children of Ammon
made war against Israel.
5 When the children of Ammon made
war against Israel, the elders of Gilead
went to get Jephthah out of the land of
Tob.
6 They said to Jephthah, “Come and be
our chief, that we may fight with the
children of Ammon.”
7 Jephthah said to the elders of Gilead,
“Didn’t you hate me, and drive me out of
my father’s house? Why have you come to
me now when you are in distress?”
8 The elders of Gilead said to Jephthah,
“Therefore we have turned again to you
now, that you may go with us and fight
with the children of Ammon. You will be
our head over all the inhabitants of
Gilead.”
9 Jephthah said to the elders of Gilead,
“If you bring me home again to fight with
the children of Ammon, and the LORD
delivers them before me, will I be your
head?”
10 The elders of Gilead said to Jephthah,
“The LORD will be witness between us.
Surely we will do what you say.”
11 Then Jephthah went with the elders
of Gilead, and the people made him head
and chief over them. Jephthah spoke all
his words before the LORD in Mizpah.
12 Jephthah sent messengers to the king
of the children of Ammon, saying, “What
do you have to do with me, that you have
come to me to fight against my land?”
13 The king of the children of Ammon
answered the messengers of Jephthah,
“Because Israel took away my land when
he came up out of Egypt, from the Arnon
even to the Jabbok, and to the Jordan.
Now therefore restore that territory again
peaceably.”
14 Jephthah sent messengers again to
the king of the children of Ammon;
15 and he said to him, “Jephthah says:
Israel didn’t take away the land of Moab,
nor the land of the children of Ammon;
16 but when they came up from Egypt,
and Israel went through the wilderness to
the Red Sea, and came to Kadesh,
17 then Israel sent messengers to the
king of Edom, saying, ‘Please let me pass
through your land;’ but the king of Edom
didn’t listen. In the same way, he sent to
the king of Moab, but he refused; so Israel
stayed in Kadesh.
18 Then they went through the
wilderness, and went around the land of
Edom, and the land of Moab, and came by
the east side of the land of Moab, and they
encamped on the other side of the Arnon;
but they didn’t come within the border of
Moab, for the Arnon was the border of
Moab.
19 Israel sent messengers to Sihon king
of the Amorites, the king of Heshbon; and
Israel said to him, ‘Please let us pass
through your land to my place.’
20 But Sihon didn’t trust Israel to pass
through his border; but Sihon gathered all
his people together, and encamped in
Jahaz, and fought against Israel.
21 The LORD, the God of Israel, delivered
Sihon and all his people into the hand of
Israel, and they struck them. So Israel
possessed all the land of the Amorites, the
inhabitants of that country.
22 They possessed all the border of the
Amorites, from the Arnon even to the
Jabbok, and from the wilderness even to
the Jordan.
23 So now the LORD, the God of Israel,
has dispossessed the Amorites from
before his people Israel, and should you
possess them?
24 Won’t you possess that which
Chemosh your god gives you to possess?
So whoever the LORD our God has
dispossessed from before us, them will we
possess.
25 Now are you anything better than
Balak the son of Zippor, king of Moab? Did
he ever strive against Israel, or did he
ever fight against them?
26 Israel lived in Heshbon and its towns,
and in Aroer and its towns, and in all the
cities that are along the side of the Arnon
for three hundred years! Why didn’t you
recover them within that time?
27 Therefore I have not sinned against
you, but you do me wrong to war against
me. May the LORD the Judge be judge
today between the children of Israel and

the children of Ammon."
28 However, the king of the children of Ammon didn't listen to the words of Jephthah which he sent him.
29 Then the LORD's Spirit came on Jephthah, and he passed over Gilead and Manasseh, and passed over Mizpah of Gilead, and from Mizpah of Gilead he passed over to the children of Ammon.
30 Jephthah vowed a vow to the LORD, and said, "If you will indeed deliver the children of Ammon into my hand,
31 then it shall be, that whatever comes out of the doors of my house to meet me when I return in peace from the children of Ammon, it shall be the LORD's, and I will offer it up for a burnt offering."
32 So Jephthah passed over to the children of Ammon to fight against them; and the LORD delivered them into his hand.
33 He struck them from Aroer until you come to Minnith, even twenty cities, and to Abelcheramim, with a very great slaughter. So the children of Ammon were subdued before the children of Israel.
34 Jephthah came to Mizpah to his house; and behold, his daughter came out to meet him with tambourines and with dances. She was his only child. Besides her he had neither son nor daughter.
35 When he saw her, he tore his clothes, and said, "Alas, my daughter! You have brought me very low, and you are one of those who trouble me; for I have opened my mouth to the LORD, and I can't go back."
36 She said to him, "My father, you have opened your mouth to the LORD; do to me according to that which has proceeded out of your mouth, because the LORD has taken vengeance for you on your enemies, even on the children of Ammon."
37 Then she said to her father, "Let this thing be done for me. Leave me alone two months, that I may depart and go down on the mountains, and bewail my virginity, I and my companions."
38 He said, "Go." He sent her away for two months; and she departed, she and her companions, and mourned her virginity on the mountains.
39 At the end of two months, she returned to her father, who did with her according to his vow which he had vowed. She was a virgin. It became a custom in Israel
40 that the daughters of Israel went yearly to celebrate the daughter of Jephthah the Gileadite four days in a year.

12

1 The men of Ephraim were gathered together, and passed northward; and they said to Jephthah, "Why did you pass over to fight against the children of Ammon, and didn't call us to go with you? We will burn your house around you with fire!"
2 Jephthah said to them, "I and my people were at great strife with the children of Ammon; and when I called you, you didn't save me out of their hand.
3 When I saw that you didn't save me, I put my life in my hand, and passed over against the children of Ammon, and the LORD delivered them into my hand. Why then have you come up to me today, to fight against me?"
4 Then Jephthah gathered together all the men of Gilead, and fought with Ephraim. The men of Gilead struck Ephraim, because they said, "You are fugitives of Ephraim, you Gileadites, in the middle of Ephraim, and in the middle of Manasseh."
5 The Gileadites took the fords of the Jordan against the Ephraimites. Whenever a fugitive of Ephraim said, "Let me go over," the men of Gilead said to him, "Are you an Ephraimite?" If he said, "No;"
6 then they said to him, "Now say 'Shibboleth;' " and he said "Sibboleth"; for he couldn't manage to pronounce it correctly, then they seized him and killed him at the fords of the Jordan. At that time, forty-two thousand of Ephraim fell.
7 Jephthah judged Israel six years. Then Jephthah the Gileadite died, and was buried in the cities of Gilead.
8 After him Ibzan of Bethlehem judged Israel.
9 He had thirty sons. He sent his thirty daughters outside his clan, and he

brought in thirty daughters from outside his clan for his sons. He judged Israel seven years.
10 Ibzan died, and was buried at Bethlehem.
11 After him, Elon the Zebulunite judged Israel; and he judged Israel ten years.
12 Elon the Zebulunite died, and was buried in Aijalon in the land of Zebulun.
13 After him, Abdon the son of Hillel the Pirathonite judged Israel.
14 He had forty sons and thirty sons' sons who rode on seventy donkey colts. He judged Israel eight years.
15 Abdon the son of Hillel the Pirathonite died, and was buried in Pirathon in the land of Ephraim, in the hill country of the Amalekites.

13

1 The children of Israel again did that which was evil in the LORD's sight; and the LORD delivered them into the hand of the Philistines forty years.
2 There was a certain man of Zorah, of the family of the Danites, whose name was Manoah; and his wife was barren, and childless.
3 The LORD's angel appeared to the woman, and said to her, "See now, you are barren and childless; but you shall conceive and bear a son.
4 Now therefore please beware and drink no wine nor strong drink, and don't eat any unclean thing;
5 for, behold, you shall conceive and give birth to a son. No razor shall come on his head, for the child shall be a Nazirite to God from the womb. He shall begin to save Israel out of the hand of the Philistines."
6 Then the woman came and told her husband, saying, "A man of God came to me, and his face was like the face of the angel of God, very awesome. I didn't ask him where he was from, neither did he tell me his name;
7 but he said to me, 'Behold, you shall conceive and bear a son; and now drink no wine nor strong drink. Don't eat any unclean thing, for the child shall be a Nazirite to God from the womb to the day of his death.' "
8 Then Manoah entreated the LORD, and said, "Oh, Lord, please let the man of God whom you sent come again to us, and teach us what we should do to the child who shall be born."
9 God listened to the voice of Manoah, and the angel of God came again to the woman as she sat in the field; but Manoah, her husband, wasn't with her.
10 The woman hurried and ran, and told her husband, saying to him, "Behold, the man who came to me that day has appeared to me."
11 Manoah arose and followed his wife, and came to the man, and said to him, "Are you the man who spoke to my wife?"
He said, "I am."
12 Manoah said, "Now let your words happen. What shall the child's way of life and mission be?"
13 The LORD's angel said to Manoah, "Of all that I said to the woman let her beware.
14 She may not eat of anything that comes of the vine, neither let her drink wine or strong drink, nor eat any unclean thing. Let her observe all that I commanded her."
15 Manoah said to the LORD's angel, "Please stay with us, that we may make a young goat ready for you."
16 The LORD's angel said to Manoah, "Though you detain me, I won't eat your bread. If you will prepare a burnt offering, you must offer it to the LORD." For Manoah didn't know that he was the LORD's angel.
17 Manoah said to the LORD's angel, "What is your name, that when your words happen, we may honor you?"
18 The LORD's angel said to him, "Why do you ask about my name, since it is incomprehensible†?"
19 So Manoah took the young goat with the meal offering, and offered it on the rock to the LORD. Then the angel did an amazing thing as Manoah and his wife watched.
20 For when the flame went up toward the sky from off the altar, the LORD's

† **13:18** or, wonderful

angel ascended in the flame of the altar. Manoah and his wife watched; and they fell on their faces to the ground.
21 But the LORD's angel didn't appear to Manoah or to his wife any more. Then Manoah knew that he was the LORD's angel.
22 Manoah said to his wife, "We shall surely die, because we have seen God."
23 But his wife said to him, "If the LORD were pleased to kill us, he wouldn't have received a burnt offering and a meal offering at our hand, and he wouldn't have shown us all these things, nor would he have told us such things as these at this time."
24 The woman bore a son and named him Samson. The child grew, and the LORD blessed him.
25 The LORD's Spirit began to move him in Mahaneh Dan, between Zorah and Eshtaol.

14

1 Samson went down to Timnah, and saw a woman in Timnah of the daughters of the Philistines.
2 He came up, and told his father and his mother, saying, "I have seen a woman in Timnah of the daughters of the Philistines. Now therefore get her for me as my wife."
3 Then his father and his mother said to him, "Isn't there a woman among your brothers' daughters, or among all my people, that you go to take a wife of the uncircumcised Philistines?"
Samson said to his father, "Get her for me, for she pleases me well."
4 But his father and his mother didn't know that it was of the LORD; for he sought an occasion against the Philistines. Now at that time the Philistines ruled over Israel.
5 Then Samson went down to Timnah with his father and his mother, and came to the vineyards of Timnah; and behold, a young lion roared at him.
6 The LORD's Spirit came mightily on him, and he tore him as he would have torn a young goat with his bare hands, but he didn't tell his father or his mother what he had done.
7 He went down and talked with the woman, and she pleased Samson well.
8 After a while he returned to take her, and he went over to see the carcass of the lion; and behold, there was a swarm of bees in the body of the lion, and honey.
9 He took it into his hands, and went on, eating as he went. He came to his father and mother and gave to them, and they ate, but he didn't tell them that he had taken the honey out of the lion's body.
10 His father went down to the woman; and Samson made a feast there, for the young men used to do so.
11 When they saw him, they brought thirty companions to be with him.
12 Samson said to them, "Let me tell you a riddle now. If you can tell me the answer within the seven days of the feast, and find it out, then I will give you thirty linen garments and thirty changes of clothing;
13 but if you can't tell me the answer, then you shall give me thirty linen garments and thirty changes of clothing."
They said to him, "Tell us your riddle, that we may hear it."
14 He said to them,
"Out of the eater came out food.
Out of the strong came out sweetness."
They couldn't in three days declare the riddle.
15 On the seventh day, they said to Samson's wife, "Entice your husband, that he may declare to us the riddle, lest we burn you and your father's house with fire. Have you called us to impoverish us? Isn't that so?"
16 Samson's wife wept before him, and said, "You just hate me, and don't love me. You've told a riddle to the children of my people, and haven't told it to me."
He said to her, "Behold, I haven't told my father or my mother, so why should I tell you?"
17 She wept before him the seven days, while their feast lasted; and on the seventh day, he told her, because she pressed him severely; and she told the riddle to the children of her people.
18 The men of the city said to him on the seventh day before the sun went down, "What is sweeter than honey? What is stronger than a lion?"

He said to them,
"If you hadn't plowed with my heifer,
you wouldn't have found out my
riddle."
19 The LORD's Spirit came mightily on
him, and he went down to Ashkelon and
struck thirty men of them. He took their
plunder, then gave the changes of
clothing to those who declared the riddle.
His anger burned, and he went up to his
father's house.
20 But Samson's wife was given to his
companion, who had been his friend.

15

1 But after a while, in the time of wheat
harvest, Samson visited his wife with a
young goat. He said, "I will go in to my
wife's room."
But her father wouldn't allow him to go
in.
2 Her father said, "I most certainly
thought that you utterly hated her;
therefore I gave her to your companion.
Isn't her younger sister more beautiful
than she? Please, take her instead."
3 Samson said to them, "This time I will
be blameless in the case of the Philistines
when I harm them."
4 Samson went and caught three
hundred foxes, and took torches, and
turned tail to tail, and put a torch in the
middle between every two tails.
5 When he had set the torches on fire, he
let them go into the standing grain of the
Philistines, and burned up both the
shocks and the standing grain, and also
the olive groves.
6 Then the Philistines said, "Who has
done this?"
They said, "Samson, the son-in-law of
the Timnite, because he has taken his wife
and given her to his companion." The
Philistines came up, and burned her and
her father with fire.
7 Samson said to them, "If you behave
like this, surely I will take revenge on you,
and after that I will cease."
8 He struck them hip and thigh with a
great slaughter; and he went down and
lived in the cave in Etam's rock.
9 Then the Philistines went up,
encamped in Judah, and spread
themselves in Lehi.
10 The men of Judah said, "Why have
you come up against us?"
They said, "We have come up to bind
Samson, to do to him as he has done to us."
11 Then three thousand men of Judah
went down to the cave in Etam's rock, and
said to Samson, "Don't you know that the
Philistines are rulers over us? What then
is this that you have done to us?"
He said to them, "As they did to me, so I
have done to them."
12 They said to him, "We have come
down to bind you, that we may deliver
you into the hand of the Philistines."
Samson said to them, "Swear to me that
you will not attack me yourselves."
13 They spoke to him, saying, "No, but
we will bind you securely and deliver you
into their hands; but surely we will not
kill you." They bound him with two new
ropes, and brought him up from the rock.
14 When he came to Lehi, the Philistines
shouted as they met him. Then the LORD's
Spirit came mightily on him, and the
ropes that were on his arms became as
flax that was burned with fire; and his
bands dropped from off his hands.
15 He found a fresh jawbone of a
donkey, put out his hand, took it, and
struck a thousand men with it.
16 Samson said, "With the jawbone of a
donkey, heaps on heaps; with the
jawbone of a donkey I have struck a
thousand men."
17 When he had finished speaking, he
threw the jawbone out of his hand; and
that place was called Ramath Lehi.†
18 He was very thirsty, and called on the
LORD and said, "You have given this great
deliverance by the hand of your servant;
and now shall I die of thirst, and fall into
the hands of the uncircumcised?"
19 But God split the hollow place that is
in Lehi, and water came out of it. When
he had drunk, his spirit came again, and
he revived. Therefore its name was called
En Hakkore, which is in Lehi, to this day.

† **15:17** "Ramath" means "hill" and "Lehi" means "jawbone".

20 He judged Israel twenty years in the
days of the Philistines.

16

1 Samson went to Gaza, and saw there a
prostitute, and went in to her.
2 The Gazites were told, “Samson is
here!” They surrounded him and laid wait
for him all night in the gate of the city, and
were quiet all the night, saying, “Wait
until morning light; then we will kill him.”
3 Samson lay until midnight, then arose
at midnight and took hold of the doors of
the gate of the city, with the two posts, and
plucked them up, bar and all, and put
them on his shoulders and carried them
up to the top of the mountain that is
before Hebron.
4 It came to pass afterward that he loved
a woman in the valley of Sorek, whose
name was Delilah.
5 The lords of the Philistines came up to
her and said to her, “Entice him, and see
in which his great strength lies, and by
what means we may prevail against him,
that we may bind him to afflict him; and
we will each give you eleven hundred
pieces of silver.”
6 Delilah said to Samson, “Please tell me
where your great strength lies, and what
you might be bound to afflict you.”
7 Samson said to her, “If they bind me
with seven green cords that were never
dried, then shall I become weak, and be as
another man.”
8 Then the lords of the Philistines
brought up to her seven green cords
which had not been dried, and she bound
him with them.
9 Now she had an ambush waiting in the
inner room. She said to him, “The
Philistines are on you, Samson!” He broke
the cords as a flax thread is broken when
it touches the fire. So his strength was not
known.
10 Delilah said to Samson, “Behold, you
have mocked me, and told me lies. Now
please tell me how you might be bound.”
11 He said to her, “If they only bind me
with new ropes with which no work has
been done, then I will become weak, and
be as another man.”
12 So Delilah took new ropes and bound
him with them, then said to him, “The
Philistines are on you, Samson!” The
ambush was waiting in the inner room.
He broke them off his arms like a thread.
13 Delilah said to Samson, “Until now,
you have mocked me and told me lies. Tell
me with what you might be bound.”
He said to her, “If you weave the seven
locks of my head with the fabric on the
loom.”
14 She fastened it with the pin, and said
to him, “The Philistines are on you,
Samson!” He awakened out of his sleep,
and plucked away the pin of the beam and
the fabric.
15 She said to him, “How can you say, ‘I
love you,’ when your heart is not with
me? You have mocked me these three
times, and have not told me where your
great strength lies.”
16 When she pressed him daily with her
words and urged him, his soul was
troubled to death.
17 He told her all his heart and said to
her, “No razor has ever come on my head;
for I have been a Nazirite to God from my
mother’s womb. If I am shaved, then my
strength will go from me and I will
become weak, and be like any other man.”
18 When Delilah saw that he had told
her all his heart, she sent and called for
the lords of the Philistines, saying, “Come
up this once, for he has told me all his
heart.” Then the lords of the Philistines
came up to her and brought the money in
their hand.
19 She made him sleep on her knees;
and she called for a man and shaved off
the seven locks of his head; and she began
to afflict him, and his strength went from
him.
20 She said, “The Philistines are upon
you, Samson!”
He awoke out of his sleep, and said, “I
will go out as at other times, and shake
myself free.” But he didn’t know that the
LORD had departed from him.
21 The Philistines laid hold on him and
put out his eyes; and they brought him
down to Gaza and bound him with fetters
of bronze; and he ground at the mill in the
prison.

22 However, the hair of his head began
to grow again after he was shaved.
23 The lords of the Philistines gathered
together to offer a great sacrifice to Dagon
their god, and to rejoice; for they said,
“Our god has delivered Samson our
enemy into our hand.”
24 When the people saw him, they
praised their god; for they said, “Our god
has delivered our enemy and the
destroyer of our country, who has slain
many of us, into our hand.”
25 When their hearts were merry, they
said, “Call for Samson, that he may
entertain us.” They called for Samson out
of the prison; and he performed before
them. They set him between the pillars;
26 and Samson said to the boy who held
him by the hand, “Allow me to feel the
pillars on which the house rests, that I
may lean on them.”
27 Now the house was full of men and
women; and all the lords of the Philistines
were there; and there were on the roof
about three thousand men and women,
who saw while Samson performed.
28 Samson called to the LORD, and said,
“Lord GOD, remember me, please, and
strengthen me, please, only this once,
God, that I may be at once avenged of the
Philistines for my two eyes.”
29 Samson took hold of the two middle
pillars on which the house rested and
leaned on them, the one with his right
hand and the other with his left.
30 Samson said, “Let me die with the
Philistines!” He bowed himself with all
his might; and the house fell on the lords,
and on all the people who were in it. So
the dead that he killed at his death were
more than those who he killed in his life.
31 Then his brothers and all the house of
his father came down and took him, and
brought him up and buried him between
Zorah and Eshtaol in the burial site of
Manoah his father. He judged Israel
twenty years.

17

1 There was a man of the hill country of
Ephraim, whose name was Micah.
2 He said to his mother, “The eleven
hundred pieces of silver that were taken
from you, about which you uttered a
curse, and also spoke it in my
ears—behold, the silver is with me. I took
it.”

His mother said, “May the LORD bless
my son!”

3 He restored the eleven hundred pieces
of silver to his mother, then his mother
said, “I most certainly dedicate the silver
to the LORD from my hand for my son, to
make a carved image and a molten image.
Now therefore I will restore it to you.”

4 When he restored the money to his
mother, his mother took two hundred
pieces of silver, and gave them to a
silversmith, who made a carved image
and a molten image out of it. It was in the
house of Micah.

5 The man Micah had a house of gods,
and he made an ephod, and teraphim,†
and consecrated one of his sons, who
became his priest.
6 In those days there was no king in
Israel. Everyone did that which was right
in his own eyes.
7 There was a young man out of
Bethlehem Judah, of the family of Judah,
who was a Levite; and he lived there.
8 The man departed out of the city, out
of Bethlehem Judah, to live where he
could find a place, and he came to the hill
country of Ephraim, to the house of
Micah, as he traveled.
9 Micah said to him, “Where did you
come from?”

He said to him, “I am a Levite of
Bethlehem Judah, and I am looking for a
place to live.”

10 Micah said to him, “Dwell with me,
and be to me a father and a priest, and I
will give you ten pieces of silver per year,
a suit of clothing, and your food.” So the
Levite went in.
11 The Levite was content to dwell with
the man; and the young man was to him
as one of his sons.

† **17:5** teraphim were household idols that may have been associated with inheritance rights to the household property.

12 Micah consecrated the Levite, and the young man became his priest, and was in the house of Micah.
13 Then Micah said, “Now I know that the LORD will do good to me, since I have a Levite as my priest.”

18

1 In those days there was no king in Israel. In those days the tribe of the Danites sought an inheritance to dwell in; for to that day, their inheritance had not fallen to them among the tribes of Israel.
2 The children of Dan sent five men of their family from their whole number, men of valor, from Zorah and from Eshtaol, to spy out the land and to search it. They said to them, “Go, explore the land!”
They came to the hill country of Ephraim, to the house of Micah, and lodged there.
3 When they were by the house of Micah, they knew the voice of the young man the Levite; so they went over there and said to him, “Who brought you here? What do you do in this place? What do you have here?”
4 He said to them, “Thus and thus has Micah dealt with me, and he has hired me, and I have become his priest.”
5 They said to him, “Please ask counsel of God, that we may know whether our way which we go shall be prosperous.”
6 The priest said to them, “Go in peace. Your way in which you go is before the LORD.”
7 Then the five men departed and came to Laish and saw the people who were there, how they lived in safety, in the way of the Sidonians, quiet and secure; for there was no one in the land possessing authority, that might put them to shame in anything, and they were far from the Sidonians, and had no dealings with anyone else.
8 They came to their brothers at Zorah and Eshtaol; and their brothers asked them, “What do you say?”
9 They said, “Arise, and let’s go up against them; for we have seen the land, and behold, it is very good. Do you stand still? Don’t be slothful to go and to enter in to possess the land.
10 When you go, you will come to an unsuspecting people, and the land is large; for God has given it into your hand, a place where there is no lack of anything that is on the earth.”
11 The family of the Danites set out from Zorah and Eshtaol with six hundred men armed with weapons of war.
12 They went up and encamped in Kiriath Jearim in Judah. Therefore they call that place Mahaneh Dan to this day. Behold, it is behind Kiriath Jearim.
13 They passed from there to the hill country of Ephraim, and came to the house of Micah.
14 Then the five men who went to spy out the country of Laish answered and said to their brothers, “Do you know that there is in these houses an ephod, and teraphim,† and a carved image, and a molten image? Now therefore consider what you have to do.”
15 They went over there and came to the house of the young Levite man, even to the house of Micah, and asked him how he was doing.
16 The six hundred men armed with their weapons of war, who were of the children of Dan, stood by the entrance of the gate.
17 The five men who went to spy out the land went up, and came in there, and took the engraved image, the ephod, the teraphim, and the molten image; and the priest stood by the entrance of the gate with the six hundred men armed with weapons of war.
18 When these went into Micah’s house, and took the engraved image, the ephod, the teraphim, and the molten image, the priest said to them, “What are you doing?”
19 They said to him, “Hold your peace, put your hand on your mouth, and go with us. Be a father and a priest to us. Is it

† **18:14** teraphim were household idols that may have been associated with inheritance rights to the household property.

better for you to be priest to the house of one man, or to be priest to a tribe and a family in Israel?"

20 The priest's heart was glad, and he took the ephod, the teraphim, and the engraved image, and went with the people.

21 So they turned and departed, and put the little ones, the livestock, and the goods before them.

22 When they were a good way from the house of Micah, the men who were in the houses near Micah's house gathered together and overtook the children of Dan.

23 As they called to the children of Dan, they turned their faces, and said to Micah, "What ails you, that you come with such a company?"

24 He said, "You have taken away my gods which I made, and the priest, and have gone away! What more do I have? How can you ask me, 'What ails you?' "

25 The children of Dan said to him, "Don't let your voice be heard among us, lest angry fellows fall on you, and you lose your life, with the lives of your household."

26 The children of Dan went their way; and when Micah saw that they were too strong for him, he turned and went back to his house.

27 They took that which Micah had made, and the priest whom he had, and came to Laish, to a people quiet and unsuspecting, and struck them with the edge of the sword; then they burned the city with fire.

28 There was no deliverer, because it was far from Sidon, and they had no dealings with anyone else; and it was in the valley that lies by Beth Rehob. They built the city and lived in it.

29 They called the name of the city Dan, after the name of Dan their father, who was born to Israel; however the name of the city used to be Laish.

30 The children of Dan set up for themselves the engraved image; and Jonathan, the son of Gershom, the son of Moses, and his sons were priests to the tribe of the Danites until the day of the captivity of the land.

31 So they set up for themselves Micah's engraved image which he made, and it remained all the time that God's house was in Shiloh.

19

1 In those days, when there was no king in Israel, there was a certain Levite living on the farther side of the hill country of Ephraim, who took for himself a concubine out of Bethlehem Judah.

2 His concubine played the prostitute against him, and went away from him to her father's house to Bethlehem Judah, and was there for four months.

3 Her husband arose and went after her to speak kindly to her, to bring her again, having his servant with him and a couple of donkeys. She brought him into her father's house; and when the father of the young lady saw him, he rejoiced to meet him.

4 His father-in-law, the young lady's father, kept him there; and he stayed with him three days. So they ate and drank, and stayed there.

5 On the fourth day, they got up early in the morning, and he rose up to depart. The young lady's father said to his son-in-law, "Strengthen your heart with a morsel of bread, and afterward you shall go your way."

6 So they sat down, ate, and drank, both of them together. Then the young lady's father said to the man, "Please be pleased to stay all night, and let your heart be merry."

7 The man rose up to depart; but his father-in-law urged him, and he stayed there again.

8 He arose early in the morning on the fifth day to depart; and the young lady's father said, "Please strengthen your heart and stay until the day declines;" and they both ate.

9 When the man rose up to depart, he, and his concubine, and his servant, his father-in-law, the young lady's father, said to him, "Behold, now the day draws toward evening, please stay all night.

Behold, the day is ending. Stay here, that your heart may be merry; and tomorrow go on your way early, that you may go home."
10 But the man wouldn't stay that night, but he rose up and went near Jebus (also called Jerusalem). With him were a couple of saddled donkeys. His concubine also was with him.
11 When they were by Jebus, the day was far spent; and the servant said to his master, "Please come and let's enter into this city of the Jebusites, and stay in it."
12 His master said to him, "We won't enter into the city of a foreigner that is not of the children of Israel; but we will pass over to Gibeah."
13 He said to his servant, "Come and let's draw near to one of these places; and we will lodge in Gibeah, or in Ramah."
14 So they passed on and went their way; and the sun went down on them near Gibeah, which belongs to Benjamin.
15 They went over there, to go in to stay in Gibeah. He went in, and sat down in the street of the city; for there was no one who took them into his house to stay.
16 Behold, an old man came from his work out of the field at evening. Now the man was from the hill country of Ephraim, and he lived in Gibeah; but the men of the place were Benjamites.
17 He lifted up his eyes, and saw the wayfaring man in the street of the city; and the old man said, "Where are you going? Where did you come from?"
18 He said to him, "We are passing from Bethlehem Judah to the farther side of the hill country of Ephraim. I am from there, and I went to Bethlehem Judah. I am going to the LORD's house; and there is no one who has taken me into his house.
19 Yet there is both straw and feed for our donkeys; and there is bread and wine also for me, and for your servant, and for the young man who is with your servants. There is no lack of anything."
20 The old man said, "Peace be to you! Just let me supply all your needs, but don't sleep in the street."
21 So he brought him into his house, and gave the donkeys fodder. Then they washed their feet, and ate and drank.
22 As they were making their hearts merry, behold, the men of the city, certain wicked fellows, surrounded the house, beating at the door; and they spoke to the master of the house, the old man, saying, "Bring out the man who came into your house, that we can have sex with him!"
23 The man, the master of the house, went out to them, and said to them, "No, my brothers, please don't act so wickedly; since this man has come into my house, don't do this folly.
24 Behold, here is my virgin daughter and his concubine. I will bring them out now. Humble them, and do with them what seems good to you; but to this man don't do any such folly."
25 But the men wouldn't listen to him; so the man grabbed his concubine, and brought her out to them; and they had sex with her, and abused her all night until the morning. When the day began to dawn, they let her go.
26 Then the woman came in the dawning of the day, and fell down at the door of the man's house where her lord was, until it was light.
27 Her lord rose up in the morning and opened the doors of the house, and went out to go his way; and behold, the woman his concubine had fallen down at the door of the house, with her hands on the threshold.
28 He said to her, "Get up, and let's get going!" but no one answered. Then he took her up on the donkey; and the man rose up, and went to his place.
29 When he had come into his house, he took a knife and cut up his concubine, and divided her, limb by limb, into twelve pieces, and sent her throughout all the borders of Israel.
30 It was so, that all who saw it said, "Such a deed has not been done or seen from the day that the children of Israel came up out of the land of Egypt to this day! Consider it, take counsel, and speak."

20

1 Then all the children of Israel went
out, and the congregation was assembled
as one man, from Dan even to Beersheba,
with the land of Gilead, to the LORD at
Mizpah.
2 The chiefs of all the people, even of all
the tribes of Israel, presented themselves
in the assembly of the people of God, four
hundred thousand footmen who drew
sword.
3 (Now the children of Benjamin heard
that the children of Israel had gone up to
Mizpah.) The children of Israel said, “Tell
us, how did this wickedness happen?”
4 The Levite, the husband of the woman
who was murdered, answered, “I came
into Gibeah that belongs to Benjamin, I
and my concubine, to spend the night.
5 The men of Gibeah rose against me,
and surrounded the house by night. They
intended to kill me and they raped my
concubine, and she is dead.
6 I took my concubine and cut her in
pieces, and sent her throughout all the
country of the inheritance of Israel; for
they have committed lewdness and folly
in Israel.
7 Behold, you children of Israel, all of
you, give here your advice and counsel.”
8 All the people arose as one man,
saying, “None of us will go to his tent,
neither will any of us turn to his house.
9 But now this is the thing which we will
do to Gibeah: we will go up against it by
lot;
10 and we will take ten men of one
hundred throughout all the tribes of
Israel, and one hundred of one thousand,
and a thousand out of ten thousand to get
food for the people, that they may do,
when they come to Gibeah of Benjamin,
according to all the folly that the men of
Gibeah have done in Israel.”
11 So all the men of Israel were gathered
against the city, knit together as one man.
12 The tribes of Israel sent men through
all the tribe of Benjamin, saying, “What
wickedness is this that has happened
among you?
13 Now therefore deliver up the men,
the wicked fellows who are in Gibeah,
that we may put them to death and put
away evil from Israel.”

But Benjamin would not listen to the
voice of their brothers, the children of
Israel.
14 The children of Benjamin gathered
themselves together out of the cities to
Gibeah, to go out to battle against the
children of Israel.
15 The children of Benjamin were
counted on that day out of the cities
twenty-six thousand men who drew the
sword, in addition to the inhabitants of
Gibeah, who were counted seven
hundred chosen men.
16 Among all these soldiers there were
seven hundred chosen men who were
left-handed. Every one of them could
sling a stone at a hair and not miss.
17 The men of Israel, besides Benjamin,
were counted four hundred thousand
men who drew sword. All these were men
of war.
18 The children of Israel arose, went up
to Bethel, and asked counsel of God. They
asked, “Who shall go up for us first to
battle against the children of Benjamin?”

The LORD said, “Judah first.”

19 The children of Israel rose up in the
morning and encamped against Gibeah.
20 The men of Israel went out to battle
against Benjamin; and the men of Israel
set the battle in array against them at
Gibeah.
21 The children of Benjamin came out of
Gibeah, and on that day destroyed
twenty-two thousand of the Israelite men
down to the ground.
22 The people, the men of Israel,
encouraged themselves, and set the battle
again in array in the place where they set
themselves in array the first day.
23 The children of Israel went up and
wept before the LORD until evening; and
they asked of the LORD, saying, “Shall I
again draw near to battle against the
children of Benjamin my brother?”

The LORD said, “Go up against him.”

24 The children of Israel came near
against the children of Benjamin the
second day.

25 Benjamin went out against them out
of Gibeah the second day, and destroyed
down to the ground of the children of
Israel again eighteen thousand men. All
these drew the sword.
26 Then all the children of Israel and all
the people went up, and came to Bethel,
and wept, and sat there before the LORD,
and fasted that day until evening; then
they offered burnt offerings and peace
offerings before the LORD.
27 The children of Israel asked the LORD
(for the ark of the covenant of God was
there in those days,
28 and Phinehas, the son of Eleazar, the
son of Aaron, stood before it in those
days), saying, “Shall I yet again go out to
battle against the children of Benjamin
my brother, or shall I cease?”

The LORD said, “Go up; for tomorrow I
will deliver him into your hand.”

29 Israel set ambushes all around
Gibeah.
30 The children of Israel went up against
the children of Benjamin on the third day,
and set themselves in array against
Gibeah, as at other times.
31 The children of Benjamin went out
against the people, and were drawn away
from the city; and they began to strike and
kill of the people as at other times, in the
highways, of which one goes up to Bethel
and the other to Gibeah, in the field, about
thirty men of Israel.

32 The children of Benjamin said, “They
are struck down before us, as at the first.”
But the children of Israel said, “Let’s flee,
and draw them away from the city to the
highways.”

33 All the men of Israel rose up out of
their place and set themselves in array at
Baal Tamar. Then the ambushers of Israel
broke out of their place, even out of
Maareh Geba.
34 Ten thousand chosen men out of all
Israel came over against Gibeah, and the
battle was severe; but they didn’t know
that disaster was close to them.
35 The LORD struck Benjamin before
Israel; and the children of Israel
destroyed of Benjamin that day
twenty-five thousand one hundred men.
All these drew the sword.
36 So the children of Benjamin saw that
they were struck, for the men of Israel
yielded to Benjamin because they trusted
the ambushers whom they had set against
Gibeah.
37 The ambushers hurried, and rushed
on Gibeah; then the ambushers spread
out, and struck all the city with the edge of
the sword.
38 Now the appointed sign between the
men of Israel and the ambushers was that
they should make a great cloud of smoke
rise up out of the city.
39 The men of Israel turned in the battle,
and Benjamin began to strike and kill of
the men of Israel about thirty persons; for
they said, “Surely they are struck down
before us, as in the first battle.”
40 But when the cloud began to arise up
out of the city in a pillar of smoke, the
Benjamites looked behind them; and
behold, the whole city went up in smoke
to the sky.
41 The men of Israel turned, and the
men of Benjamin were dismayed; for they
saw that disaster had come on them.
42 Therefore they turned their backs
before the men of Israel to the way of the
wilderness, but the battle followed hard
after them; and those who came out of the
cities destroyed them in the middle of it.
43 They surrounded the Benjamites,
chased them, and trod them down at their
resting place, as far as near Gibeah
toward the sunrise.
44 Eighteen thousand men of Benjamin
fell; all these were men of valor.
45 They turned and fled toward the
wilderness to the rock of Rimmon. They
gleaned five thousand men of them in the
highways, and followed hard after them
to Gidom, and struck two thousand men
of them.
46 So that all who fell that day of
Benjamin were twenty-five thousand men
who drew the sword. All these were men
of valor.
47 But six hundred men turned and fled
toward the wilderness to the rock of
Rimmon, and stayed in the rock of
Rimmon four months.

48 The men of Israel turned again on the children of Benjamin, and struck them with the edge of the sword—including the entire city, the livestock, and all that they found. Moreover they set all the cities which they found on fire.

21

1 Now the men of Israel had sworn in Mizpah, saying, "None of us will give his daughter to Benjamin as a wife."
2 The people came to Bethel and sat there until evening before God, and lifted up their voices, and wept severely.
3 They said, "The LORD, the God of Israel, why has this happened in Israel, that there should be one tribe lacking in Israel today?"

4 On the next day, the people rose early and built an altar there, and offered burnt offerings and peace offerings.
5 The children of Israel said, "Who is there among all the tribes of Israel who didn't come up in the assembly to the LORD?" For they had made a great oath concerning him who didn't come up to the LORD to Mizpah, saying, "He shall surely be put to death."
6 The children of Israel grieved for Benjamin their brother, and said, "There is one tribe cut off from Israel today.
7 How shall we provide wives for those who remain, since we have sworn by the LORD that we will not give them of our daughters to wives?"
8 They said, "What one is there of the tribes of Israel who didn't come up to the LORD to Mizpah?" Behold, no one came from Jabesh Gilead to the camp to the assembly.
9 For when the people were counted, behold, there were none of the inhabitants of Jabesh Gilead there.
10 The congregation sent twelve thousand of the most valiant men there, and commanded them, saying, "Go and strike the inhabitants of Jabesh Gilead with the edge of the sword, with the women and the little ones.
11 This is the thing that you shall do: you shall utterly destroy every male, and every woman who has lain with a man."
12 They found among the inhabitants of Jabesh Gilead four hundred young virgins who had not known man by lying with him; and they brought them to the camp to Shiloh, which is in the land of Canaan.

13 The whole congregation sent and spoke to the children of Benjamin who were in the rock of Rimmon, and proclaimed peace to them.
14 Benjamin returned at that time; and they gave them the women whom they had saved alive of the women of Jabesh Gilead. There still weren't enough for them.
15 The people grieved for Benjamin, because the LORD had made a breach in the tribes of Israel.
16 Then the elders of the congregation said, "How shall we provide wives for those who remain, since the women are destroyed out of Benjamin?"
17 They said, "There must be an inheritance for those who are escaped of Benjamin, that a tribe not be blotted out from Israel.
18 However, we may not give them wives of our daughters, for the children of Israel had sworn, saying, 'Cursed is he who gives a wife to Benjamin.' "
19 They said, "Behold, there is a feast of the LORD from year to year in Shiloh, which is on the north of Bethel, on the east side of the highway that goes up from Bethel to Shechem, and on the south of Lebonah."
20 They commanded the children of Benjamin, saying, "Go and lie in wait in the vineyards,
21 and see, and behold, if the daughters of Shiloh come out to dance in the dances, then come out of the vineyards, and each man catch his wife of the daughters of Shiloh, and go to the land of Benjamin.
22 It shall be, when their fathers or their brothers come to complain to us, that we will say to them, 'Grant them graciously to us, because we didn't take for each man his wife in battle, neither did you give

them to them; otherwise you would now
be guilty.' "
23 The children of Benjamin did so, and
took wives for themselves according to
their number, of those who danced,
whom they carried off. They went and
returned to their inheritance, built the
cities, and lived in them.
24 The children of Israel departed from
there at that time, every man to his tribe
and to his family, and they each went out
from there to his own inheritance.
25 In those days there was no king in
Israel. Everyone did that which was right
in his own eyes.

The Book of Ruth

1 In the days when the judges judged,
there was a famine in the land. A certain
man of Bethlehem Judah went to live in
the country of Moab with his wife and his
two sons.
2 The name of the man was Elimelech,
and the name of his wife Naomi. The
names of his two sons were Mahlon and
Chilion, Ephrathites of Bethlehem Judah.
They came into the country of Moab and
lived there.
3 Elimelech, Naomi's husband, died; and
she was left with her two sons.
4 They took for themselves wives of the
women of Moab. The name of the one was
Orpah, and the name of the other was
Ruth. They lived there about ten years.
5 Mahlon and Chilion both died, and the
woman was bereaved of her two children
and of her husband.
6 Then she arose with her
daughters-in-law, that she might return
from the country of Moab; for she had
heard in the country of Moab how the
LORD† had visited his people in giving
them bread.
7 She went out of the place where she
was, and her two daughters-in-law with
her. They went on the way to return to the
land of Judah.
8 Naomi said to her two
daughters-in-law, "Go, return each of you
to her mother's house. May the LORD deal
kindly with you, as you have dealt with
the dead and with me.
9 May the LORD grant you that you may
find rest, each of you in the house of her
husband."
Then she kissed them, and they lifted up
their voices, and wept.
10 They said to her, "No, but we will
return with you to your people."
11 Naomi said, "Go back, my daughters.
Why do you want to go with me? Do I still
have sons in my womb, that they may be
your husbands?
12 Go back, my daughters, go your way;
for I am too old to have a husband. If I
should say, 'I have hope,' if I should even
have a husband tonight, and should also
bear sons,
13 would you then wait until they were
grown? Would you then refrain from
having husbands? No, my daughters, for
it grieves me seriously for your sakes, for
the LORD's hand has gone out against
me."
14 They lifted up their voices and wept
again; then Orpah kissed her
mother-in-law, but Ruth stayed with her.
15 She said, "Behold,‡ your sister-in-law
has gone back to her people and to her
god. Follow your sister-in-law."
16 Ruth said, "Don't urge me to leave
you, and to return from following you, for
where you go, I will go; and where you
stay, I will stay. Your people will be my
people, and your God§ my God.
17 Where you die, I will die, and there I
will be buried. May the LORD do so to me,
and more also, if anything but death parts
you and me."
18 When Naomi saw that she was
determined to go with her, she stopped
urging her.
19 So they both went until they came to
Bethlehem. When they had come to
Bethlehem, all the city was excited about
them, and they asked, "Is this Naomi?"
20 She said to them, "Don't call me
Naomi.† Call me Mara,‡ for the Almighty
has dealt very bitterly with me.
21 I went out full, and the LORD has
brought me home again empty. Why do
you call me Naomi, since the LORD has
testified against me, and the Almighty has
afflicted me?"
22 So Naomi returned, and Ruth the
Moabitess, her daughter-in-law, with her,
who returned out of the country of Moab.

† **1:6** When rendered in ALL CAPITAL LETTERS, "LORD" or "GOD" is the translation of God's Proper Name (Hebrew "יהוה", usually pronounced Yahweh). ‡ **1:15** "Behold", from "הִנֵּה", means look at, take notice, observe, see, or gaze at. It is often used as an interjection. § **1:16** The Hebrew word rendered "God" is "אֱלֹהִים" (Elohim). † **1:20** "Naomi" means "pleasant". ‡ **1:20** "Mara" means "bitter".

They came to Bethlehem in the beginning
of barley harvest.

2

1 Naomi had a relative of her husband's,
a mighty man of wealth, of the family of
Elimelech, and his name was Boaz.
2 Ruth the Moabitess said to Naomi, "Let
me now go to the field, and glean among
the ears of grain after him in whose sight I
find favor."
She said to her, "Go, my daughter."
3 She went, and came and gleaned in the
field after the reapers; and she happened
to come to the portion of the field
belonging to Boaz, who was of the family
of Elimelech.
4 Behold, Boaz came from Bethlehem,
and said to the reapers, "May the LORD be
with you."
They answered him, "May the LORD
bless you."
5 Then Boaz said to his servant who was
set over the reapers, "Whose young lady is
this?"
6 The servant who was set over the
reapers answered, "It is the Moabite lady
who came back with Naomi out of the
country of Moab.
7 She said, 'Please let me glean and
gather after the reapers among the
sheaves.' So she came, and has continued
even from the morning until now, except
that she rested a little in the house."
8 Then Boaz said to Ruth, "Listen, my
daughter. Don't go to glean in another
field, and don't go from here, but stay
here close to my maidens.
9 Let your eyes be on the field that they
reap, and go after them. Haven't I
commanded the young men not to touch
you? When you are thirsty, go to the
vessels, and drink from that which the
young men have drawn."
10 Then she fell on her face and bowed
herself to the ground, and said to him,
"Why have I found favor in your sight,
that you should take knowledge of me,
since I am a foreigner?"
11 Boaz answered her, "I have been told
all about what you have done for your
mother-in-law since the death of your
husband, and how you have left your
father, your mother, and the land of your
birth, and have come to a people that you
didn't know before.
12 May the LORD repay your work, and
a full reward be given to you from the
LORD, the God of Israel, under whose
wings you have come to take refuge."
13 Then she said, "Let me find favor in
your sight, my lord, because you have
comforted me, and because you have
spoken kindly to your servant, though I
am not as one of your servants."
14 At meal time Boaz said to her, "Come
here, and eat some bread, and dip your
morsel in the vinegar."
She sat beside the reapers, and they
passed her parched grain. She ate, was
satisfied, and left some of it.
15 When she had risen up to glean, Boaz
commanded his young men, saying, "Let
her glean even among the sheaves, and
don't reproach her.
16 Also pull out some for her from the
bundles, and leave it. Let her glean, and
don't rebuke her."
17 So she gleaned in the field until
evening; and she beat out that which she
had gleaned, and it was about an ephah† of barley.
18 She took it up, and went into the city.
Then her mother-in-law saw what she
had gleaned; and she brought out and
gave to her that which she had left after
she had enough.
19 Her mother-in-law said to her,
"Where have you gleaned today? Where
have you worked? Blessed be he who
noticed you."
She told her mother-in-law with whom
she had worked, "The man's name with
whom I worked today is Boaz."
20 Naomi said to her daughter-in-law,
"May he be blessed by the LORD, who has
not abandoned his kindness to the living
and to the dead." Naomi said to her, "The
man is a close relative to us, one of our
near kinsmen."

† **2:17** 1 ephah is about 22 liters or about 2/3 of a bushel

21 Ruth the Moabitess said, “Yes, he said
to me, ‘You shall stay close to my young
men until they have finished all my
harvest.’ ”
22 Naomi said to Ruth her
daughter-in-law, “It is good, my daughter,
that you go out with his maidens, and that
they not harm you in any other field.”
23 So she stayed close to the maidens of
Boaz, to glean to the end of barley harvest
and of wheat harvest; and she lived with
her mother-in-law.

3

1 Naomi her mother-in-law said to her,
“My daughter, shall I not seek rest for you,
that it may be well with you?
2 Now isn’t Boaz our kinsman, with
whose maidens you were? Behold, he will
be winnowing barley tonight on the
threshing floor.
3 Therefore wash yourself, anoint
yourself, get dressed, and go down to the
threshing floor; but don’t make yourself
known to the man until he has finished
eating and drinking.
4 It shall be, when he lies down, that you
shall note the place where he is lying.
Then you shall go in, uncover his feet, and
lie down. Then he will tell you what to do.”
5 She said to her, “All that you say, I will
do.”
6 She went down to the threshing floor,
and did everything that her
mother-in-law told her.
7 When Boaz had eaten and drunk, and
his heart was merry, he went to lie down
at the end of the heap of grain. She came
softly, uncovered his feet, and lay down.
8 At midnight, the man was startled and
turned himself; and behold, a woman lay
at his feet.
9 He said, “Who are you?”
She answered, “I am Ruth your servant.
Therefore spread the corner of your
garment over your servant; for you are a
near kinsman.”
10 He said, “You are blessed by the
LORD, my daughter. You have shown
more kindness in the latter end than at
the beginning, because you didn’t follow
young men, whether poor or rich.
11 Now, my daughter, don’t be afraid. I
will do to you all that you say; for all the
city of my people knows that you are a
worthy woman.
12 Now it is true that I am a near
kinsman. However, there is a kinsman
nearer than I.
13 Stay this night, and in the morning, if
he will perform for you the part of a
kinsman, good. Let him do the kinsman’s
duty. But if he will not do the duty of a
kinsman for you, then I will do the duty of
a kinsman for you, as the LORD lives. Lie
down until the morning.”
14 She lay at his feet until the morning,
then she rose up before one could discern
another. For he said, “Let it not be known
that the woman came to the threshing
floor.”
15 He said, “Bring the mantle that is on
you, and hold it.” She held it; and he
measured six measures of barley, and laid
it on her; then he went into the city.
16 When she came to her mother-in-law,
she said, “How did it go, my daughter?”
She told her all that the man had done
for her.
17 She said, “He gave me these six
measures of barley; for he said, ‘Don’t go
empty to your mother-in-law.’ ”
18 Then she said, “Wait, my daughter,
until you know what will happen; for the
man will not rest until he has settled this
today.”

4

1 Now Boaz went up to the gate and sat
down there. Behold, the near kinsman of
whom Boaz spoke came by. Boaz said to
him, “Come over here, friend, and sit
down!” He came over, and sat down.
2 Boaz took ten men of the elders of the
city, and said, “Sit down here,” and they
sat down.
3 He said to the near kinsman, “Naomi,
who has come back out of the country of
Moab, is selling the parcel of land, which
was our brother Elimelech’s.
4 I thought I should tell you, saying, ‘Buy
it before those who sit here, and before
the elders of my people.’ If you will
redeem it, redeem it; but if you will not
redeem it, then tell me, that I may know.

For there is no one to redeem it besides
you; and I am after you."
He said, "I will redeem it."
5 Then Boaz said, "On the day you buy
the field from the hand of Naomi, you
must buy it also from Ruth the Moabitess,
the wife of the dead, to raise up the name
of the dead on his inheritance."
6 The near kinsman said, "I can't redeem
it for myself, lest I endanger my own
inheritance. Take my right of redemption
for yourself; for I can't redeem it."
7 Now this was the custom in former
time in Israel concerning redeeming and
concerning exchanging, to confirm all
things: a man took off his sandal, and
gave it to his neighbor; and this was the
way of formalizing transactions in Israel.
8 So the near kinsman said to Boaz, "Buy
it for yourself," then he took off his sandal.
9 Boaz said to the elders and to all the
people, "You are witnesses today, that I
have bought all that was Elimelech's, and
all that was Chilion's and Mahlon's, from
the hand of Naomi.
10 Moreover, Ruth the Moabitess, the
wife of Mahlon, I have purchased to be
my wife, to raise up the name of the dead
on his inheritance, that the name of the
dead may not be cut off from among his
brothers and from the gate of his place.
You are witnesses today."
11 All the people who were in the gate,
and the elders, said, "We are witnesses.
May the LORD make the woman who has
come into your house like Rachel and like
Leah, which both built the house of Israel;
and treat you worthily in Ephrathah, and
be famous in Bethlehem.
12 Let your house be like the house of
Perez, whom Tamar bore to Judah, of the
offspring† which the LORD will give you
by this young woman."
13 So Boaz took Ruth and she became his
wife; and he went in to her, and the LORD
enabled her to conceive, and she bore a
son.
14 The women said to Naomi, "Blessed
be the LORD, who has not left you today
without a near kinsman. Let his name be
famous in Israel.
15 He shall be to you a restorer of life
and sustain you in your old age; for your
daughter-in-law, who loves you, who is
better to you than seven sons, has given
birth to him."
16 Naomi took the child, laid him in her
bosom, and became nurse to him.
17 The women, her neighbors, gave him
a name, saying, "A son is born to Naomi".
They named him Obed. He is the father of
Jesse, the father of David.
18 Now this is the history of the
generations of Perez: Perez became the
father of Hezron,
19 and Hezron became the father of
Ram, and Ram became the father of
Amminadab,
20 and Amminadab became the father of
Nahshon, and Nahshon became the father
of Salmon,
21 and Salmon became the father of
Boaz, and Boaz became the father of
Obed,
22 and Obed became the father of Jesse,
and Jesse became the father of David.

† **4:12** or, seed

The First Book of Samuel

1 Now there was a certain man of
Ramathaim Zophim, of 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.
2 He had two wives. The name of one
was Hannah, and the name of the other
Peninnah. Peninnah had children, but
Hannah had no children.
3 This man went up out of his city from
year to year to worship and to sacrifice to
the LORD† of Armies in Shiloh. The two
sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, priests
to the LORD, were there.
4 When the day came that Elkanah
sacrificed, he gave portions to Peninnah
his wife and to all her sons and her
daughters;
5 but he gave a double portion to
Hannah, for he loved Hannah, but the
LORD had shut up her womb.
6 Her rival provoked her severely, to
irritate her, because the LORD had shut
up her womb.
7 So year by year, when she went up to
the LORD's house, her rival provoked her.
Therefore she wept, and didn't eat.
8 Elkanah her husband said to her,
"Hannah, why do you weep? Why don't
you eat? Why is your heart grieved? Am I
not better to you than ten sons?"
9 So Hannah rose up after they had
finished eating and drinking in Shiloh.
Now Eli the priest was sitting on his seat
by the doorpost of the LORD's temple.
10 She was in bitterness of soul, and
prayed to the LORD, weeping bitterly.
11 She vowed a vow, and said, "LORD of
Armies, if you will indeed look at the
affliction of your servant and remember
me, and not forget your servant, but will
give to your servant a boy, then I will give
him to the LORD all the days of his life,
and no razor shall come on his head."
12 As she continued praying before the
LORD, Eli saw her mouth.
13 Now Hannah spoke in her heart. Only
her lips moved, but her voice was not
heard. Therefore Eli thought she was
drunk.
14 Eli said to her, "How long will you be
drunk? Get rid of your wine!"
15 Hannah answered, "No, my lord, I am
a woman of a sorrowful spirit. I have not
been drinking wine or strong drink, but I
poured out my soul before the LORD.
16 Don't consider your servant a wicked
woman; for I have been speaking out of
the abundance of my complaint and my
provocation."
17 Then Eli answered, "Go in peace; and
may the God‡ of Israel grant your petition
that you have asked of him."
18 She said, "Let your servant find favor
in your sight." So the woman went her
way and ate; and her facial expression
wasn't sad any more.
19 They rose up in the morning early
and worshiped the LORD, then returned
and came to their house to Ramah. Then
Elkanah knew Hannah his wife; and the
LORD remembered her.
20 When the time had come, Hannah
conceived, and bore a son; and she named
him Samuel,§ saying, "Because I have
asked him of the LORD."
21 The man Elkanah, and all his house,
went up to offer to the LORD the yearly
sacrifice and his vow.
22 But Hannah didn't go up, for she said
to her husband, "Not until the child is
weaned; then I will bring him, that he
may appear before the LORD, and stay
there forever."
23 Elkanah her husband said to her, "Do
what seems good to you. Wait until you
have weaned him; only may the LORD
establish his word."
So the woman waited and nursed her
son until she weaned him.
24 When she had weaned him, she took
him up with her, with three bulls, and one
ephah† of meal, and a container of wine,

† **1:3** When rendered in ALL CAPITAL LETTERS, "LORD" or "GOD" is the translation of God's Proper Name (Hebrew "יהוה", usually pronounced Yahweh). ‡ **1:17** The Hebrew word rendered "God" is "אֱלֹהִים" (Elohim). § **1:20** Samuel sounds like the Hebrew for "heard by God." † **1:24** 1 ephah is about 22 liters or about 2/3 of a bushel

and brought him to the LORD's house in Shiloh. The child was young.
25 They killed the bull, and brought the child to Eli.
26 She said, "Oh, my lord, as your soul lives, my lord, I am the woman who stood by you here, praying to the LORD.
27 I prayed for this child, and the LORD has given me my petition which I asked of him.
28 Therefore I have also given him to the LORD. As long as he lives he is given to the LORD." He worshiped the LORD there.

2

1 Hannah prayed, and said,
"My heart exults in the LORD!
My horn is exalted in the LORD.
My mouth is enlarged over my enemies,
because I rejoice in your salvation.
2 There is no one as holy as the LORD,
for there is no one besides you,
nor is there any rock like our God.

3 "Don't keep talking so exceedingly proudly.
Don't let arrogance come out of your mouth,
for the LORD is a God of knowledge.
By him actions are weighed.

4 "The bows of the mighty men are broken.
Those who stumbled are armed with strength.
5 Those who were full have hired themselves out for bread.
Those who were hungry are satisfied.
Yes, the barren has borne seven.
She who has many children languishes.

6 "The LORD kills and makes alive.
He brings down to Sheol† and brings up.
7 The LORD makes poor and makes rich.
He brings low, he also lifts up.
8 He raises up the poor out of the dust.
He lifts up the needy from the dunghill
to make them sit with princes
and inherit the throne of glory.
For the pillars of the earth are the LORD's.
He has set the world on them.
9 He will keep the feet of his holy ones,
but the wicked will be put to silence in darkness;
for no man will prevail by strength.
10 Those who strive with the LORD shall be broken to pieces.
He will thunder against them in the sky.

"The LORD will judge the ends of the earth.
He will give strength to his king,
and exalt the horn of his anointed."
11 Elkanah went to Ramah to his house. The child served the LORD before Eli the priest.

12 Now the sons of Eli were wicked men. They didn't know the LORD.
13 The custom of the priests with the people was that when anyone offered a sacrifice, the priest's servant came while the meat was boiling, with a fork of three teeth in his hand;
14 and he stabbed it into the pan, or kettle, or cauldron, or pot. The priest took all that the fork brought up for himself. They did this to all the Israelites who came there to Shiloh.
15 Yes, before they burned the fat, the priest's servant came, and said to the man who sacrificed, "Give meat to roast for the priest; for he will not accept boiled meat from you, but raw."
16 If the man said to him, "Let the fat be burned first, and then take as much as your soul desires;" then he would say, "No, but you shall give it to me now; and if not, I will take it by force."
17 The sin of the young men was very great before the LORD; for the men despised the LORD's offering.
18 But Samuel ministered before the LORD, being a child, clothed with a linen ephod.
19 Moreover his mother made him a little robe, and brought it to him from year to year when she came up with her husband to offer the yearly sacrifice.

† **2:6** Sheol is the place of the dead. ‡ **2:20** or, seed

20 Eli blessed Elkanah and his wife, and said, “May the LORD give you offspring‡ from this woman for the petition which was asked of the LORD.” Then they went to their own home.
21 The LORD visited Hannah, and she conceived and bore three sons and two daughters. The child Samuel grew before the LORD.

22 Now Eli was very old; and he heard all that his sons did to all Israel, and how that they slept with the women who served at the door of the Tent of Meeting.
23 He said to them, “Why do you do such things? For I hear of your evil dealings from all these people.
24 No, my sons; for it is not a good report that I hear! You make the LORD’s people disobey.
25 If one man sins against another, God will judge him; but if a man sins against the LORD, who will intercede for him?” Notwithstanding, they didn’t listen to the voice of their father, because the LORD intended to kill them.

26 The child Samuel grew on, and increased in favor both with the LORD and also with men.

27 A man of God came to Eli and said to him, “The LORD says, ‘Did I reveal myself to the house of your father when they were in Egypt in bondage to Pharaoh’s house?
28 Didn’t I choose him out of all the tribes of Israel to be my priest, to go up to my altar, to burn incense, to wear an ephod before me? Didn’t I give to the house of your father all the offerings of the children of Israel made by fire?
29 Why do you kick at my sacrifice and at my offering, which I have commanded in my habitation, and honor your sons above me, to make yourselves fat with the best of all the offerings of Israel my people?’
30 “Therefore the LORD, the God of Israel, says, ‘I said indeed that your house and the house of your father should walk before me forever.’ But now the LORD says, ‘Far be it from me; for those who honor me I will honor, and those who despise me will be cursed.
31 Behold,§ the days come that I will cut off your arm and the arm of your father’s house, that there will not be an old man in your house.
32 You will see the affliction of my habitation, in all the wealth which I will give Israel. There shall not be an old man in your house forever.
33 The man of yours whom I don’t cut off from my altar will consume your eyes† and grieve your heart. All the increase of your house will die in the flower of their age.
34 This will be the sign to you that will come on your two sons, on Hophni and Phinehas: in one day they will both die.
35 I will raise up a faithful priest for myself who will do according to that which is in my heart and in my mind. I will build him a sure house. He will walk before my anointed forever.
36 It will happen that everyone who is left in your house will come and bow down to him for a piece of silver and a loaf of bread, and will say, “Please put me into one of the priests’ offices, that I may eat a morsel of bread.” ’ ”

3

1 The child Samuel ministered to the LORD before Eli. The LORD’s word was rare in those days. There were not many visions, then.
2 At that time, when Eli was laid down in his place (now his eyes had begun to grow dim, so that he could not see),
3 and God’s lamp hadn’t yet gone out, and Samuel had laid down in the LORD’s temple where God’s ark was,
4 The LORD called Samuel. He said, “Here I am.”
5 He ran to Eli and said, “Here I am; for you called me.”
He said, “I didn’t call. Lie down again.”
He went and lay down.
6 The LORD called yet again, “Samuel!”
Samuel arose and went to Eli and said, “Here I am; for you called me.”

§ **2:31** “Behold”, from “הִנֵּה”, means look at, take notice, observe, see, or gaze at. It is often used as an interjection.
† **2:33** or, blind your eyes with tears

He answered, “I didn’t call, my son. Lie down again.”
7 Now Samuel didn’t yet know the LORD, neither was the LORD’s word yet revealed to him.
8 The LORD called Samuel again the third time. He arose and went to Eli and said, “Here I am; for you called me.”

Eli perceived that the LORD had called the child.
9 Therefore Eli said to Samuel, “Go, lie down. It shall be, if he calls you, that you shall say, ‘Speak, LORD; for your servant hears.’ ” So Samuel went and lay down in his place.
10 The LORD came, and stood, and called as at other times, “Samuel! Samuel!”

Then Samuel said, “Speak; for your servant hears.”
11 The LORD said to Samuel, “Behold, I will do a thing in Israel at which both the ears of everyone who hears it will tingle.
12 In that day I will perform against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from the beginning even to the end.
13 For I have told him that I will judge his house forever for the iniquity which he knew, because his sons brought a curse on themselves, and he didn’t restrain them.
14 Therefore I have sworn to the house of Eli that the iniquity of Eli’s house shall not be removed with sacrifice or offering forever.”
15 Samuel lay until the morning, and opened the doors of the LORD’s house. Samuel was afraid to show Eli the vision.
16 Then Eli called Samuel and said, “Samuel, my son!”

He said, “Here I am.”
17 He said, “What is the thing that he has spoken to you? Please don’t hide it from me. God do so to you, and more also, if you hide anything from me of all the things that he spoke to you.”
18 Samuel told him every bit, and hid nothing from him.

He said, “It is the LORD. Let him do what seems good to him.”
19 Samuel grew, and the LORD was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground.
20 All Israel from Dan even to Beersheba knew that Samuel was established to be a prophet of the LORD.
21 The LORD appeared again in Shiloh; for the LORD revealed himself to Samuel in Shiloh by the LORD’s word.

4

1 The word of Samuel came to all Israel.
Now Israel went out against the Philistines to battle, and encamped beside Ebenezer; and the Philistines encamped in Aphek.
2 The Philistines put themselves in array against Israel. When they joined battle, Israel was defeated by the Philistines, who killed about four thousand men of the army in the field.
3 When the people had come into the camp, the elders of Israel said, “Why has the LORD defeated us today before the Philistines? Let’s get the ark of the LORD’s covenant out of Shiloh and bring it to us, that it may come among us and save us out of the hand of our enemies.”
4 So the people sent to Shiloh, and they brought from there the ark of the covenant of the LORD of Armies, who sits above the cherubim; and the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, were there with the ark of the covenant of God.
5 When the ark of the LORD’s covenant came into the camp, all Israel shouted with a great shout, so that the earth resounded.
6 When the Philistines heard the noise of the shout, they said, “What does the noise of this great shout in the camp of the Hebrews mean?” They understood that the LORD’s ark had come into the camp.
7 The Philistines were afraid, for they said, “God has come into the camp.” They said, “Woe to us! For there has not been such a thing before.
8 Woe to us! Who shall deliver us out of the hand of these mighty gods? These are the gods that struck the Egyptians with all kinds of plagues in the wilderness.
9 Be strong and behave like men, O you Philistines, that you not be servants to the

Hebrews, as they have been to you. Strengthen yourselves like men, and fight!"
10 The Philistines fought, and Israel was defeated, and each man fled to his tent. There was a very great slaughter; for thirty thousand footmen of Israel fell.
11 God's ark was taken; and the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, were slain.
12 A man of Benjamin ran out of the army and came to Shiloh the same day, with his clothes torn and with dirt on his head.
13 When he came, behold, Eli was sitting on his seat by the road watching, for his heart trembled for God's ark. When the man came into the city and told about it, all the city cried out.
14 When Eli heard the noise of the crying, he said, "What does the noise of this tumult mean?"
The man hurried, and came and told Eli.
15 Now Eli was ninety-eight years old. His eyes were set, so that he could not see.
16 The man said to Eli, "I am he who came out of the army, and I fled today out of the army."
He said, "How did the matter go, my son?"
17 He who brought the news answered, "Israel has fled before the Philistines, and there has been also a great slaughter among the people. Your two sons also, Hophni and Phinehas, are dead, and God's ark has been captured."
18 When he made mention of God's ark, Eli fell from off his seat backward by the side of the gate; and his neck broke, and he died, for he was an old man and heavy. He had judged Israel forty years.
19 His daughter-in-law, Phinehas' wife, was with child, near to giving birth. When she heard the news that God's ark was taken and that her father-in-law and her husband were dead, she bowed herself and gave birth; for her pains came on her.
20 About the time of her death the women who stood by her said to her, "Don't be afraid, for you have given birth to a son." But she didn't answer, neither did she regard it.
21 She named the child Ichabod,† saying, "The glory has departed from Israel!" because God's ark was taken, and because of her father-in-law and her husband.
22 She said, "The glory has departed from Israel; for God's ark has been taken."

5

1 Now the Philistines had taken God's ark, and they brought it from Ebenezer to Ashdod.
2 The Philistines took God's ark, and brought it into the house of Dagon and set it by Dagon.
3 When the people of Ashdod arose early on the next day, behold, Dagon had fallen on his face to the ground before the LORD's ark. They took Dagon and set him in his place again.
4 When they arose early on the following morning, behold, Dagon had fallen on his face to the ground before the LORD's ark; and the head of Dagon and both the palms of his hands were cut off on the threshold. Only Dagon's torso was intact.
5 Therefore neither the priests of Dagon nor any who come into Dagon's house step on the threshold of Dagon in Ashdod to this day.
6 But the LORD's hand was heavy on the people of Ashdod, and he destroyed them and struck them with tumors, even Ashdod and its borders.
7 When the men of Ashdod saw that it was so, they said, "The ark of the God of Israel shall not stay with us, for his hand is severe on us and on Dagon our god."
8 They sent therefore and gathered together all the lords of the Philistines, and said, "What shall we do with the ark of the God of Israel?"
They answered, "Let the ark of the God of Israel be carried over to Gath." They carried the ark of the God of Israel there.
9 It was so, that after they had carried it there, the LORD's hand was against the city with a very great confusion; and he struck the men of the city, both small and great, so that tumors broke out on them.
10 So they sent God's ark to Ekron.

† **4:21** "Ichabod" means "no glory".

As God's ark came to Ekron, the
Ekronites cried out, saying, "They have
brought the ark of the God of Israel here
to us, to kill us and our people."
11 They sent therefore and gathered
together all the lords of the Philistines,
and they said, "Send the ark of the God of
Israel away, and let it go again to its own
place, that it not kill us and our people."
For there was a deadly panic throughout
all the city. The hand of God was very
heavy there.
12 The men who didn't die were struck
with the tumors; and the cry of the city
went up to heaven.

6

1 The LORD's ark was in the country of
the Philistines seven months.
2 The Philistines called for the priests
and the diviners, saying, "What shall we
do with the LORD's ark? Show us how we
should send it to its place."
3 They said, "If you send away the ark of
the God of Israel, don't send it empty; but
by all means return a trespass offering to
him. Then you will be healed, and it will
be known to you why his hand is not
removed from you."
4 Then they said, "What should the
trespass offering be which we shall return
to him?"
They said, "Five golden tumors and five
golden mice, for the number of the lords
of the Philistines; for one plague was on
you all, and on your lords.
5 Therefore you shall make images of
your tumors and images of your mice that
mar the land; and you shall give glory to
the God of Israel. Perhaps he will release
his hand from you, from your gods, and
from your land.
6 Why then do you harden your hearts
as the Egyptians and Pharaoh hardened
their hearts? When he had worked
wonderfully among them, didn't they let
the people go, and they departed?
7 "Now therefore take and prepare
yourselves a new cart and two milk cows
on which there has come no yoke; and tie
the cows to the cart, and bring their calves
home from them;
8 and take the LORD's ark and lay it on
the cart. Put the jewels of gold, which you
return him for a trespass offering, in a
box by its side; and send it away, that it
may go.
9 Behold, if it goes up by the way of its
own border to Beth Shemesh, then he has
done us this great evil; but if not, then we
shall know that it is not his hand that
struck us. It was a chance that happened
to us."
10 The men did so, and took two milk
cows and tied them to the cart, and shut
up their calves at home.
11 They put the LORD's ark on the cart,
and the box with the golden mice and the
images of their tumors.
12 The cows took the straight way by the
way to Beth Shemesh. They went along
the highway, lowing as they went, and
didn't turn away to the right hand or to
the left; and the lords of the Philistines
went after them to the border of Beth
Shemesh.
13 The people of Beth Shemesh were
reaping their wheat harvest in the valley;
and they lifted up their eyes and saw the
ark, and rejoiced to see it.
14 The cart came into the field of Joshua
of Beth Shemesh, and stood there, where
there was a great stone. Then they split
the wood of the cart and offered up the
cows for a burnt offering to the LORD.
15 The Levites took down the LORD's ark
and the box that was with it, in which the
jewels of gold were, and put them on the
great stone; and the men of Beth Shemesh
offered burnt offerings and sacrificed
sacrifices the same day to the LORD.
16 When the five lords of the Philistines
had seen it, they returned to Ekron the
same day.
17 These are the golden tumors which
the Philistines returned for a trespass
offering to the LORD: for Ashdod one, for
Gaza one, for Ashkelon one, for Gath one,
for Ekron one;
18 and the golden mice, according to the
number of all the cities of the Philistines
belonging to the five lords, both of

fortified cities and of country villages, even to the great stone on which they set down the LORD's ark. That stone remains to this day in the field of Joshua of Beth Shemesh.
19 He struck of the men of Beth Shemesh, because they had looked into the LORD's ark, he struck fifty thousand seventy of the men. Then the people mourned, because the LORD had struck the people with a great slaughter.
20 The men of Beth Shemesh said, "Who is able to stand before the LORD, this holy God? To whom shall he go up from us?"
21 They sent messengers to the inhabitants of Kiriath Jearim, saying, "The Philistines have brought back the LORD's ark. Come down and bring it up to yourselves."

7

1 The men of Kiriath Jearim came and took the LORD's ark, and brought it into Abinadab's house on the hill, and consecrated Eleazar his son to keep the LORD's ark.
2 From the day that the ark stayed in Kiriath Jearim, the time was long—for it was twenty years; and all the house of Israel lamented after the LORD.
3 Samuel spoke to all the house of Israel, saying, "If you are returning to the LORD with all your heart, then put away the foreign gods and the Ashtaroth from among you, and direct your hearts to the LORD, and serve him only; and he will deliver you out of the hand of the Philistines."
4 Then the children of Israel removed the Baals and the Ashtaroth, and served the LORD only.
5 Samuel said, "Gather all Israel to Mizpah, and I will pray to the LORD for you."
6 They gathered together to Mizpah, and drew water, and poured it out before the LORD, and fasted on that day, and said there, "We have sinned against the LORD." Samuel judged the children of Israel in Mizpah.
7 When the Philistines heard that the children of Israel were gathered together at Mizpah, the lords of the Philistines went up against Israel. When the children of Israel heard it, they were afraid of the Philistines.
8 The children of Israel said to Samuel, "Don't stop crying to the LORD our God for us, that he will save us out of the hand of the Philistines."
9 Samuel took a suckling lamb, and offered it for a whole burnt offering to the LORD. Samuel cried to the LORD for Israel, and the LORD answered him.
10 As Samuel was offering up the burnt offering, the Philistines came near to battle against Israel; but the LORD thundered with a great thunder on that day on the Philistines and confused them; and they were struck down before Israel.
11 The men of Israel went out of Mizpah and pursued the Philistines, and struck them until they came under Beth Kar.
12 Then Samuel took a stone and set it between Mizpah and Shen, and called its name Ebenezer,† saying, "The LORD helped us until now."
13 So the Philistines were subdued, and they stopped coming within the border of Israel. The LORD's hand was against the Philistines all the days of Samuel.
14 The cities which the Philistines had taken from Israel were restored to Israel, from Ekron even to Gath; and Israel recovered its border out of the hand of the Philistines. There was peace between Israel and the Amorites.
15 Samuel judged Israel all the days of his life.
16 He went from year to year in a circuit to Bethel, Gilgal, and Mizpah; and he judged Israel in all those places.
17 His return was to Ramah, for his house was there, and he judged Israel there; and he built an altar to the LORD there.

8

1 When Samuel was old, he made his sons judges over Israel.

† **7:12** "Ebenezer" means "stone of help".

2 Now the name of his firstborn was
Joel, and the name of his second, Abijah.
They were judges in Beersheba.
3 His sons didn't walk in his ways, but
turned away after dishonest gain, took
bribes, and perverted justice.
4 Then all the elders of Israel gathered
themselves together and came to Samuel
to Ramah.
5 They said to him, "Behold, you are old,
and your sons don't walk in your ways.
Now make us a king to judge us like all the
nations."
6 But the thing displeased Samuel when
they said, "Give us a king to judge us."
Samuel prayed to the LORD.
7 The LORD said to Samuel, "Listen to
the voice of the people in all that they tell
you; for they have not rejected you, but
they have rejected me as the king over
them.
8 According to all the works which they
have done since the day that I brought
them up out of Egypt even to this day, in
that they have forsaken me and served
other gods, so they also do to you.
9 Now therefore, listen to their voice.
However, you shall protest solemnly to
them, and shall show them the way of the
king who will reign over them."
10 Samuel told all the LORD's words to
the people who asked him for a king.
11 He said, "This will be the way of the
king who shall reign over you: he will
take your sons and appoint them as his
servants, for his chariots and to be his
horsemen; and they will run before his
chariots.
12 He will appoint them to him for
captains of thousands and captains of
fifties; and he will assign some to plow his
ground and to reap his harvest; and to
make his instruments of war and the
instruments of his chariots.
13 He will take your daughters to be
perfumers, to be cooks, and to be bakers.
14 He will take your fields, your
vineyards, and your olive groves, even
your best, and give them to his servants.
15 He will take one tenth of your seed
and of your vineyards, and give it to his
officers and to his servants.
16 He will take your male servants, your
female servants, your best young men,
and your donkeys, and assign them to his
own work.
17 He will take one tenth of your flocks;
and you will be his servants.
18 You will cry out in that day because of
your king whom you will have chosen for
yourselves; and the LORD will not answer
you in that day."
19 But the people refused to listen to the
voice of Samuel; and they said, "No, but
we will have a king over us,
20 that we also may be like all the
nations; and that our king may judge us,
and go out before us, and fight our
battles."
21 Samuel heard all the words of the
people, and he rehearsed them in the ears
of the LORD.
22 The LORD said to Samuel, "Listen to
their voice, and make them a king."
Samuel said to the men of Israel,
"Everyone go to your own city."

9

1 Now there was a man of Benjamin,
whose name was Kish the son of Abiel, the
son of Zeror, the son of Becorath, the son
of Aphiah, the son of a Benjamite, a
mighty man of valor.
2 He had a son whose name was Saul, an
impressive young man; and there was not
among the children of Israel a more
handsome person than he. From his
shoulders and upward he was taller than
any of the people.
3 The donkeys of Kish, Saul's father,
were lost. Kish said to Saul his son, "Now
take one of the servants with you, and
arise, go look for the donkeys."
4 He passed through the hill country of
Ephraim, and passed through the land of
Shalishah, but they didn't find them. Then
they passed through the land of Shaalim,
and they weren't there. Then he passed
through the land of the Benjamites, but
they didn't find them.
5 When they had come to the land of
Zuph, Saul said to his servant who was
with him, "Come! Let's return, lest my

father stop caring about the donkeys and be anxious for us."
6 The servant said to him, "Behold now, there is a man of God in this city, and he is a man who is held in honor. All that he says surely happens. Now let's go there. Perhaps he can tell us which way to go."
7 Then Saul said to his servant, "But behold, if we go, what should we bring the man? For the bread is spent in our sacks, and there is not a present to bring to the man of God. What do we have?"
8 The servant answered Saul again and said, "Behold, I have in my hand the fourth part of a shekel† of silver. I will give that to the man of God, to tell us our way."
9 (In earlier times in Israel, when a man went to inquire of God, he said, "Come! Let's go to the seer;" for he who is now called a prophet was before called a seer.)
10 Then Saul said to his servant, "Well said. Come! Let's go." So they went to the city where the man of God was.
11 As they went up the ascent to the city, they found young maidens going out to draw water, and said to them, "Is the seer here?"
12 They answered them and said, "He is. Behold, he is before you. Hurry now, for he has come today into the city; for the people have a sacrifice today in the high place.
13 As soon as you have come into the city, you will immediately find him before he goes up to the high place to eat; for the people will not eat until he comes, because he blesses the sacrifice. Afterwards those who are invited eat. Now therefore go up; for at this time you will find him."
14 They went up to the city. As they came within the city, behold, Samuel came out toward them to go up to the high place.
15 Now the LORD had revealed to Samuel a day before Saul came, saying,
16 "Tomorrow about this time I will send you a man out of the land of Benjamin, and you shall anoint him to be prince over my people Israel. He will save my people out of the hand of the Philistines; for I have looked upon my people, because their cry has come to me."
17 When Samuel saw Saul, the LORD said to him, "Behold, the man of whom I spoke to you! He will have authority over my people."
18 Then Saul approached Samuel in the gateway, and said, "Please tell me where the seer's house is."
19 Samuel answered Saul and said, "I am the seer. Go up before me to the high place, for you are to eat with me today. In the morning I will let you go and will tell you all that is in your heart.
20 As for your donkeys who were lost three days ago, don't set your mind on them, for they have been found. For whom does all Israel desire? Is it not you and all your father's house?"
21 Saul answered, "Am I not a Benjamite, of the smallest of the tribes of Israel? And my family the least of all the families of the tribe of Benjamin? Why then do you speak to me like this?"
22 Samuel took Saul and his servant and brought them into the guest room, and made them sit in the best place among those who were invited, who were about thirty persons.
23 Samuel said to the cook, "Bring the portion which I gave you, of which I said to you, 'Set it aside.' "
24 The cook took up the thigh, and that which was on it, and set it before Saul. Samuel said, "Behold, that which has been reserved! Set it before yourself and eat; because it has been kept for you for the appointed time, for I said, 'I have invited the people.' " So Saul ate with Samuel that day.
25 When they had come down from the high place into the city, he talked with Saul on the housetop.
26 They arose early; and about daybreak, Samuel called to Saul on the housetop, saying, "Get up, that I may send you away." Saul arose, and they both went outside, he and Samuel, together.

† **9:8** A shekel is about 10 grams or about 0.35 ounces, so 1/4 shekel would be a small coin of about 2.5 grams.

27 As they were going down at the end of
the city, Samuel said to Saul, “Tell the
servant to go on ahead of us.” He went
ahead, then Samuel said, “But stand still
first, that I may cause you to hear God’s
message.”

10

1 Then Samuel took the vial of oil and
poured it on his head, then kissed him and
said, “Hasn’t the LORD anointed you to be
prince over his inheritance?
2 When you have departed from me
today, then you will find two men by
Rachel’s tomb, on the border of Benjamin
at Zelzah. They will tell you, ‘The donkeys
which you went to look for have been
found; and behold, your father has
stopped caring about the donkeys and is
anxious for you, saying, “What shall I do
for my son?” ’
3 “Then you will go on forward from
there, and you will come to the oak of
Tabor. Three men will meet you there
going up to God to Bethel: one carrying
three young goats, and another carrying
three loaves of bread, and another
carrying a container of wine.
4 They will greet you and give you two
loaves of bread, which you shall receive
from their hand.
5 “After that you will come to the hill of
God, where the garrison of the Philistines
is; and it will happen, when you have
come there to the city, that you will meet a
band of prophets coming down from the
high place with a lute, a tambourine, a
pipe, and a harp before them; and they
will be prophesying.
6 Then the LORD’s Spirit will come
mightily on you, then you will prophesy
with them and will be turned into another
man.
7 Let it be, when these signs have come
to you, that you do what is appropriate for
the occasion; for God is with you.
8 “Go down ahead of me to Gilgal; and
behold, I will come down to you to offer
burnt offerings and to sacrifice sacrifices
of peace offerings. Wait seven days, until I
come to you and show you what you are
to do.”
9 It was so, that when he had turned his
back to go from Samuel, God gave him
another heart; and all those signs
happened that day.
10 When they came there to the hill,
behold, a band of prophets met him; and
the Spirit of God came mightily on him,
and he prophesied among them.
11 When all who knew him before saw
that, behold, he prophesied with the
prophets, then the people said to one
another, “What is this that has come to the
son of Kish? Is Saul also among the
prophets?”
12 One from the same place answered,
“Who is their father?” Therefore it
became a proverb, “Is Saul also among the
prophets?”
13 When he had finished prophesying,
he came to the high place.
14 Saul’s uncle said to him and to his
servant, “Where did you go?”
He said, “To seek the donkeys. When we
saw that they were not found, we came to
Samuel.”
15 Saul’s uncle said, “Please tell me what
Samuel said to you.”
16 Saul said to his uncle, “He told us
plainly that the donkeys were found.” But
concerning the matter of the kingdom, of
which Samuel spoke, he didn’t tell him.
17 Samuel called the people together to
the LORD to Mizpah;
18 and he said to the children of Israel,
“The LORD, the God of Israel, says ‘I
brought Israel up out of Egypt and I
delivered you out of the hand of the
Egyptians, and out of the hand of all the
kingdoms that oppressed you.’
19 But you have today rejected your God,
who himself saves you out of all your
calamities and your distresses; and you
have said to him, ‘No! Set a king over us!’
Now therefore present yourselves before
the LORD by your tribes and by your
thousands.”
20 So Samuel brought all the tribes of
Israel near, and the tribe of Benjamin was
chosen.

21 He brought the tribe of Benjamin
near by their families and the family of
the Matrites was chosen. Then Saul the
son of Kish was chosen; but when they
looked for him, he could not be found.
22 Therefore they asked of the LORD
further, “Is there yet a man to come here?”
The LORD answered, “Behold, he has
hidden himself among the baggage.”
23 They ran and got him there. When he
stood among the people, he was higher
than any of the people from his shoulders
and upward.
24 Samuel said to all the people, “Do you
see him whom the LORD has chosen, that
there is no one like him among all the
people?”
All the people shouted and said, “Long
live the king!”
25 Then Samuel told the people the
regulations of the kingdom, and wrote it
in a book and laid it up before the LORD.
Samuel sent all the people away, every
man to his house.
26 Saul also went to his house in Gibeah;
and the army went with him, whose
hearts God had touched.
27 But certain worthless fellows said,
“How could this man save us?” They
despised him, and brought him no tribute.
But he held his peace.

11

1 Then Nahash the Ammonite came up
and encamped against Jabesh Gilead; and
all the men of Jabesh said to Nahash,
“Make a covenant with us, and we will
serve you.”
2 Nahash the Ammonite said to them,
“On this condition I will make it with you,
that all your right eyes be gouged out. I
will make this dishonor all Israel.”
3 The elders of Jabesh said to him, “Give
us seven days, that we may send
messengers to all the borders of Israel;
and then, if there is no one to save us, we
will come out to you.”
4 Then the messengers came to Gibeah
of Saul, and spoke these words in the ears
of the people, then all the people lifted up
their voice and wept.
5 Behold, Saul came following the oxen
out of the field; and Saul said, “What ails
the people that they weep?” They told him
the words of the men of Jabesh.
6 God’s Spirit came mightily on Saul
when he heard those words, and his
anger burned hot.
7 He took a yoke of oxen and cut them in
pieces, then sent them throughout all the
borders of Israel by the hand of
messengers, saying, “Whoever doesn’t
come out after Saul and after Samuel, so
shall it be done to his oxen.” The dread of
the LORD fell on the people, and they
came out as one man.
8 He counted them in Bezek; and the
children of Israel were three hundred
thousand, and the men of Judah thirty
thousand.
9 They said to the messengers who
came, “Tell the men of Jabesh Gilead,
‘Tomorrow, by the time the sun is hot, you
will be rescued.’ ” The messengers came
and told the men of Jabesh; and they were
glad.
10 Therefore the men of Jabesh said,
“Tomorrow we will come out to you, and
you shall do with us all that seems good to
you.”
11 On the next day, Saul put the people
in three companies; and they came into
the middle of the camp in the morning
watch, and struck the Ammonites until
the heat of the day. Those who remained
were scattered, so that no two of them
were left together.
12 The people said to Samuel, “Who is he
who said, ‘Shall Saul reign over us?’ Bring
those men, that we may put them to
death!”
13 Saul said, “No man shall be put to
death today; for today the LORD has
rescued Israel.”
14 Then Samuel said to the people,
“Come! Let’s go to Gilgal, and renew the
kingdom there.”
15 All the people went to Gilgal; and
there they made Saul king before the
LORD in Gilgal. There they offered
sacrifices of peace offerings before the
LORD; and there Saul and all the men of
Israel rejoiced greatly.

12

1 Samuel said to all Israel, “Behold, I
have listened to your voice in all that you
said to me, and have made a king over
you.
2 Now, behold, the king walks before
you. I am old and gray-headed. Behold,
my sons are with you. I have walked
before you from my youth to this day.
3 Here I am. Witness against me before
the LORD and before his anointed. Whose
ox have I taken? Whose donkey have I
taken? Whom have I defrauded? Whom
have I oppressed? Of whose hand have I
taken a bribe to make me blind my eyes? I
will restore it to you.”
4 They said, “You have not defrauded us,
nor oppressed us, neither have you taken
anything from anyone’s hand.”
5 He said to them, “The LORD is witness
against you, and his anointed is witness
today, that you have not found anything
in my hand.”
They said, “He is witness.”
6 Samuel said to the people, “It is the
LORD who appointed Moses and Aaron,
and that brought your fathers up out of
the land of Egypt.
7 Now therefore stand still, that I may
plead with you before the LORD
concerning all the righteous acts of the
LORD, which he did to you and to your
fathers.
8 “When Jacob had come into Egypt, and
your fathers cried to the LORD, then the
LORD sent Moses and Aaron, who brought
your fathers out of Egypt, and made them
to dwell in this place.
9 But they forgot the LORD their God;
and he sold them into the hand of Sisera,
captain of the army of Hazor, and into the
hand of the Philistines, and into the hand
of the king of Moab; and they fought
against them.
10 They cried to the LORD, and said, ‘We
have sinned, because we have forsaken
the LORD and have served the Baals and
the Ashtaroth; but now deliver us out of
the hand of our enemies, and we will
serve you.’
11 The LORD sent Jerubbaal, Bedan,
Jephthah, and Samuel, and delivered you
out of the hand of your enemies on every
side; and you lived in safety.
12 “When you saw that Nahash the king
of the children of Ammon came against
you, you said to me, ‘No, but a king shall
reign over us,’ when the LORD your God
was your king.
13 Now therefore see the king whom you
have chosen and whom you have asked
for. Behold, the LORD has set a king over
you.
14 If you will fear the LORD, and serve
him, and listen to his voice, and not rebel
against the commandment of the LORD,
then both you and also the king who
reigns over you are followers of the LORD
your God.
15 But if you will not listen to the LORD’s
voice, but rebel against the
commandment of the LORD, then the
LORD’s hand will be against you, as it was
against your fathers.
16 “Now therefore stand still and see this
great thing, which the LORD will do
before your eyes.
17 Isn’t it wheat harvest today? I will call
to the LORD, that he may send thunder
and rain; and you will know and see that
your wickedness is great, which you have
done in the LORD’s sight, in asking for a
king.”
18 So Samuel called to the LORD, and the
LORD sent thunder and rain that day.
Then all the people greatly feared the
LORD and Samuel.
19 All the people said to Samuel, “Pray
for your servants to the LORD your God,
that we not die; for we have added to all
our sins this evil, to ask for a king.”
20 Samuel said to the people, “Don’t be
afraid. You have indeed done all this evil;
yet don’t turn away from following the
LORD, but serve the LORD with all your
heart.
21 Don’t turn away to go after vain
things which can’t profit or deliver, for
they are vain.
22 For the LORD will not forsake his
people for his great name’s sake, because
it has pleased the LORD to make you a
people for himself.

23 Moreover, as for me, far be it from me
that I should sin against the LORD in
ceasing to pray for you; but I will instruct
you in the good and the right way.
24 Only fear the LORD, and serve him in
truth with all your heart; for consider
what great things he has done for you.
25 But if you keep doing evil, you will be
consumed, both you and your king."

13

1 Saul was thirty years old when he
became king, and he reigned over Israel
forty-two years.†
2 Saul chose for himself three thousand
men of Israel, of which two thousand
were with Saul in Michmash and in the
Mount of Bethel, and one thousand were
with Jonathan in Gibeah of Benjamin. He
sent the rest of the people to their own
tents.
3 Jonathan struck the garrison of the
Philistines that was in Geba, and the
Philistines heard of it. Saul blew the
trumpet throughout all the land, saying,
"Let the Hebrews hear!"
4 All Israel heard that Saul had struck
the garrison of the Philistines, and also
that Israel was considered an
abomination to the Philistines. The people
were gathered together after Saul to
Gilgal.
5 The Philistines assembled themselves
together to fight with Israel: thirty
thousand chariots, six thousand
horsemen, and people as the sand which
is on the seashore in multitude. They
came up and encamped in Michmash,
eastward of Beth Aven.
6 When the men of Israel saw that they
were in trouble (for the people were
distressed), then the people hid
themselves in caves, in thickets, in rocks,
in tombs, and in pits.
7 Now some of the Hebrews had gone
over the Jordan to the land of Gad and
Gilead; but as for Saul, he was yet in
Gilgal, and all the people followed him
trembling.
8 He stayed seven days, according to the
time set by Samuel; but Samuel didn't
come to Gilgal, and the people were
scattering from him.
9 Saul said, "Bring the burnt offering to
me here, and the peace offerings." He
offered the burnt offering.
10 It came to pass that as soon as he had
finished offering the burnt offering,
behold, Samuel came; and Saul went out
to meet him, that he might greet him.
11 Samuel said, "What have you done?"
Saul said, "Because I saw that the people
were scattered from me, and that you
didn't come within the days appointed,
and that the Philistines assembled
themselves together at Michmash,
12 therefore I said, 'Now the Philistines
will come down on me to Gilgal, and I
haven't entreated the favor of the LORD.' I
forced myself therefore, and offered the
burnt offering."
13 Samuel said to Saul, "You have done
foolishly. You have not kept the
commandment of the LORD your God,
which he commanded you; for now the
LORD would have established your
kingdom on Israel forever.
14 But now your kingdom will not
continue. The LORD has sought for
himself a man after his own heart, and the
LORD has appointed him to be prince over
his people, because you have not kept that
which the LORD commanded you."
15 Samuel arose, and went from Gilgal
to Gibeah of Benjamin. Saul counted the
people who were present with him, about
six hundred men.
16 Saul, and Jonathan his son, and the
people who were present with them,
stayed in Geba of Benjamin; but the
Philistines encamped in Michmash.
17 The raiders came out of the camp of
the Philistines in three companies: one
company turned to the way that leads to
Ophrah, to the land of Shual;
18 another company turned the way to
Beth Horon; and another company turned
the way of the border that looks down on
the valley of Zeboim toward the
wilderness.

† **13:1** The traditional Hebrew text omits "thirty" and "forty-". The blanks are filled in here from a few manuscripts of the Septuagint.

19 Now there was no blacksmith found throughout all the land of Israel, for the Philistines said, “Lest the Hebrews make themselves swords or spears”;
20 but all the Israelites went down to the Philistines, each man to sharpen his own plowshare, mattock, ax, and sickle.
21 The price was one payim‡ each to sharpen mattocks, plowshares, pitchforks, axes, and goads.
22 So it came to pass in the day of battle that neither sword nor spear was found in the hand of any of the people who were with Saul and Jonathan; but Saul and Jonathan his son had them.
23 The garrison of the Philistines went out to the pass of Michmash.

14

1 Now it happened on a day that Jonathan the son of Saul said to the young man who bore his armor, “Come! Let’s go over to the Philistines’ garrison that is on the other side.” But he didn’t tell his father.
2 Saul stayed in the uttermost part of Gibeah under the pomegranate tree which is in Migron; and the people who were with him were about six hundred men,
3 including Ahijah the son of Ahitub, Ichabod’s brother, the son of Phinehas, the son of Eli the priest of the LORD in Shiloh, wearing an ephod. The people didn’t know that Jonathan was gone.
4 Between the passes, by which Jonathan sought to go over to the Philistines’ garrison, there was a rocky crag on the one side and a rocky crag on the other side; and the name of the one was Bozez, and the name of the other Seneh.
5 The one crag rose up on the north in front of Michmash, and the other on the south in front of Geba.
6 Jonathan said to the young man who bore his armor, “Come! Let’s go over to the garrison of these uncircumcised. It may be that the LORD will work for us, for there is no restraint on the LORD to save by many or by few.”
7 His armor bearer said to him, “Do all that is in your heart. Go, and behold, I am with you according to your heart.”
8 Then Jonathan said, “Behold, we will pass over to the men, and we will reveal ourselves to them.
9 If they say this to us, ‘Wait until we come to you!’ then we will stand still in our place and will not go up to them.
10 But if they say this, ‘Come up to us!’ then we will go up, for the LORD has delivered them into our hand. This shall be the sign to us.”
11 Both of them revealed themselves to the garrison of the Philistines; and the Philistines said, “Behold, the Hebrews are coming out of the holes where they had hidden themselves!”
12 The men of the garrison answered Jonathan and his armor bearer, and said, “Come up to us, and we will show you something!”

Jonathan said to his armor bearer, “Come up after me, for the LORD has delivered them into the hand of Israel.”
13 Jonathan climbed up on his hands and on his feet, and his armor bearer after him, and they fell before Jonathan; and his armor bearer killed them after him.
14 That first slaughter, which Jonathan and his armor bearer made, was about twenty men, within as it were half a furrow’s length in an acre of land.
15 There was a trembling in the camp, in the field, and among all the people; the garrison and the raiders also trembled; and the earth quaked, so there was an exceedingly great trembling.
16 The watchmen of Saul in Gibeah of Benjamin looked; and behold, the multitude melted away and scattered.
17 Then Saul said to the people who were with him, “Count now, and see who is missing from us.” When they had counted, behold, Jonathan and his armor bearer were not there.
18 Saul said to Ahijah, “Bring God’s ark here.” For God’s ark was with the children of Israel at that time.
19 While Saul talked to the priest, the tumult that was in the camp of the

‡ **13:21** A payim (or pim) was 2/3 shekel of silver, or 0.26 ounces, or 7.6 grams

Philistines went on and increased; and Saul said to the priest, “Withdraw your hand!”

20 Saul and all the people who were with him were gathered together, and came to the battle; and behold, they were all striking each other with their swords in very great confusion.

21 Now the Hebrews who were with the Philistines before and who went up with them into the camp from all around, even they also turned to be with the Israelites who were with Saul and Jonathan.

22 Likewise all the men of Israel who had hidden themselves in the hill country of Ephraim, when they heard that the Philistines fled, even they also followed hard after them in the battle.

23 So the LORD saved Israel that day; and the battle passed over by Beth Aven.

24 The men of Israel were distressed that day; for Saul had adjured the people, saying, “Cursed is the man who eats any food until it is evening, and I am avenged of my enemies.” So none of the people tasted food.

25 All the people came into the forest; and there was honey on the ground.

26 When the people had come to the forest, behold, honey was dripping, but no one put his hand to his mouth, for the people feared the oath.

27 But Jonathan didn’t hear when his father commanded the people with the oath. Therefore he put out the end of the rod that was in his hand and dipped it in the honeycomb, and put his hand to his mouth; and his eyes brightened.

28 Then one of the people answered, and said, “Your father directly commanded the people with an oath, saying, ‘Cursed is the man who eats food today.’ ” So the people were faint.

29 Then Jonathan said, “My father has troubled the land. Please look how my eyes have brightened because I tasted a little of this honey.

30 How much more, if perhaps the people had eaten freely today of the plunder of their enemies which they found? For now there has been no great slaughter among the Philistines.”

31 They struck the Philistines that day from Michmash to Aijalon. The people were very faint;

32 and the people pounced on the plunder, and took sheep, cattle, and calves, and killed them on the ground; and the people ate them with the blood.

33 Then they told Saul, saying, “Behold, the people are sinning against the LORD, in that they eat meat with the blood.”

He said, “You have dealt treacherously. Roll a large stone to me today!”

34 Saul said, “Disperse yourselves among the people, and tell them, ‘Every man bring me here his ox, and every man his sheep, and kill them here, and eat; and don’t sin against the LORD in eating meat with the blood.’ ” All the people brought every man his ox with him that night, and killed them there.

35 Saul built an altar to the LORD. This was the first altar that he built to the LORD.

36 Saul said, “Let’s go down after the Philistines by night, and take plunder among them until the morning light. Let’s not leave a man of them.”

They said, “Do whatever seems good to you.”

Then the priest said, “Let’s draw near here to God.”

37 Saul asked counsel of God: “Shall I go down after the Philistines? Will you deliver them into the hand of Israel?” But he didn’t answer him that day.

38 Saul said, “Draw near here, all you chiefs of the people, and know and see in whom this sin has been today.

39 For as the LORD lives, who saves Israel, though it is in Jonathan my son, he shall surely die.” But there was not a man among all the people who answered him.

40 Then he said to all Israel, “You be on one side, and I and Jonathan my son will be on the other side.”

The people said to Saul, “Do what seems good to you.”

41 Therefore Saul said to the LORD, the God of Israel, “Show the right.”

Jonathan and Saul were chosen, but the people escaped.

42 Saul said, “Cast lots between me and Jonathan my son.”

Jonathan was selected.

43 Then Saul said to Jonathan, “Tell me what you have done!”

Jonathan told him, and said, “I certainly did taste a little honey with the end of the rod that was in my hand; and behold, I must die.”

44 Saul said, “God do so and more also; for you shall surely die, Jonathan.”

45 The people said to Saul, “Shall Jonathan die, who has worked this great salvation in Israel? Far from it! As the LORD lives, there shall not one hair of his head fall to the ground, for he has worked with God today!” So the people rescued Jonathan, so he didn’t die.

46 Then Saul went up from following the Philistines; and the Philistines went to their own place.

47 Now when Saul had taken the kingdom over Israel, he fought against all his enemies on every side: against Moab, and against the children of Ammon, and against Edom, and against the kings of Zobah, and against the Philistines. Wherever he turned himself, he defeated them.

48 He did valiantly and struck the Amalekites, and delivered Israel out of the hands of those who plundered them.

49 Now the sons of Saul were Jonathan, Ishvi, and Malchishua; and the names of his two daughters were these: the name of the firstborn Merab, and the name of the younger Michal.

50 The name of Saul’s wife was Ahinoam the daughter of Ahimaaz. The name of the captain of his army was Abner the son of Ner, Saul’s uncle.

51 Kish was the father of Saul, and Ner the father of Abner was the son of Abiel.

52 There was severe war against the Philistines all the days of Saul; and when Saul saw any mighty man or any valiant man, he took him into his service.

15

1 Samuel said to Saul, “The LORD sent me to anoint you to be king over his people, over Israel. Now therefore listen to the voice of the LORD’s words.

2 The LORD of Armies says, ‘I remember what Amalek did to Israel, how he set himself against him on the way when he came up out of Egypt.

3 Now go and strike Amalek, and utterly destroy all that they have, and don’t spare them; but kill both man and woman, infant and nursing baby, ox and sheep, camel and donkey.’ ”

4 Saul summoned the people, and counted them in Telaim, two hundred thousand footmen and ten thousand men of Judah.

5 Saul came to the city of Amalek, and set an ambush in the valley.

6 Saul said to the Kenites, “Go, depart, go down from among the Amalekites, lest I destroy you with them; for you showed kindness to all the children of Israel when they came up out of Egypt.” So the Kenites departed from among the Amalekites.

7 Saul struck the Amalekites, from Havilah as you go to Shur, which is before Egypt.

8 He took Agag the king of the Amalekites alive, and utterly destroyed all the people with the edge of the sword.

9 But Saul and the people spared Agag and the best of the sheep, of the cattle, of the fat calves, of the lambs, and all that was good, and were not willing to utterly destroy them; but everything that was vile and refuse, that they destroyed utterly.

10 Then the LORD’s word came to Samuel, saying,

11 “It grieves me that I have set up Saul to be king, for he has turned back from following me, and has not performed my commandments.” Samuel was angry; and he cried to the LORD all night.

12 Samuel rose early to meet Saul in the morning; and Samuel was told, saying, “Saul came to Carmel, and behold, he set up a monument for himself, turned, passed on, and went down to Gilgal.”

13 Samuel came to Saul; and Saul said to
him, “You are blessed by the LORD! I have
performed the commandment of the
LORD.”
14 Samuel said, “Then what does this
bleating of the sheep in my ears and the
lowing of the cattle which I hear mean?”
15 Saul said, “They have brought them
from the Amalekites; for the people
spared the best of the sheep and of the
cattle, to sacrifice to the LORD your God.
We have utterly destroyed the rest.”
16 Then Samuel said to Saul, “Stay, and I
will tell you what the LORD said to me last
night.”
He said to him, “Say on.”
17 Samuel said, “Though you were little
in your own sight, weren’t you made the
head of the tribes of Israel? The LORD
anointed you king over Israel;
18 and the LORD sent you on a journey,
and said, ‘Go, and utterly destroy the
sinners the Amalekites, and fight against
them until they are consumed.’
19 Why then didn’t you obey the LORD’s
voice, but took the plunder, and did that
which was evil in the LORD’s sight?”
20 Saul said to Samuel, “But I have
obeyed the LORD’s voice, and have gone
the way which the LORD sent me, and
have brought Agag the king of Amalek,
and have utterly destroyed the
Amalekites.
21 But the people took of the plunder,
sheep and cattle, the best of the devoted
things, to sacrifice to the LORD your God
in Gilgal.”
22 Samuel said, “Has the LORD as great
delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices,
as in obeying the LORD’s voice? Behold, to
obey is better than sacrifice, and to listen
than the fat of rams.
23 For rebellion is as the sin of
witchcraft, and stubbornness is as
idolatry and teraphim.† Because you have
rejected the LORD’s word, he has also
rejected you from being king.”
24 Saul said to Samuel, “I have sinned;
for I have transgressed the
commandment of the LORD and your
words, because I feared the people and
obeyed their voice.
25 Now therefore, please pardon my sin,
and turn again with me, that I may
worship the LORD.”
26 Samuel said to Saul, “I will not return
with you; for you have rejected the
LORD’s word, and the LORD has rejected
you from being king over Israel.”
27 As Samuel turned around to go away,
Saul grabbed the skirt of his robe, and it
tore.
28 Samuel said to him, “The LORD has
torn the kingdom of Israel from you
today, and has given it to a neighbor of
yours who is better than you.
29 Also the Strength of Israel will not lie
nor repent; for he is not a man, that he
should repent.”
30 Then he said, “I have sinned; yet
please honor me now before the elders of
my people and before Israel, and come
back with me, that I may worship the
LORD your God.”
31 So Samuel went back with Saul; and
Saul worshiped the LORD.
32 Then Samuel said, “Bring Agag the
king of the Amalekites here to me!”
Agag came to him cheerfully. Agag said,
“Surely the bitterness of death is past.”
33 Samuel said, “As your sword has
made women childless, so your mother
will be childless among women!” Then
Samuel cut Agag in pieces before the
LORD in Gilgal.
34 Then Samuel went to Ramah; and
Saul went up to his house to Gibeah of
Saul.
35 Samuel came no more to see Saul
until the day of his death, but Samuel
mourned for Saul. The LORD grieved that
he had made Saul king over Israel.

16

1 The LORD said to Samuel, “How long
will you mourn for Saul, since I 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

† **15:23** teraphim were household idols that may have been associated with inheritance rights to the household property.

provided a king for myself among his sons."
2 Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears it, he will kill me."
The LORD said, "Take a heifer with you, and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.'
3 Call Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do. You shall anoint to me him whom I name to you."
4 Samuel did that which the LORD spoke, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, "Do you come peaceably?"
5 He said, "Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD. Sanctify yourselves, and come with me to the sacrifice." He sanctified Jesse and his sons, and called them to the sacrifice.
6 When they had come, he looked at Eliab, and said, "Surely the LORD's anointed is before him."
7 But the LORD said to Samuel, "Don't look on his face, or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for I don't see as man sees. For man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart."
8 Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "The LORD has not chosen this one, either."
9 Then Jesse made Shammah to pass by. He said, "The LORD has not chosen this one, either."
10 Jesse made seven of his sons to pass before Samuel. Samuel said to Jesse, "The LORD has not chosen these."
11 Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your children here?"
He said, "There remains yet the youngest. Behold, he is keeping the sheep."
Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and get him, for we will not sit down until he comes here."
12 He sent, and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, with a handsome face and good appearance. The LORD said, "Arise! Anoint him, for this is he."
13 Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the middle of his brothers. Then the LORD's Spirit came mightily on David from that day forward. So Samuel rose up and went to Ramah.
14 Now the LORD's Spirit departed from Saul, and an evil spirit from the LORD troubled him.
15 Saul's servants said to him, "See now, an evil spirit from God troubles you.
16 Let our lord now command your servants who are in front of you to seek out a man who is a skillful player on the harp. Then when the evil spirit from God is on you, he will play with his hand, and you will be well."
17 Saul said to his servants, "Provide me now a man who can play well, and bring him to me."
18 Then one of the young men answered and said, "Behold, I have seen a son of Jesse the Bethlehemite who is skillful in playing, a mighty man of valor, a man of war, prudent in speech, and a handsome person; and the LORD is with him."
19 Therefore Saul sent messengers to Jesse, and said, "Send me David your son, who is with the sheep."
20 Jesse took a donkey loaded with bread, a container of wine, and a young goat, and sent them by David his son to Saul.
21 David came to Saul and stood before him. He loved him greatly; and he became his armor bearer.
22 Saul sent to Jesse, saying, "Please let David stand before me, for he has found favor in my sight."
23 When the spirit from God was on Saul, David took the harp and played with his hand; so Saul was refreshed and was well, and the evil spirit departed from him.

17

1 Now the Philistines gathered together their armies to battle; and they were gathered together at Socoh, which belongs to Judah, and encamped between Socoh and Azekah in Ephesdammim.
2 Saul and the men of Israel were gathered together, and encamped in the valley of Elah, and set the battle in array against the Philistines.

3 The Philistines stood on the mountain
on the one side, and Israel stood on the
mountain on the other side: and there
was a valley between them.
4 A champion out of the camp of the
Philistines named Goliath of Gath, whose
height was six cubits and a span† went
out.
5 He had a helmet of bronze on his head,
and he wore a coat of mail; and the weight
of the coat was five thousand shekels‡ of
bronze.
6 He had bronze shin armor on his legs
and a bronze javelin between his
shoulders.
7 The staff of his spear was like a
weaver's beam; and his spear's head
weighed six hundred shekels of iron.§ His
shield bearer went before him.
8 He stood and cried to the armies of
Israel, and said to them, "Why have you
come out to set your battle in array? Am I
not a Philistine, and you servants to Saul?
Choose a man for yourselves, and let him
come down to me.
9 If he is able to fight with me and kill
me, then will we be your servants; but if I
prevail against him and kill him, then you
will be our servants and serve us."
10 The Philistine said, "I defy the armies
of Israel today! Give me a man, that we
may fight together!"
11 When Saul and all Israel heard those
words of the Philistine, they were
dismayed and greatly afraid.
12 Now David was the son of that
Ephrathite of Bethlehem Judah, whose
name was Jesse; and he had eight sons.
The man was an elderly old man in the
days of Saul.
13 The three oldest sons of Jesse had
gone after Saul to the battle; and the
names of his three sons who went to the
battle were Eliab the firstborn, and next
to him Abinadab, and the third Shammah.
14 David was the youngest; and the
three oldest followed Saul.
15 Now David went back and forth from
Saul to feed his father's sheep at
Bethlehem.
16 The Philistine came near morning
and evening, and presented himself forty
days.
17 Jesse said to David his son, "Now take
for your brothers an ephah† of this
parched grain and these ten loaves, and
carry them quickly to the camp to your
brothers;
18 and bring these ten cheeses to the
captain of their thousand; and see how
your brothers are doing, and bring back
news."
19 Now Saul, and they, and all the men
of Israel were in the valley of Elah,
fighting with the Philistines.
20 David rose up early in the morning
and left the sheep with a keeper, and took
the provisions and went, as Jesse had
commanded him. He came to the place of
the wagons as the army which was going
out to the fight shouted for the battle.
21 Israel and the Philistines put the
battle in array, army against army.
22 David left his baggage in the hand of
the keeper of the baggage and ran to the
army, and came and greeted his brothers.
23 As he talked with them, behold, the
champion, the Philistine of Gath, Goliath
by name, came up out of the ranks of the
Philistines, and said the same words; and
David heard them.
24 All the men of Israel, when they saw
the man, fled from him and were terrified.
25 The men of Israel said, "Have you
seen this man who has come up? He has
surely come up to defy Israel. The king
will give great riches to the man who kills
him, and will give him his daughter, and
will make his father's house tax-free in
Israel."
26 David spoke to the men who stood by
him, saying, "What shall be done to the
man who kills this Philistine and takes

† **17:4** A cubit is the length from the tip of the middle finger to the elbow on a man's arm, or about 18 inches or 46 centimeters. A span is the length from the tip of a man's thumb to the tip of his little finger when his hand is stretched out (about half a cubit, or 9 inches, or 22.8 cm.) Therefore, Goliath was about 9 feet and 9 inches or 2.97 meters tall.

‡ **17:5** A shekel is about 10 grams or about 0.35 ounces, so 5000 shekels is about 50 kilograms or 110 pounds. § **17:7** A shekel is about 10 grams or about 0.35 ounces, so 600 shekels is about 6 kilograms or about 13 pounds. † **17:17** 1 ephah is about 22 liters or about 2/3 of a bushel

away the reproach from Israel? For who is this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should defy the armies of the living God?"
27 The people answered him in this way, saying, "So shall it be done to the man who kills him."
28 Eliab his oldest brother heard when he spoke to the men; and Eliab's anger burned against David, and he said, "Why have you come down? With whom have you left those few sheep in the wilderness? I know your pride and the evil of your heart; for you have come down that you might see the battle."
29 David said, "What have I now done? Is there not a cause?"
30 He turned away from him toward another, and spoke like that again; and the people answered him again the same way.
31 When the words were heard which David spoke, they rehearsed them before Saul; and he sent for him.
32 David said to Saul, "Let no man's heart fail because of him. Your servant will go and fight with this Philistine."
33 Saul said to David, "You are not able to go against this Philistine to fight with him; for you are but a youth, and he a man of war from his youth."
34 David said to Saul, "Your servant was keeping his father's sheep; and when a lion or a bear came and took a lamb out of the flock,
35 I went out after him, struck him, and rescued it out of his mouth. When he arose against me, I caught him by his beard, struck him, and killed him.
36 Your servant struck both the lion and the bear. This uncircumcised Philistine shall be as one of them, since he has defied the armies of the living God."
37 David said, "The LORD, who delivered me out of the paw of the lion and out of the paw of the bear, will deliver me out of the hand of this Philistine."
Saul said to David, "Go! The LORD will be with you."
38 Saul dressed David with his clothing. He put a helmet of bronze on his head, and he clad him with a coat of mail.
39 David strapped his sword on his clothing and he tried to move, for he had not tested it. David said to Saul, "I can't go with these, for I have not tested them." Then David took them off.
40 He took his staff in his hand, and chose for himself five smooth stones out of the brook, and put them in the pouch of his shepherd's bag which he had. His sling was in his hand; and he came near to the Philistine.
41 The Philistine walked and came near to David; and the man who bore the shield went before him.
42 When the Philistine looked around and saw David, he disdained him; for he was but a youth, and ruddy, and had a good looking face.
43 The Philistine said to David, "Am I a dog, that you come to me with sticks?" The Philistine cursed David by his gods.
44 The Philistine said to David, "Come to me, and I will give your flesh to the birds of the sky and to the animals of the field."
45 Then David said to the Philistine, "You come to me with a sword, with a spear, and with a javelin; but I come to you in the name of the LORD of Armies, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied.
46 Today, the LORD will deliver you into my hand. I will strike you and take your head from off you. I will give the dead bodies of the army of the Philistines today to the birds of the sky and to the wild animals of the earth, that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel,
47 and that all this assembly may know that the LORD doesn't save with sword and spear; for the battle is the LORD's, and he will give you into our hand."
48 When the Philistine arose, and walked and came near to meet David, David hurried and ran toward the army to meet the Philistine.
49 David put his hand in his bag, took a stone and slung it, and struck the Philistine in his forehead. The stone sank into his forehead, and he fell on his face to the earth.
50 So David prevailed over the Philistine with a sling and with a stone, and struck the Philistine and killed him; but there was no sword in David's hand.

51 Then David ran, stood over the
Philistine, took his sword, drew it out of
its sheath, killed him, and cut off his head
with it.
When the Philistines saw that their
champion was dead, they fled.
52 The men of Israel and of Judah arose
and shouted, and pursued the Philistines
as far as Gai and to the gates of Ekron. The
wounded of the Philistines fell down by
the way to Shaaraim, even to Gath and to
Ekron.
53 The children of Israel returned from
chasing after the Philistines, and they
plundered their camp.
54 David took the head of the Philistine
and brought it to Jerusalem, but he put his
armor in his tent.
55 When Saul saw David go out against
the Philistine, he said to Abner, the
captain of the army, "Abner, whose son is
this youth?"
Abner said, "As your soul lives, O king, I
can't tell."
56 The king said, "Inquire whose son the
young man is!"
57 As David returned from the slaughter
of the Philistine, Abner took him and
brought him before Saul with the head of
the Philistine in his hand.
58 Saul said to him, "Whose son are you,
you young man?"
David answered, "I am the son of your
servant Jesse the Bethlehemite."

18

1 When he had finished speaking to
Saul, the soul of Jonathan was knit with
the soul of David, and Jonathan loved him
as his own soul.
2 Saul took him that day, and wouldn't
let him go home to his father's house any
more.
3 Then Jonathan and David made a
covenant, because he loved him as his
own soul.
4 Jonathan stripped himself of the robe
that was on him and gave it to David with
his clothing, even including his sword, his
bow, and his sash.
5 David went out wherever Saul sent
him, and behaved himself wisely; and
Saul set him over the men of war. It was
good in the sight of all the people, and also
in the sight of Saul's servants.
6 As they came, when David returned
from the slaughter of the Philistine, the
women came out of all the cities of Israel,
singing and dancing, to meet King Saul
with tambourines, with joy, and with
instruments of music.
7 The women sang to one another as
they played, and said,
"Saul has slain his thousands,
and David his ten thousands."
8 Saul was very angry, and this saying
displeased him. He said, "They have
credited David with ten thousands, and
they have only credited me with
thousands. What can he have more but
the kingdom?"
9 Saul watched David from that day and
forward.
10 On the next day, an evil spirit from
God came mightily on Saul, and he
prophesied in the middle of the house.
David played with his hand, as he did day
by day. Saul had his spear in his hand;
11 and Saul threw the spear, for he said,
"I will pin David to the wall!" David
escaped from his presence twice.
12 Saul was afraid of David, because the
LORD was with him, and had departed
from Saul.
13 Therefore Saul removed him from his
presence, and made him his captain over
a thousand; and he went out and came in
before the people.
14 David behaved himself wisely in all
his ways; and the LORD was with him.
15 When Saul saw that he behaved
himself very wisely, he stood in awe of
him.
16 But all Israel and Judah loved David;
for he went out and came in before them.
17 Saul said to David, "Behold, my elder
daughter Merab. I will give her to you as
wife. Only be valiant for me, and fight the
LORD's battles." For Saul said, "Don't let
my hand be on him, but let the hand of the
Philistines be on him."
18 David said to Saul, "Who am I, and
what is my life, or my father's family in
Israel, that I should be son-in-law to the
king?"

19 But at the time when Merab, Saul's
daughter, should have been given to
David, she was given to Adriel the
Meholathite as wife.
20 Michal, Saul's daughter, loved David;
and they told Saul, and the thing pleased
him.
21 Saul said, I will give her to him, that
she may be a snare to him and that the
hand of the Philistines may be against
him. Therefore Saul said to David a
second time, "You shall today be my
son-in-law."
22 Saul commanded his servants, "Talk
with David secretly, and say, 'Behold, the
king has delight in you, and all his
servants love you. Now therefore be the
king's son-in-law.' "
23 Saul's servants spoke those words in
the ears of David. David said, "Does it
seem to you a light thing to be the king's
son-in-law, since I am a poor man and
little known?"
24 The servants of Saul told him, saying,
"David spoke like this."
25 Saul said, "Tell David, 'The king
desires no dowry except one hundred
foreskins of the Philistines, to be avenged
of the king's enemies.' " Now Saul thought
he would make David fall by the hand of
the Philistines.
26 When his servants told David these
words, it pleased David well to be the
king's son-in-law. Before the deadline,
27 David arose and went, he and his
men, and killed two hundred men of the
Philistines. Then David brought their
foreskins, and they gave them in full
number to the king, that he might be the
king's son-in-law. Then Saul gave him
Michal his daughter as wife.
28 Saul saw and knew that the LORD
was with David; and Michal, Saul's
daughter, loved him.
29 Saul was even more afraid of David;
and Saul was David's enemy continually.
30 Then the princes of the Philistines
went out; and as often as they went out,
David behaved himself more wisely than
all the servants of Saul, so that his name
was highly esteemed.

19

1 Saul spoke to Jonathan his son and to
all his servants, that they should kill
David. But Jonathan, Saul's son, greatly
delighted in David.
2 Jonathan told David, saying, "Saul my
father seeks to kill you. Now therefore,
please take care of yourself in the
morning, live in a secret place, and hide
yourself.
3 I will go out and stand beside my
father in the field where you are, and I
will talk with my father about you; and if I
see anything, I will tell you."
4 Jonathan spoke good of David to Saul
his father, and said to him, "Don't let the
king sin against his servant, against
David; because he has not sinned against
you, and because his works have been
very good toward you;
5 for he put his life in his hand and
struck the Philistine, and the LORD
worked a great victory for all Israel. You
saw it and rejoiced. Why then will you sin
against innocent blood, to kill David
without a cause?"
6 Saul listened to the voice of Jonathan;
and Saul swore, "As the LORD lives, he
shall not be put to death."
7 Jonathan called David, and Jonathan
showed him all those things. Then
Jonathan brought David to Saul, and he
was in his presence as before.
8 There was war again. David went out
and fought with the Philistines, and killed
them with a great slaughter; and they fled
before him.
9 An evil spirit from the LORD was on
Saul as he sat in his house with his spear
in his hand; and David was playing music
with his hand.
10 Saul sought to pin David to the wall
with the spear, but he slipped away out of
Saul's presence; and he stuck the spear
into the wall. David fled and escaped that
night.
11 Saul sent messengers to David's
house to watch him and to kill him in the
morning. Michal, David's wife, told him,
saying, "If you don't save your life tonight,
tomorrow you will be killed."

12 So Michal let David down through the window. He went away, fled, and escaped.
13 Michal took the teraphim† and laid it in the bed, and put a pillow of goats' hair at its head and covered it with clothes.
14 When Saul sent messengers to take David, she said, "He is sick."

15 Saul sent the messengers to see David, saying, "Bring him up to me in the bed, that I may kill him."
16 When the messengers came in, behold, the teraphim was in the bed, with the pillow of goats' hair at its head.

17 Saul said to Michal, "Why have you deceived me like this and let my enemy go, so that he has escaped?"

Michal answered Saul, "He said to me, 'Let me go! Why should I kill you?' "

18 Now David fled and escaped, and came to Samuel at Ramah, and told him all that Saul had done to him. He and Samuel went and lived in Naioth.
19 Saul was told, saying, "Behold, David is at Naioth in Ramah."

20 Saul sent messengers to seize David; and when they saw the company of the prophets prophesying, and Samuel standing as head over them, God's Spirit came on Saul's messengers, and they also prophesied.
21 When Saul was told, he sent other messengers, and they also prophesied. Saul sent messengers again the third time, and they also prophesied.
22 Then he also went to Ramah, and came to the great well that is in Secu: and he asked, "Where are Samuel and David?"

One said, "Behold, they are at Naioth in Ramah."

23 He went there to Naioth in Ramah. Then God's Spirit came on him also, and he went on, and prophesied, until he came to Naioth in Ramah.
24 He also stripped off his clothes. He also prophesied before Samuel and lay down naked all that day and all that night. Therefore they say, "Is Saul also among the prophets?"

20

1 David fled from Naioth in Ramah, and came and said to Jonathan, "What have I done? What is my iniquity? What is my sin before your father, that he seeks my life?"

2 He said to him, "Far from it; you will not die. Behold, my father does nothing either great or small, but that he discloses it to me. Why would my father hide this thing from me? It is not so."

3 David swore moreover, and said, "Your father knows well that I have found favor in your eyes; and he says, 'Don't let Jonathan know this, lest he be grieved;' but truly as the LORD lives, and as your soul lives, there is but a step between me and death."

4 Then Jonathan said to David, "Whatever your soul desires, I will even do it for you."

5 David said to Jonathan, "Behold, tomorrow is the new moon, and I should not fail to dine with the king; but let me go, that I may hide myself in the field to the third day at evening.
6 If your father misses me at all, then say, 'David earnestly asked leave of me that he might run to Bethlehem, his city; for it is the yearly sacrifice there for all the family.'
7 If he says, 'It is well,' your servant shall have peace; but if he is angry, then know that evil is determined by him.
8 Therefore deal kindly with your servant, for you have brought your servant into a covenant of the LORD with you; but if there is iniquity in me, kill me yourself, for why should you bring me to your father?"

9 Jonathan said, "Far be it from you; for if I should at all know that evil were determined by my father to come on you, then wouldn't I tell you that?"

10 Then David said to Jonathan, "Who will tell me if your father answers you roughly?"

† **19:13** teraphim were household idols that may have been associated with inheritance rights to the household property.

11 Jonathan said to David, “Come! Let’s
go out into the field.” They both went out
into the field.
12 Jonathan said to David, “By the LORD,
the God of Israel, when I have sounded
out my father about this time tomorrow,
or the third day, behold, if there is good
toward David, won’t I then send to you
and disclose it to you?
13 The LORD do so to Jonathan and more
also, should it please my father to do you
evil, if I don’t disclose it to you and send
you away, that you may go in peace. May
the LORD be with you as he has been with
my father.
14 You shall not only show me the loving
kindness of the LORD while I still live, that
I not die;
15 but you shall also not cut off your
kindness from my house forever, no, not
when the LORD has cut off every one of
the enemies of David from the surface of
the earth.”
16 So Jonathan made a covenant with
David’s house, saying, “The LORD will
require it at the hand of David’s enemies.”
17 Jonathan caused David to swear
again, for the love that he had for him; for
he loved him as he loved his own soul.
18 Then Jonathan said to him,
“Tomorrow is the new moon, and you will
be missed, because your seat will be
empty.
19 When you have stayed three days, go
down quickly and come to the place
where you hid yourself when this started,
and remain by the stone Ezel.
20 I will shoot three arrows on its side,
as though I shot at a mark.
21 Behold, I will send the boy, saying,
‘Go, find the arrows!’ If I tell the boy,
‘Behold, the arrows are on this side of you.
Take them;’ then come, for there is peace
to you and no danger, as the LORD lives.
22 But if I say this to the boy, ‘Behold, the
arrows are beyond you,’ then go your
way, for the LORD has sent you away.
23 Concerning the matter which you and
I have spoken of, behold, the LORD is
between you and me forever.”
24 So David hid himself in the field.
When the new moon had come, the king
sat himself down to eat food.
25 The king sat on his seat, as at other
times, even on the seat by the wall; and
Jonathan stood up, and Abner sat by
Saul’s side, but David’s place was empty.
26 Nevertheless Saul didn’t say anything
that day, for he thought, “Something has
happened to him. He is not clean. Surely
he is not clean.”
27 On the next day after the new moon,
the second day, David’s place was empty.
Saul said to Jonathan his son, “Why didn’t
the son of Jesse come to eat, either
yesterday, or today?”
28 Jonathan answered Saul, “David
earnestly asked permission of me to go to
Bethlehem.
29 He said, ‘Please let me go, for our
family has a sacrifice in the city. My
brother has commanded me to be there.
Now, if I have found favor in your eyes,
please let me go away and see my
brothers.’ Therefore he has not come to
the king’s table.”
30 Then Saul’s anger burned against
Jonathan, and he said to him, “You son of a
perverse rebellious woman, don’t I know
that you have chosen the son of Jesse to
your own shame, and to the shame of
your mother’s nakedness?
31 For as long as the son of Jesse lives on
the earth, you will not be established, nor
will your kingdom. Therefore now send
and bring him to me, for he shall surely
die!”
32 Jonathan answered Saul his father,
and said to him, “Why should he be put to
death? What has he done?”
33 Saul cast his spear at him to strike
him. By this Jonathan knew that his father
was determined to put David to death.
34 So Jonathan arose from the table in
fierce anger, and ate no food the second
day of the month; for he was grieved for
David, because his father had treated him
shamefully.
35 In the morning, Jonathan went out
into the field at the time appointed with
David, and a little boy with him.

36 He said to his boy, “Run, find now the
arrows which I shoot.” As the boy ran, he
shot an arrow beyond him.
37 When the boy had come to the place
of the arrow which Jonathan had shot,
Jonathan cried after the boy, and said,
“Isn’t the arrow beyond you?”
38 Jonathan cried after the boy, “Go fast!
Hurry! Don’t delay!” Jonathan’s boy
gathered up the arrows, and came to his
master.
39 But the boy didn’t know anything.
Only Jonathan and David knew the
matter.
40 Jonathan gave his weapons to his boy,
and said to him, “Go, carry them to the
city.”
41 As soon as the boy was gone, David
arose out of the south, and fell on his face
to the ground, and bowed himself three
times. They kissed one another and wept
with one another, and David wept the
most.
42 Jonathan said to David, “Go in peace,
because we have both sworn in the
LORD’s name, saying, ‘The LORD is
between me and you, and between my
offspring and your offspring, forever.’ ”
He arose and departed; and Jonathan
went into the city.

21

1 Then David came to Nob to Ahimelech
the priest. Ahimelech came to meet David
trembling, and said to him, “Why are you
alone, and no man with you?”
2 David said to Ahimelech the priest,
“The king has commanded me to do
something, and has said to me, ‘Let no one
know anything about the business about
which I send you, and what I have
commanded you. I have sent the young
men to a certain place.’
3 Now therefore what is under your
hand? Please give me five loaves of bread
in my hand, or whatever is available.”
4 The priest answered David, and said,
“I have no common bread, but there is
holy bread; if only the young men have
kept themselves from women.”
5 David answered the priest, and said to
him, “Truly, women have been kept from
us as usual these three days. When I came
out, the vessels of the young men were
holy, though it was only a common
journey. How much more then today shall
their vessels be holy?”
6 So the priest gave him holy bread; for
there was no bread there but the show
bread that was taken from before the
LORD, to be replaced with hot bread in
the day when it was taken away.
7 Now a certain man of the servants of
Saul was there that day, detained before
the LORD; and his name was Doeg the
Edomite, the best of the herdsmen who
belonged to Saul.
8 David said to Ahimelech, “Isn’t there
here under your hand spear or sword?
For I haven’t brought my sword or my
weapons with me, because the king’s
business required haste.”
9 The priest said, “Behold, the sword of
Goliath the Philistine, whom you killed in
the valley of Elah, is here wrapped in a
cloth behind the ephod. If you would like
to take that, take it, for there is no other
except that here.”
David said, “There is none like that.
Give it to me.”
10 David arose and fled that day for fear
of Saul, and went to Achish the king of
Gath.
11 The servants of Achish said to him,
“Isn’t this David the king of the land?
Didn’t they sing to one another about him
in dances, saying,
‘Saul has slain his thousands,
and David his ten thousands’?”
12 David laid up these words in his
heart, and was very afraid of Achish the
king of Gath.
13 He changed his behavior before them
and pretended to be insane in their hands,
and scribbled on the doors of the gate,
and let his spittle fall down on his beard.
14 Then Achish said to his servants,
“Look, you see the man is insane. Why
then have you brought him to me?
15 Do I lack madmen, that you have
brought this fellow to play the madman in
my presence? Should this fellow come
into my house?”

22

1 David therefore departed from there
and escaped to Adullam's cave. When his
brothers and all his father's house heard
it, they went down there to him.
2 Everyone who was in distress,
everyone who was in debt, and everyone
who was discontented gathered
themselves to him; and he became
captain over them. There were with him
about four hundred men.
3 David went from there to Mizpeh of
Moab; and he said to the king of Moab,
"Please let my father and my mother
come out to you, until I know what God
will do for me."
4 He brought them before the king of
Moab; and they lived with him all the time
that David was in the stronghold.
5 The prophet Gad said to David, "Don't
stay in the stronghold. Depart, and go into
the land of Judah."

Then David departed, and came into the
forest of Hereth.
6 Saul heard that David was discovered,
with the men who were with him. Now
Saul was sitting in Gibeah, under the
tamarisk tree in Ramah, with his spear in
his hand, and all his servants were
standing around him.
7 Saul said to his servants who stood
around him, "Hear now, you Benjamites!
Will the son of Jesse give everyone of you
fields and vineyards? Will he make you
all captains of thousands and captains of
hundreds?
8 Is that why all of you have conspired
against me, and there is no one who
discloses to me when my son makes a
treaty with the son of Jesse, and there is
none of you who is sorry for me, or
discloses to me that my son has stirred up
my servant against me, to lie in wait, as it
is today?"

9 Then Doeg the Edomite, who stood by
the servants of Saul, answered and said, "I
saw the son of Jesse coming to Nob, to
Ahimelech the son of Ahitub.
10 He inquired of the LORD for him,
gave him food, and gave him the sword of
Goliath the Philistine."

11 Then the king sent to call Ahimelech
the priest, the son of Ahitub, and all his
father's house, the priests who were in
Nob; and they all came to the king.
12 Saul said, "Hear now, you son of
Ahitub."
He answered, "Here I am, my lord."
13 Saul said to him, "Why have you
conspired against me, you and the son of
Jesse, in that you have given him bread,
and a sword, and have inquired of God for
him, that he should rise against me, to lie
in wait, as it is today?"
14 Then Ahimelech answered the king,
and said, "Who among all your servants is
so faithful as David, who is the king's
son-in-law, captain of your body guard,
and honored in your house?
15 Have I today begun to inquire of God
for him? Be it far from me! Don't let the
king impute anything to his servant, nor
to all the house of my father; for your
servant knew nothing of all this, less or
more."
16 The king said, "You shall surely die,
Ahimelech, you and all your father's
house."
17 The king said to the guard who stood
about him, "Turn and kill the priests of
the LORD, because their hand also is with
David, and because they knew that he fled
and didn't disclose it to me." But the
servants of the king wouldn't put out their
hand to fall on the priests of the LORD.
18 The king said to Doeg, "Turn and
attack the priests!"
Doeg the Edomite turned, and he
attacked the priests, and he killed on that
day eighty-five people who wore a linen
ephod.
19 He struck Nob, the city of the priests,
with the edge of the sword—both men and
women, children and nursing babies, and
cattle, donkeys, and sheep, with the edge
of the sword.
20 One of the sons of Ahimelech the son
of Ahitub, named Abiathar, escaped and
fled after David.
21 Abiathar told David that Saul had
slain the LORD's priests.
22 David said to Abiathar, "I knew on
that day, when Doeg the Edomite was

there, that he would surely tell Saul. I am responsible for the death of all the persons of your father's house.
23 Stay with me. Don't be afraid, for he who seeks my life seeks your life. You will be safe with me."

23

1 David was told, "Behold, the Philistines are fighting against Keilah, and are robbing the threshing floors."
2 Therefore David inquired of the LORD, saying, "Shall I go and strike these Philistines?"
The LORD said to David, "Go strike the Philistines, and save Keilah."
3 David's men said to him, "Behold, we are afraid here in Judah. How much more then if we go to Keilah against the armies of the Philistines?"
4 Then David inquired of the LORD yet again. The LORD answered him, and said, "Arise, go down to Keilah; for I will deliver the Philistines into your hand."
5 David and his men went to Keilah and fought with the Philistines, and brought away their livestock, and killed them with a great slaughter. So David saved the inhabitants of Keilah.
6 When Abiathar the son of Ahimelech fled to David to Keilah, he came down with an ephod in his hand.
7 Saul was told that David had come to Keilah. Saul said, "God has delivered him into my hand, for he is shut in by entering into a town that has gates and bars."
8 Saul summoned all the people to war, to go down to Keilah to besiege David and his men.
9 David knew that Saul was devising mischief against him. He said to Abiathar the priest, "Bring the ephod here."
10 Then David said, "O LORD, the God of Israel, your servant has surely heard that Saul seeks to come to Keilah to destroy the city for my sake.
11 Will the men of Keilah deliver me up into his hand? Will Saul come down, as your servant has heard? LORD, the God of Israel, I beg you, tell your servant."
The LORD said, "He will come down."
12 Then David said, "Will the men of Keilah deliver me and my men into the hand of Saul?"
The LORD said, "They will deliver you up."
13 Then David and his men, who were about six hundred, arose and departed out of Keilah and went wherever they could go. Saul was told that David had escaped from Keilah; and he gave up going there.
14 David stayed in the wilderness in the strongholds, and remained in the hill country in the wilderness of Ziph. Saul sought him every day, but God didn't deliver him into his hand.
15 David saw that Saul had come out to seek his life. David was in the wilderness of Ziph in the woods.
16 Jonathan, Saul's son, arose and went to David into the woods, and strengthened his hand in God.
17 He said to him, "Don't be afraid, for the hand of Saul my father won't find you; and you will be king over Israel, and I will be next to you; and Saul my father knows that also."
18 They both made a covenant before the LORD. Then David stayed in the woods and Jonathan went to his house.
19 Then the Ziphites came up to Saul to Gibeah, saying, "Doesn't David hide himself with us in the strongholds in the woods, in the hill of Hachilah, which is on the south of the desert?
20 Now therefore, O king, come down. According to all the desire of your soul to come down; and our part will be to deliver him up into the king's hand."
21 Saul said, "You are blessed by the LORD, for you have had compassion on me.
22 Please go make yet more sure, and know and see his place where his haunt is, and who has seen him there; for I have been told that he is very cunning.
23 See therefore, and take knowledge of all the lurking places where he hides himself; and come again to me with certainty, and I will go with you. It shall happen, if he is in the land, that I will

search him out among all the thousands of Judah."
24 They arose, and went to Ziph before Saul; but David and his men were in the wilderness of Maon, in the Arabah on the south of the desert.
25 Saul and his men went to seek him. When David was told, he went down to the rock, and stayed in the wilderness of Maon. When Saul heard that, he pursued David in the wilderness of Maon.
26 Saul went on this side of the mountain, and David and his men on that side of the mountain; and David hurried to get away for fear of Saul, for Saul and his men surrounded David and his men to take them.
27 But a messenger came to Saul, saying, "Hurry and come, for the Philistines have made a raid on the land!"
28 So Saul returned from pursuing David, and went against the Philistines. Therefore they called that place Sela Hammahlekoth.†
29 David went up from there and lived in the strongholds of En Gedi.

24

1 When Saul had returned from following the Philistines, he was told, "Behold, David is in the wilderness of En Gedi."
2 Then Saul took three thousand chosen men out of all Israel, and went to seek David and his men on the rocks of the wild goats.
3 He came to the sheep pens by the way, where there was a cave; and Saul went in to relieve himself. Now David and his men were staying in the innermost parts of the cave.
4 David's men said to him, "Behold, the day of which the LORD said to you, 'Behold, I will deliver your enemy into your hand, and you shall do to him as it shall seem good to you.' " Then David arose and cut off the skirt of Saul's robe secretly.
5 Afterward, David's heart struck him because he had cut off Saul's skirt.
6 He said to his men, "The LORD forbid that I should do this thing to my lord, the LORD's anointed, to stretch out my hand against him, since he is the LORD's anointed."
7 So David checked his men with these words, and didn't allow them to rise against Saul. Saul rose up out of the cave, and went on his way.
8 David also arose afterward, and went out of the cave and cried after Saul, saying, "My lord the king!"

When Saul looked behind him, David bowed with his face to the earth, and showed respect.
9 David said to Saul, "Why do you listen to men's words, saying, 'Behold, David seeks to harm you'?
10 Behold, today your eyes have seen how the LORD had delivered you today into my hand in the cave. Some urged me to kill you, but I spared you. I said, 'I will not stretch out my hand against my lord, for he is the LORD's anointed.'
11 Moreover, my father, behold, yes, see the skirt of your robe in my hand; for in that I cut off the skirt of your robe and didn't kill you, know and see that there is neither evil nor disobedience in my hand. I have not sinned against you, though you hunt for my life to take it.
12 May the LORD judge between me and you, and may the LORD avenge me of you; but my hand will not be on you.
13 As the proverb of the ancients says, 'Out of the wicked comes wickedness;' but my hand will not be on you.
14 Against whom has the king of Israel come out? Whom do you pursue? A dead dog? A flea?
15 May the LORD therefore be judge, and give sentence between me and you, and see, and plead my cause, and deliver me out of your hand."
16 It came to pass, when David had finished speaking these words to Saul, that Saul said, "Is that your voice, my son David?" Saul lifted up his voice and wept.
17 He said to David, "You are more righteous than I; for you have done good to me, whereas I have done evil to you.
18 You have declared today how you have dealt well with me, because when

† **23:28** "Sela Hammahlekoth" means "rock of parting".

the LORD had delivered me up into your hand, you didn't kill me.
19 For if a man finds his enemy, will he let him go away unharmed? Therefore may the LORD reward you good for that which you have done to me today.
20 Now, behold, I know that you will surely be king, and that the kingdom of Israel will be established in your hand.
21 Swear now therefore to me by the LORD that you will not cut off my offspring after me, and that you will not destroy my name out of my father's house."
22 David swore to Saul. Saul went home, but David and his men went up to the stronghold.

25

1 Samuel died; and all Israel gathered themselves together and mourned for him, and buried him at his house at Ramah.

Then David arose and went down to the wilderness of Paran.
2 There was a man in Maon whose possessions were in Carmel; and the man was very great. He had three thousand sheep and a thousand goats; and he was shearing his sheep in Carmel.
3 Now the name of the man was Nabal; and the name of his wife Abigail. This woman was intelligent and had a beautiful face; but the man was surly and evil in his doings. He was of the house of Caleb.
4 David heard in the wilderness that Nabal was shearing his sheep.
5 David sent ten young men; and David said to the young men, "Go up to Carmel, and go to Nabal, and greet him in my name.
6 Tell him, 'Long life to you! Peace be to you! Peace be to your house! Peace be to all that you have!
7 Now I have heard that you have shearers. Your shepherds have now been with us, and we didn't harm them. Nothing was missing from them all the time they were in Carmel.
8 Ask your young men, and they will tell you. Therefore let the young men find favor in your eyes, for we come on a good day. Please give whatever comes to your hand to your servants and to your son David.' "
9 When David's young men came, they spoke to Nabal all those words in the name of David, and waited.
10 Nabal answered David's servants and said, "Who is David? Who is the son of Jesse? There are many servants who break away from their masters these days.
11 Shall I then take my bread, my water, and my meat that I have killed for my shearers, and give it to men who I don't know where they come from?"
12 So David's young men turned on their way and went back, and came and told him all these words.
13 David said to his men, "Every man put on his sword!"

Every man put on his sword. David also put on his sword. About four hundred men followed David, and two hundred stayed by the baggage.
14 But one of the young men told Abigail, Nabal's wife, saying, "Behold, David sent messengers out of the wilderness to greet our master; and he insulted them.
15 But the men were very good to us, and we were not harmed, and we didn't miss anything as long as we went with them, when we were in the fields.
16 They were a wall to us both by night and by day, all the while we were with them keeping the sheep.
17 Now therefore know and consider what you will do; for evil is determined against our master and against all his house, for he is such a worthless fellow that one can't speak to him."
18 Then Abigail hurried and took two hundred loaves of bread, two containers of wine, five sheep ready dressed, five seahs† of parched grain, one hundred clusters of raisins, and two hundred cakes of figs, and laid them on donkeys.
19 She said to her young men, "Go on before me. Behold, I am coming after

† **25:18** 1 seah is about 7 liters or 1.9 gallons or 0.8 pecks

you." But she didn't tell her husband, Nabal.
20 As she rode on her donkey, and came down hidden by the mountain, behold, David and his men came down toward her, and she met them.
21 Now David had said, "Surely in vain I have kept all that this fellow has in the wilderness, so that nothing was missed of all that pertained to him. He has returned me evil for good.
22 God do so to the enemies of David, and more also, if I leave of all that belongs to him by the morning light so much as one who urinates on a wall."‡
23 When Abigail saw David, she hurried and got off her donkey, and fell before David on her face and bowed herself to the ground.
24 She fell at his feet and said, "On me, my lord, on me be the blame! Please let your servant speak in your ears. Hear the words of your servant.
25 Please don't let my lord pay attention to this worthless fellow, Nabal, for as his name is, so is he. Nabal§ is his name, and folly is with him; but I, your servant, didn't see my lord's young men whom you sent.
26 Now therefore, my lord, as the LORD lives and as your soul lives, since the LORD has withheld you from blood guiltiness and from avenging yourself with your own hand, now therefore let your enemies and those who seek evil to my lord be as Nabal.
27 Now this present which your servant has brought to my lord, let it be given to the young men who follow my lord.
28 Please forgive the trespass of your servant. For the LORD will certainly make my lord a sure house, because my lord fights the LORD's battles. Evil will not be found in you all your days.
29 Though men may rise up to pursue you and to seek your soul, yet the soul of my lord will be bound in the bundle of life with the LORD your God. He will sling out the souls of your enemies as from a sling's pocket.
30 It will come to pass, when the LORD has done to my lord according to all the good that he has spoken concerning you, and has appointed you prince over Israel,
31 that this shall be no grief to you, nor offense of heart to my lord, either that you have shed blood without cause, or that my lord has avenged himself. When the LORD has dealt well with my lord, then remember your servant."
32 David said to Abigail, "Blessed is the LORD, the God of Israel, who sent you today to meet me!
33 Blessed is your discretion, and blessed are you, who have kept me today from blood guiltiness, and from avenging myself with my own hand.
34 For indeed, as the LORD the God of Israel lives, who has withheld me from harming you, unless you had hurried and come to meet me, surely there wouldn't have been left to Nabal by the morning light so much as one who urinates on a wall."†
35 So David received from her hand that which she had brought him. Then he said to her, "Go up in peace to your house. Behold, I have listened to your voice and have granted your request."
36 Abigail came to Nabal; and behold, he held a feast in his house like the feast of a king. Nabal's heart was merry within him, for he was very drunk. Therefore she told him nothing until the morning light.
37 In the morning, when the wine had gone out of Nabal, his wife told him these things; and his heart died within him, and he became as a stone.
38 About ten days later, the LORD struck Nabal, so that he died.
39 When David heard that Nabal was dead, he said, "Blessed is the LORD, who has pleaded the cause of my reproach from the hand of Nabal, and has kept back his servant from evil. The LORD has returned the evildoing of Nabal on his own head."

David sent and spoke concerning Abigail, to take her to himself as wife.

‡ **25:22** or, male. § **25:25** "Nabal" means "foolish". † **25:34** or, one male.

40 When David's servants had come to
Abigail to Carmel, they spoke to her,
saying, "David has sent us to you, to take
you to him as wife."
41 She arose and bowed herself with her
face to the earth, and said, "Behold, your
servant is a servant to wash the feet of the
servants of my lord."
42 Abigail hurriedly arose and rode on a
donkey with her five maids who followed
her; and she went after the messengers of
David, and became his wife.
43 David also took Ahinoam of Jezreel;
and they both became his wives.
44 Now Saul had given Michal his
daughter, David's wife, to Palti the son of
Laish, who was of Gallim.

26

1 The Ziphites came to Saul to Gibeah,
saying, "Doesn't David hide himself in the
hill of Hachilah, which is before the
desert?"
2 Then Saul arose and went down to the
wilderness of Ziph, having three
thousand chosen men of Israel with him,
to seek David in the wilderness of Ziph.
3 Saul encamped in the hill of Hachilah,
which is before the desert, by the way. But
David stayed in the wilderness, and he
saw that Saul came after him into the
wilderness.
4 David therefore sent out spies, and
understood that Saul had certainly come.
5 Then David arose and came to the
place where Saul had encamped; and
David saw the place where Saul lay, with
Abner the son of Ner, the captain of his
army. Saul lay within the place of the
wagons, and the people were encamped
around him.
6 Then David answered and said to
Ahimelech the Hittite, and to Abishai the
son of Zeruiah, brother of Joab, saying,
"Who will go down with me to Saul to the
camp?"
Abishai said, "I will go down with you."
7 So David and Abishai came to the
people by night; and, behold, Saul lay
sleeping within the place of the wagons,
with his spear stuck in the ground at his
head; and Abner and the people lay
around him.
8 Then Abishai said to David, "God has
delivered up your enemy into your hand
today. Now therefore please let me strike
him with the spear to the earth at one
stroke, and I will not strike him the second
time."
9 David said to Abishai, "Don't destroy
him, for who can stretch out his hand
against the LORD's anointed, and be
guiltless?"
10 David said, "As the LORD lives, the
LORD will strike him; or his day shall
come to die, or he shall go down into
battle and perish.
11 The LORD forbid that I should stretch
out my hand against the LORD's anointed;
but now please take the spear that is at his
head and the jar of water, and let's go."
12 So David took the spear and the jar of
water from Saul's head, and they went
away. No man saw it, or knew it, nor did
any awake; for they were all asleep,
because a deep sleep from the LORD had
fallen on them.
13 Then David went over to the other
side, and stood on the top of the mountain
far away, a great space being between
them;
14 and David cried to the people, and to
Abner the son of Ner, saying, "Don't you
answer, Abner?"
Then Abner answered, "Who are you
who calls to the king?"
15 David said to Abner, "Aren't you a
man? Who is like you in Israel? Why then
have you not kept watch over your lord
the king? For one of the people came in to
destroy your lord the king.
16 This thing isn't good that you have
done. As the LORD lives, you are worthy
to die, because you have not kept watch
over your lord, the LORD's anointed. Now
see where the king's spear is, and the jar
of water that was at his head."
17 Saul recognized David's voice, and
said, "Is this your voice, my son David?"
David said, "It is my voice, my lord, O
king."
18 He said, "Why does my lord pursue
his servant? For what have I done? What
evil is in my hand?

19 Now therefore, please let my lord the king hear the words of his servant. If it is so that the LORD has stirred you up against me, let him accept an offering. But if it is the children of men, they are cursed before the LORD; for they have driven me out today that I shouldn't cling to the LORD's inheritance, saying, 'Go, serve other gods!'
20 Now therefore, don't let my blood fall to the earth away from the presence of the LORD; for the king of Israel has come out to seek a flea, as when one hunts a partridge in the mountains."
21 Then Saul said, "I have sinned. Return, my son David; for I will no more do you harm, because my life was precious in your eyes today. Behold, I have played the fool, and have erred exceedingly."
22 David answered, "Behold the spear, O king! Let one of the young men come over and get it.
23 The LORD will give to every man his righteousness and his faithfulness; because the LORD delivered you into my hand today, and I wouldn't stretch out my hand against the LORD's anointed.
24 Behold, as your life was respected today in my eyes, so let my life be respected in the LORD's eyes, and let him deliver me out of all oppression."
25 Then Saul said to David, "You are blessed, my son David. You will both do mightily, and will surely prevail."
So David went his way, and Saul returned to his place.

27

1 David said in his heart, "I will now perish one day by the hand of Saul. There is nothing better for me than that I should escape into the land of the Philistines; and Saul will despair of me, to seek me any more in all the borders of Israel. So I will escape out of his hand."
2 David arose and passed over, he and the six hundred men who were with him, to Achish the son of Maoch, king of Gath.
3 David lived with Achish at Gath, he and his men, every man with his household, even David with his two wives, Ahinoam the Jezreelitess and Abigail the Carmelitess, Nabal's wife.
4 Saul was told that David had fled to Gath, so he stopped looking for him.
5 David said to Achish, "If now I have found favor in your eyes, let them give me a place in one of the cities in the country, that I may dwell there. For why should your servant dwell in the royal city with you?"
6 Then Achish gave him Ziklag that day: therefore Ziklag belongs to the kings of Judah to this day.
7 The number of the days that David lived in the country of the Philistines was a full year and four months.
8 David and his men went up and raided the Geshurites, the Girzites, and the Amalekites; for those were the inhabitants of the land who were of old, on the way to Shur, even to the land of Egypt.
9 David struck the land, and saved no man or woman alive, and took away the sheep, the cattle, the donkeys, the camels, and the clothing. Then he returned, and came to Achish.
10 Achish said, "Against whom have you made a raid today?"
David said, "Against the South of Judah, against the South of the Jerahmeelites, and against the South of the Kenites."
11 David saved neither man nor woman alive to bring them to Gath, saying, "Lest they should tell about us, saying, 'David did this, and this has been his way all the time he has lived in the country of the Philistines.' "
12 Achish believed David, saying, "He has made his people Israel utterly to abhor him. Therefore he will be my servant forever."

28

1 In those days, the Philistines gathered their armies together for warfare, to fight with Israel. Achish said to David, "Know assuredly that you will go out with me in the army, you and your men."
2 David said to Achish, "Therefore you will know what your servant can do."

Achish said to David, “Therefore I will make you my bodyguard forever.”
3 Now Samuel was dead, and all Israel had mourned for him and buried him in Ramah, even in his own city. Saul had sent away those who had familiar spirits and the wizards out of the land.
4 The Philistines gathered themselves together, and came and encamped in Shunem; and Saul gathered all Israel together, and they encamped in Gilboa.
5 When Saul saw the army of the Philistines, he was afraid, and his heart trembled greatly.
6 When Saul inquired of the LORD, the LORD didn’t answer him by dreams, by Urim, or by prophets.
7 Then Saul said to his servants, “Seek for me a woman who has a familiar spirit, that I may go to her and inquire of her.”
His servants said to him, “Behold, there is a woman who has a familiar spirit at Endor.”
8 Saul disguised himself and put on other clothing, and went, he and two men with him, and they came to the woman by night. Then he said, “Please consult for me by the familiar spirit, and bring me up whomever I shall name to you.”
9 The woman said to him, “Behold, you know what Saul has done, how he has cut off those who have familiar spirits and the wizards out of the land. Why then do you lay a snare for my life, to cause me to die?”
10 Saul swore to her by the LORD, saying, “As the LORD lives, no punishment will happen to you for this thing.”
11 Then the woman said, “Whom shall I bring up to you?”
He said, “Bring Samuel up for me.”
12 When the woman saw Samuel, she cried with a loud voice; and the woman spoke to Saul, saying, “Why have you deceived me? For you are Saul!”
13 The king said to her, “Don’t be afraid! What do you see?”
The woman said to Saul, “I see a god coming up out of the earth.”
14 He said to her, “What does he look like?”
She said, “An old man comes up. He is covered with a robe.” Saul perceived that it was Samuel, and he bowed with his face to the ground, and showed respect.
15 Samuel said to Saul, “Why have you disturbed me, to bring me up?”
Saul answered, “I am very distressed; for the Philistines make war against me, and God has departed from me, and answers me no more, by prophets, or by dreams. Therefore I have called you, that you may make known to me what I shall do.”
16 Samuel said, “Why then do you ask me, since the LORD has departed from you and has become your adversary?
17 The LORD has done to you as he spoke by me. The LORD has torn the kingdom out of your hand and given it to your neighbor, even to David.
18 Because you didn’t obey the LORD’s voice, and didn’t execute his fierce wrath on Amalek, therefore the LORD has done this thing to you today.
19 Moreover the LORD will deliver Israel also with you into the hand of the Philistines; and tomorrow you and your sons will be with me. The LORD will deliver the army of Israel also into the hand of the Philistines.”
20 Then Saul fell immediately his full length on the earth, and was terrified, because of Samuel’s words. There was no strength in him, for he had eaten no bread all day long or all night long.
21 The woman came to Saul and saw that he was very troubled, and said to him, “Behold, your servant has listened to your voice, and I have put my life in my hand, and have listened to your words which you spoke to me.
22 Now therefore, please listen also to the voice of your servant, and let me set a morsel of bread before you. Eat, that you may have strength when you go on your way.”
23 But he refused, and said, “I will not eat.” But his servants, together with the woman, constrained him; and he listened to their voice. So he arose from the earth and sat on the bed.
24 The woman had a fattened calf in the house. She hurried and killed it; and she

took flour and kneaded it, and baked unleavened bread of it.
25 She brought it before Saul and before his servants, and they ate. Then they rose up and went away that night.

29

1 Now the Philistines gathered together all their armies to Aphek; and the Israelites encamped by the spring which is in Jezreel.
2 The lords of the Philistines passed on by hundreds and by thousands; and David and his men passed on in the rear with Achish.
3 Then the princes of the Philistines said, "What about these Hebrews?"
Achish said to the princes of the Philistines, "Isn't this David, the servant of Saul the king of Israel, who has been with me these days, or rather these years? I have found no fault in him since he fell away until today."
4 But the princes of the Philistines were angry with him; and the princes of the Philistines said to him, "Make the man return, that he may go back to his place where you have appointed him, and let him not go down with us to battle, lest in the battle he become an adversary to us. For with what should this fellow reconcile himself to his lord? Should it not be with the heads of these men?
5 Isn't this David, of whom people sang to one another in dances, saying,
'Saul has slain his thousands,
and David his ten thousands'?"
6 Then Achish called David and said to him, "As the LORD lives, you have been upright, and your going out and your coming in with me in the army is good in my sight; for I have not found evil in you since the day of your coming to me to this day. Nevertheless, the lords don't favor you.
7 Therefore now return, and go in peace, that you not displease the lords of the Philistines."
8 David said to Achish, "But what have I done? What have you found in your servant so long as I have been before you to this day, that I may not go and fight against the enemies of my lord the king?"
9 Achish answered David, "I know that you are good in my sight, as an angel of God. Notwithstanding, the princes of the Philistines have said, 'He shall not go up with us to the battle.'
10 Therefore now rise up early in the morning with the servants of your lord who have come with you; and as soon as you are up early in the morning and have light, depart."
11 So David rose up early, he and his men, to depart in the morning, to return into the land of the Philistines; and the Philistines went up to Jezreel.

30

1 When David and his men had come to Ziklag on the third day, the Amalekites had made a raid on the South and on Ziklag, and had struck Ziklag and burned it with fire,
2 and had taken captive the women and all who were in it, both small and great. They didn't kill any, but carried them off and went their way.
3 When David and his men came to the city, behold, it was burned with fire; and their wives, their sons, and their daughters were taken captive.
4 Then David and the people who were with him lifted up their voice and wept until they had no more power to weep.
5 David's two wives were taken captive, Ahinoam the Jezreelitess, and Abigail the wife of Nabal the Carmelite.
6 David was greatly distressed, for the people spoke of stoning him, because the souls of all the people were grieved, every man for his sons and for his daughters; but David strengthened himself in the LORD his God.
7 David said to Abiathar the priest, the son of Ahimelech, "Please bring the ephod here to me."
Abiathar brought the ephod to David.
8 David inquired of the LORD, saying, "If I pursue after this troop, will I overtake them?"
He answered him, "Pursue, for you will surely overtake them, and will without fail recover all."

9 So David went, he and the six hundred men who were with him, and came to the brook Besor, where those who were left behind stayed.
10 But David pursued, he and four hundred men; for two hundred stayed behind, who were so faint that they couldn't go over the brook Besor.
11 They found an Egyptian in the field, and brought him to David, and gave him bread, and he ate; and they gave him water to drink.
12 They gave him a piece of a cake of figs and two clusters of raisins. When he had eaten, his spirit came again to him; for he had eaten no bread, and drank no water for three days and three nights.
13 David asked him, "To whom do you belong? Where are you from?"

He said, "I am a young man of Egypt, servant to an Amalekite; and my master left me, because three days ago I got sick.
14 We made a raid on the South of the Cherethites, and on that which belongs to Judah, and on the South of Caleb; and we burned Ziklag with fire."

15 David said to him, "Will you bring me down to this troop?"

He said, "Swear to me by God that you will not kill me and not deliver me up into the hands of my master, and I will bring you down to this troop."

16 When he had brought him down, behold, they were spread around over all the ground, eating, drinking, and dancing, because of all the great plunder that they had taken out of the land of the Philistines, and out of the land of Judah.
17 David struck them from the twilight even to the evening of the next day. Not a man of them escaped from there, except four hundred young men who rode on camels and fled.
18 David recovered all that the Amalekites had taken, and David rescued his two wives.
19 There was nothing lacking to them, neither small nor great, neither sons nor daughters, neither plunder, nor anything that they had taken. David brought them all back.
20 David took all the flocks and the herds, which they drove before those other livestock, and said, "This is David's plunder."

21 David came to the two hundred men, who were so faint that they could not follow David, whom also they had made to stay at the brook Besor; and they went out to meet David, and to meet the people who were with him. When David came near to the people, he greeted them.
22 Then all the wicked men and worthless fellows of those who went with David answered and said, "Because they didn't go with us, we will not give them anything of the plunder that we have recovered, except to every man his wife and his children, that he may lead them away and depart."

23 Then David said, "Do not do so, my brothers, with that which the LORD has given to us, who has preserved us, and delivered the troop that came against us into our hand.
24 Who will listen to you in this matter? For as his share is who goes down to the battle, so shall his share be who stays with the baggage. They shall share alike."
25 It was so from that day forward that he made it a statute and an ordinance for Israel to this day.

26 When David came to Ziklag, he sent some of the plunder to the elders of Judah, even to his friends, saying, "Behold, a present for you from the plunder of the LORD's enemies."
27 He sent it to those who were in Bethel, to those who were in Ramoth of the South, to those who were in Jattir,
28 to those who were in Aroer, to those who were in Siphmoth, to those who were in Eshtemoa,
29 to those who were in Racal, to those who were in the cities of the Jerahmeelites, to those who were in the cities of the Kenites,
30 to those who were in Hormah, to those who were in Borashan, to those who were in Athach,
31 to those who were in Hebron, and to all the places where David himself and his men used to stay.

31

1 Now the Philistines fought against
Israel; and the men of Israel fled from
before the Philistines, and fell down slain
on Mount Gilboa.
2 The Philistines overtook Saul and his
sons; and the Philistines killed Jonathan,
Abinadab, and Malchishua, the sons of
Saul.
3 The battle went hard against Saul, and
the archers overtook him; and he was
greatly distressed by reason of the
archers.
4 Then Saul said to his armor bearer,
"Draw your sword, and thrust me through
with it, lest these uncircumcised come
and thrust me through and abuse me!"
But his armor bearer would not, for he
was terrified. Therefore Saul took his
sword and fell on it.
5 When his armor bearer saw that Saul
was dead, he likewise fell on his sword,
and died with him.
6 So Saul died with his three sons, his
armor bearer, and all his men that same
day together.
7 When the men of Israel who were on
the other side of the valley, and those who
were beyond the Jordan, saw that the men
of Israel fled and that Saul and his sons
were dead, they abandoned the cities and
fled; and the Philistines came and lived in
them.
8 On the next day, when the Philistines
came to strip the slain, they found Saul
and his three sons fallen on Mount Gilboa.
9 They cut off his head, stripped off his
armor, and sent into the land of the
Philistines all around, to carry the news to
the house of their idols and to the people.
10 They put his armor in the house of the
Ashtaroth, and they fastened his body to
the wall of Beth Shan.
11 When the inhabitants of Jabesh
Gilead heard what the Philistines had
done to Saul,
12 all the valiant men arose, went all
night, and took the body of Saul and the
bodies of his sons from the wall of Beth
Shan; and they came to Jabesh and
burned them there.
13 They took their bones and buried
them under the tamarisk† tree in Jabesh,
and fasted seven days.

† **31:13** or, salt cedar

The Second Book of Samuel

1 After the death of Saul, when David
had returned from the slaughter of the
Amalekites, and David had stayed two
days in Ziklag,
2 on the third day, behold,† a man came
out of the camp from Saul, with his
clothes torn and earth on his head. When
he came to David, he fell to the earth and
showed respect.
3 David said to him, "Where do you
come from?"
He said to him, "I have escaped out of
the camp of Israel."
4 David said to him, "How did it go?
Please tell me."
He answered, "The people have fled
from the battle, and many of the people
also have fallen and are dead. Saul and
Jonathan his son are dead also."
5 David said to the young man who told
him, "How do you know that Saul and
Jonathan his son are dead?"
6 The young man who told him said, "As
I happened by chance on Mount Gilboa,
behold, Saul was leaning on his spear; and
behold, the chariots and the horsemen
followed close behind him.
7 When he looked behind him, he saw
me and called to me. I answered, 'Here I
am.'
8 He said to me, 'Who are you?' I
answered him, 'I am an Amalekite.'
9 He said to me, 'Please stand beside me,
and kill me, for anguish has taken hold of
me because my life lingers in me.'
10 So I stood beside him and killed him,
because I was sure that he could not live
after he had fallen. I took the crown that
was on his head and the bracelet that was
on his arm, and have brought them here
to my lord."
11 Then David took hold of his clothes
and tore them; and all the men who were
with him did likewise.
12 They mourned, wept, and fasted until
evening for Saul and for Jonathan his son,
and for the people of the LORD,‡ and for
the house of Israel, because they had
fallen by the sword.
13 David said to the young man who told
him, "Where are you from?"
He answered, "I am the son of a
foreigner, an Amalekite."
14 David said to him, "Why were you not
afraid to stretch out your hand to destroy
the LORD's anointed?"
15 David called one of the young men
and said, "Go near, and cut him down!"
He struck him so that he died.
16 David said to him, "Your blood be on
your head, for your mouth has testified
against you, saying, 'I have slain the
LORD's anointed.' "
17 David lamented with this lamentation
over Saul and over Jonathan his son
18 (and he commanded them to teach
the children of Judah the song of the bow;
behold, it is written in the book of Jashar):
19 "Your glory, Israel, was slain on your
high places!
How the mighty have fallen!
20 Don't tell it in Gath.
Don't publish it in the streets of
Ashkelon,
lest the daughters of the Philistines
rejoice,
lest the daughters of the
uncircumcised triumph.
21 You mountains of Gilboa,
let there be no dew or rain on you,
and no fields of offerings;
for there the shield of the mighty was
defiled and cast away,
the shield of Saul was not anointed
with oil.
22 From the blood of the slain,
from the fat of the mighty,
Jonathan's bow didn't turn back.
Saul's sword didn't return empty.
23 Saul and Jonathan were lovely and
pleasant in their lives.
In their death, they were not divided.
They were swifter than eagles.

† **1:2** "Behold", from "הִנֵּה", means look at, take notice, observe, see, or gaze at. It is often used as an interjection.
‡ **1:12** When rendered in ALL CAPITAL LETTERS, "LORD" or "GOD" is the translation of God's Proper Name (Hebrew "יהוה", usually pronounced Yahweh).

They were stronger than lions.
24 You daughters of Israel, weep over Saul,
who clothed you delicately in scarlet,
who put ornaments of gold on your clothing.
25 How the mighty have fallen in the middle of the battle!
Jonathan was slain on your high places.
26 I am distressed for you, my brother Jonathan.
You have been very pleasant to me.
Your love to me was wonderful,
surpassing the love of women.
27 How the mighty have fallen,
and the weapons of war have perished!"

2

1 After this, David inquired of the LORD, saying, "Shall I go up into any of the cities of Judah?"

The LORD said to him, "Go up."

David said, "Where shall I go up?"

He said, "To Hebron."

2 So David went up there with his two wives, Ahinoam the Jezreelitess, and Abigail the wife of Nabal the Carmelite.

3 David brought up his men who were with him, every man with his household. They lived in the cities of Hebron.

4 The men of Judah came, and there they anointed David king over the house of Judah. They told David, "The men of Jabesh Gilead were those who buried Saul."

5 David sent messengers to the men of Jabesh Gilead, and said to them, "Blessed are you by the LORD, that you have shown this kindness to your lord, even to Saul, and have buried him.

6 Now may the LORD show loving kindness and truth to you. I also will reward you for this kindness, because you have done this thing.

7 Now therefore let your hands be strong, and be valiant; for Saul your lord is dead, and also the house of Judah have anointed me king over them."

8 Now Abner the son of Ner, captain of Saul's army, had taken Ishbosheth the son of Saul and brought him over to Mahanaim.

9 He made him king over Gilead, over the Ashurites, over Jezreel, over Ephraim, over Benjamin, and over all Israel.

10 Ishbosheth, Saul's son, was forty years old when he began to reign over Israel, and he reigned two years. But the house of Judah followed David.

11 The time that David was king in Hebron over the house of Judah was seven years and six months.

12 Abner the son of Ner, and the servants of Ishbosheth the son of Saul, went out from Mahanaim to Gibeon.

13 Joab the son of Zeruiah and David's servants went out, and met them by the pool of Gibeon; and they sat down, the one on the one side of the pool and the other on the other side of the pool.

14 Abner said to Joab, "Please let the young men arise and compete before us!"

Joab said, "Let them arise!"

15 Then they arose and went over by number: twelve for Benjamin and for Ishbosheth the son of Saul, and twelve of David's servants.

16 They each caught his opponent by the head and thrust his sword in his fellow's side; so they fell down together. Therefore that place in Gibeon was called Helkath Hazzurim.†

17 The battle was very severe that day; and Abner was beaten, and the men of Israel, before David's servants.

18 The three sons of Zeruiah were there: Joab, Abishai, and Asahel. Asahel was as light of foot as a wild gazelle.

19 Asahel pursued Abner. He didn't turn to the right hand or to the left from following Abner.

20 Then Abner looked behind him and said, "Is that you, Asahel?"

He answered, "It is."

21 Abner said to him, "Turn away to your right hand or to your left, and grab one of the young men, and take his

† **2:16** "Helkath Hazzurim" means "field of daggers".

armor." But Asahel would not turn away from following him.
22 Abner said again to Asahel, "Turn away from following me. Why should I strike you to the ground? How then could I look Joab your brother in the face?"
23 However, he refused to turn away. Therefore Abner with the back end of the spear struck him in the body, so that the spear came out behind him; and he fell down there and died in the same place. As many as came to the place where Asahel fell down and died stood still.
24 But Joab and Abishai pursued Abner. The sun went down when they had come to the hill of Ammah, that lies before Giah by the way of the wilderness of Gibeon.
25 The children of Benjamin gathered themselves together after Abner and became one band, and stood on the top of a hill.
26 Then Abner called to Joab, and said, "Shall the sword devour forever? Don't you know that it will be bitterness in the latter end? How long will it be then, before you ask the people to return from following their brothers?"
27 Joab said, "As God‡ lives, if you had not spoken, surely then in the morning the people would have gone away, and not each followed his brother."
28 So Joab blew the trumpet; and all the people stood still and pursued Israel no more, and they fought no more.
29 Abner and his men went all that night through the Arabah; and they passed over the Jordan, and went through all Bithron, and came to Mahanaim.
30 Joab returned from following Abner; and when he had gathered all the people together, nineteen men of David's and Asahel were missing.
31 But David's servants had struck Benjamin and Abner's men so that three hundred sixty men died.
32 They took up Asahel and buried him in the tomb of his father, which was in Bethlehem. Joab and his men went all night, and the day broke on them at Hebron.

3

1 Now there was a long war between Saul's house and David's house. David grew stronger and stronger, but Saul's house grew weaker and weaker.
2 Sons were born to David in Hebron. His firstborn was Amnon, of Ahinoam the Jezreelitess;
3 and his second, Chileab, of Abigail the wife of Nabal the Carmelite; and the third, Absalom the son of Maacah the daughter of Talmai king of Geshur;
4 and the fourth, Adonijah the son of Haggith; and the fifth, Shephatiah the son of Abital;
5 and the sixth, Ithream, of Eglah, David's wife. These were born to David in Hebron.
6 While there was war between Saul's house and David's house, Abner made himself strong in Saul's house.
7 Now Saul had a concubine, whose name was Rizpah, the daughter of Aiah; and Ishbosheth said to Abner, "Why have you gone in to my father's concubine?"
8 Then Abner was very angry about Ishbosheth's words, and said, "Am I a dog's head that belongs to Judah? Today I show kindness to your father Saul's house, to his brothers, and to his friends, and have not delivered you into the hand of David; and yet you charge me today with a fault concerning this woman!
9 God do so to Abner, and more also, if, as the LORD has sworn to David, I don't do even so to him:
10 to transfer the kingdom from Saul's house, and to set up David's throne over Israel and over Judah, from Dan even to Beersheba."
11 He could not answer Abner another word, because he was afraid of him.
12 Abner sent messengers to David on his behalf, saying, "Whose is the land?" and saying, "Make your alliance with me, and behold, my hand will be with you to bring all Israel around to you."
13 David said, "Good. I will make a treaty with you, but one thing I require of you. That is, you will not see my face

‡ **2:27** The Hebrew word rendered "God" is "אֱלֹהִים" (Elohim).

unless you first bring Michal, Saul's daughter, when you come to see my face."
14 David sent messengers to Ishbosheth, Saul's son, saying, "Deliver me my wife Michal, whom I was given to marry for one hundred foreskins of the Philistines."
15 Ishbosheth sent and took her from her husband, Paltiel the son of Laish.
16 Her husband went with her, weeping as he went, and followed her to Bahurim. Then Abner said to him, "Go! Return!" and he returned.
17 Abner had communication with the elders of Israel, saying, "In times past, you sought for David to be king over you.
18 Now then do it! For the LORD has spoken of David, saying, 'By the hand of my servant David, I will save my people Israel out of the hand of the Philistines, and out of the hand of all their enemies.' "
19 Abner also spoke in the ears of Benjamin; and Abner went also to speak in the ears of David in Hebron all that seemed good to Israel and to the whole house of Benjamin.
20 So Abner came to David to Hebron, and twenty men with him. David made Abner and the men who were with him a feast.
21 Abner said to David, "I will arise and go, and will gather all Israel to my lord the king, that they may make a covenant with you, and that you may reign over all that your soul desires." David sent Abner away; and he went in peace.
22 Behold, David's servants and Joab came from a raid and brought in a great plunder with them; but Abner was not with David in Hebron, for he had sent him away, and he had gone in peace.
23 When Joab and all the army who was with him had come, they told Joab, "Abner the son of Ner came to the king, and he has sent him away, and he has gone in peace."
24 Then Joab came to the king and said, "What have you done? Behold, Abner came to you. Why is it that you have sent him away, and he is already gone?
25 You know Abner the son of Ner. He came to deceive you, and to know your going out and your coming in, and to know all that you do."
26 When Joab had come out from David, he sent messengers after Abner, and they brought him back from the well of Sirah; but David didn't know it.
27 When Abner had returned to Hebron, Joab took him aside into the middle of the gate to speak with him quietly, and struck him there in the body, so that he died for the blood of Asahel his brother.
28 Afterward, when David heard it, he said, "I and my kingdom are guiltless before the LORD forever of the blood of Abner the son of Ner.
29 Let it fall on the head of Joab and on all his father's house. Let there not fail from the house of Joab one who has a discharge, or who is a leper, or who leans on a staff, or who falls by the sword, or who lacks bread."
30 So Joab and Abishai his brother killed Abner, because he had killed their brother Asahel at Gibeon in the battle.
31 David said to Joab and to all the people who were with him, "Tear your clothes, and clothe yourselves with sackcloth, and mourn in front of Abner." King David followed the bier.
32 They buried Abner in Hebron; and the king lifted up his voice and wept at Abner's grave; and all the people wept.
33 The king lamented for Abner, and said, "Should Abner die as a fool dies?
34 Your hands weren't bound, and your feet weren't put into fetters. As a man falls before the children of iniquity, so you fell."

All the people wept again over him.
35 All the people came to urge David to eat bread while it was yet day; but David swore, saying, "God do so to me, and more also, if I taste bread or anything else, until the sun goes down."

36 All the people took notice of it, and it pleased them, as whatever the king did pleased all the people.
37 So all the people and all Israel understood that day that it was not of the king to kill Abner the son of Ner.
38 The king said to his servants, "Don't you know that a prince and a great man has fallen today in Israel?

39 I am weak today, though anointed
king. These men, the sons of Zeruiah are
too hard for me. May the LORD reward
the evildoer according to his wickedness."

4

1 When Saul's son heard that Abner was
dead in Hebron, his hands became feeble,
and all the Israelites were troubled.
2 Saul's son had two men who were
captains of raiding bands. The name of
one was Baanah and the name of the
other Rechab, the sons of Rimmon the
Beerothite, of the children of Benjamin
(for Beeroth also is considered a part of
Benjamin;
3 and the Beerothites fled to Gittaim,
and have lived as foreigners there until
today).
4 Now Jonathan, Saul's son, had a son
who was lame in his feet. He was five
years old when the news came about Saul
and Jonathan out of Jezreel; and his nurse
picked him up and fled. As she hurried to
flee, he fell and became lame. His name
was Mephibosheth.
5 The sons of Rimmon the Beerothite,
Rechab and Baanah, went out and came
at about the heat of the day to the house of
Ishbosheth as he took his rest at noon.
6 They came there into the middle of the
house as though they would have fetched
wheat, and they struck him in the body;
and Rechab and Baanah his brother
escaped.
7 Now when they came into the house as
he lay on his bed in his bedroom, they
struck him, killed him, beheaded him, and
took his head, and went by the way of the
Arabah all night.
8 They brought the head of Ishbosheth
to David to Hebron, and said to the king,
"Behold, the head of Ishbosheth, the son
of Saul, your enemy, who sought your life!
The LORD has avenged my lord the king
today of Saul and of his offspring.†"
9 David answered Rechab and Baanah
his brother, the sons of Rimmon the
Beerothite, and said to them, "As the
LORD lives, who has redeemed my soul
out of all adversity,
10 when someone told me, 'Behold, Saul
is dead,' thinking that he brought good
news, I seized him and killed him in
Ziklag, which was the reward I gave him
for his news.
11 How much more, when wicked men
have slain a righteous person in his own
house on his bed, should I not now
require his blood from your hand, and rid
the earth of you?"
12 David commanded his young men,
and they killed them, cut off their hands
and their feet, and hanged them up beside
the pool in Hebron. But they took the
head of Ishbosheth and buried it in
Abner's grave in Hebron.

5

1 Then all the tribes of Israel came to
David at Hebron and spoke, saying,
"Behold, we are your bone and your flesh.
2 In times past, when Saul was king over
us, it was you who led Israel out and in.
The LORD said to you, 'You will be
shepherd of my people Israel, and you
will be prince over Israel.' "
3 So all the elders of Israel came to the
king to Hebron, and King David made a
covenant with them in Hebron before the
LORD; and they anointed David king over
Israel.
4 David was thirty years old when he
began to reign, and he reigned forty years.
5 In Hebron he reigned over Judah
seven years and six months, and in
Jerusalem he reigned thirty-three years
over all Israel and Judah.
6 The king and his men went to
Jerusalem against the Jebusites, the
inhabitants of the land, who spoke to
David, saying, "The blind and the lame
will keep you out of here," thinking,
"David can't come in here."
7 Nevertheless David took the
stronghold of Zion. This is David's city.
8 David said on that day, "Whoever
strikes the Jebusites, let him go up to the
watercourse and strike those lame and
blind, who are hated by David's soul."
Therefore they say, "The blind and the
lame can't come into the house."

† **4:8** or, seed

9 David lived in the stronghold, and
called it David's city. David built around
from Millo and inward.
10 David grew greater and greater, for
the LORD, the God of Armies, was with
him.
11 Hiram king of Tyre sent messengers
to David, with cedar trees, carpenters,
and masons; and they built David a house.
12 David perceived that the LORD had
established him king over Israel, and that
he had exalted his kingdom for his people
Israel's sake.
13 David took more concubines and
wives for himself out of Jerusalem, after
he had come from Hebron; and more sons
and daughters were born to David.
14 These are the names of those who
were born to him in Jerusalem:
Shammua, Shobab, Nathan, Solomon,
15 Ibhar, Elishua, Nepheg, Japhia,
16 Elishama, Eliada, and Eliphelet.
17 When the Philistines heard that they
had anointed David king over Israel, all
the Philistines went up to seek David, but
David heard about it and went down to
the stronghold.
18 Now the Philistines had come and
spread themselves in the valley of
Rephaim.
19 David inquired of the LORD, saying,
"Shall I go up against the Philistines? Will
you deliver them into my hand?"

The LORD said to David, "Go up; for I
will certainly deliver the Philistines into
your hand."

20 David came to Baal Perazim, and
David struck them there. Then he said,
"The LORD has broken my enemies before
me, like the breach of waters." Therefore
he called the name of that place Baal
Perazim.†
21 They left their images there, and
David and his men took them away.

22 The Philistines came up yet again and
spread themselves in the valley of
Rephaim.
23 When David inquired of the LORD, he
said, "You shall not go up. Circle around
behind them, and attack them in front of
the mulberry trees.
24 When you hear the sound of
marching in the tops of the mulberry
trees, then stir yourself up; for then the
LORD has gone out before you to strike
the army of the Philistines."
25 David did so, as the LORD
commanded him, and struck the
Philistines all the way from Geba to Gezer.

6

1 David again gathered together all the
chosen men of Israel, thirty thousand.
2 David arose and went with all the
people who were with him from Baale
Judah, to bring up from there God's ark,
which is called by the Name, even the
name of the LORD of Armies who sits
above the cherubim.
3 They set God's ark on a new cart, and
brought it out of Abinadab's house that
was on the hill; and Uzzah and Ahio, the
sons of Abinadab, drove the new cart.
4 They brought it out of Abinadab's
house which was in the hill, with God's
ark; and Ahio went before the ark.
5 David and all the house of Israel
played before the LORD with all kinds of
instruments made of cypress wood, with
harps, with stringed instruments, with
tambourines, with castanets, and with
cymbals.
6 When they came to the threshing floor
of Nacon, Uzzah reached for God's ark
and took hold of it, for the cattle stumbled.
7 The LORD's anger burned against
Uzzah, and God struck him there for his
error; and he died there by God's ark.
8 David was displeased because the
LORD had broken out against Uzzah; and
he called that place Perez Uzzah† to this
day.
9 David was afraid of the LORD that day;
and he said, "How could the LORD's ark
come to me?"
10 So David would not move the LORD's
ark to be with him in David's city; but
David carried it aside into Obed-Edom the
Gittite's house.

† **5:20** "Baal Perazim" means "Lord who breaks out".

† **6:8** "Perez Uzzah" means "outbreak against Uzzah".

11 The LORD's ark remained in
Obed-Edom the Gittite's house three
months; and the LORD blessed
Obed-Edom and all his house.
12 King David was told, "The LORD has
blessed the house of Obed-Edom, and all
that belongs to him, because of God's ark."
So David went and brought up God's
ark from the house of Obed-Edom into
David's city with joy.
13 When those who bore the LORD's ark
had gone six paces, he sacrificed an ox
and a fattened calf.
14 David danced before the LORD with
all his might; and David was clothed in a
linen ephod.
15 So David and all the house of Israel
brought up the LORD's ark with shouting
and with the sound of the trumpet.
16 As the LORD's ark came into David's
city, Michal the daughter of Saul looked
out through the window and saw King
David leaping and dancing before the
LORD; and she despised him in her heart.
17 They brought in the LORD's ark, and
set it in its place in the middle of the tent
that David had pitched for it; and David
offered burnt offerings and peace
offerings before the LORD.
18 When David had finished offering the
burnt offering and the peace offerings, he
blessed the people in the name of the
LORD of Armies.
19 He gave to all the people, even among
the whole multitude of Israel, both to men
and women, to everyone a portion of
bread, dates, and raisins. So all the people
departed, each to his own house.
20 Then David returned to bless his
household. Michal the daughter of Saul
came out to meet David, and said, "How
glorious the king of Israel was today, who
uncovered himself today in the eyes of his
servants' maids, as one of the vain fellows
shamelessly uncovers himself!"
21 David said to Michal, "It was before
the LORD, who chose me above your
father, and above all his house, to appoint
me prince over the people of the LORD,
over Israel. Therefore I will celebrate
before the LORD.
22 I will be yet more undignified than
this, and will be worthless in my own
sight. But the maids of whom you have
spoken will honor me."
23 Michal the daughter of Saul had no
child to the day of her death.

7

1 When the king lived in his house, and
the LORD had given him rest from all his
enemies all around,
2 the king said to Nathan the prophet,
"See now, I dwell in a house of cedar, but
God's ark dwells within curtains."
3 Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that
is in your heart, for the LORD is with you."
4 That same night, the LORD's word
came to Nathan, saying,
5 "Go and tell my servant David, 'The
LORD says, "Should you build me a house
for me to dwell in?
6 For I have not lived in a house since
the day that I brought the children of
Israel up out of Egypt, even to this day, but
have moved around in a tent and in a
tabernacle.
7 In all places in which I have walked
with all the children of Israel, did I say a
word to anyone from the tribes of Israel
whom I commanded to be shepherd of my
people Israel, saying, 'Why have you not
built me a house of cedar?' " '
8 Now therefore tell my servant David
this: 'The LORD of Armies says, "I took you
from the sheep pen, from following the
sheep, to be prince over my people, over
Israel.
9 I have been with you wherever you
went, and have cut off all your enemies
from before you. I will make you a great
name, like the name of the great ones who
are on the earth.
10 I will appoint a place for my people
Israel, and will plant them, that they may
dwell in their own place and be moved no
more. The children of wickedness will not
afflict them any more, as at the first,
11 and as from the day that I
commanded judges to be over my people
Israel. I will cause you to rest from all
your enemies. Moreover the LORD tells
you that the LORD will make you a house.
12 When your days are fulfilled and you
sleep with your fathers, I will set up your

offspring after you, who will proceed out of your body, and I will establish his kingdom.
13 He will build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever.
14 I will be his father, and he will be my son. If he commits iniquity, I will chasten him with the rod of men and with the stripes of the children of men;
15 but my loving kindness will not depart from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I put away before you.
16 Your house and your kingdom will be made sure forever before you. Your throne will be established forever.” ’ ”
17 Nathan spoke to David all these words, and according to all this vision.

18 Then David the king went in and sat before the LORD; and he said, “Who am I, Lord† GOD, and what is my house, that you have brought me this far?
19 This was yet a small thing in your eyes, Lord GOD, but you have spoken also of your servant’s house for a great while to come; and this among men, Lord GOD!
20 What more can David say to you? For you know your servant, Lord GOD.
21 For your word’s sake, and according to your own heart, you have worked all this greatness, to make your servant know it.
22 Therefore you are great, LORD God. For there is no one like you, neither is there any God besides you, according to all that we have heard with our ears.
23 What one nation on the earth is like your people, even like Israel, whom God went to redeem to himself for a people, and to make himself a name, and to do great things for you, and awesome things for your land, before your people, whom you redeemed to yourself out of Egypt, from the nations and their gods?
24 You established for yourself your people Israel to be your people forever; and you, LORD, became their God.

25 “Now, LORD God, the word that you have spoken concerning your servant, and concerning his house, confirm it forever, and do as you have spoken.
26 Let your name be magnified forever, saying, ‘The LORD of Armies is God over Israel; and the house of your servant David will be established before you.’
27 For you, LORD of Armies, the God of Israel, have revealed to your servant, saying, ‘I will build you a house.’ Therefore your servant has found in his heart to pray this prayer to you.

28 “Now, O Lord GOD, you are God, and your words are truth, and you have promised this good thing to your servant.
29 Now therefore, let it please you to bless the house of your servant, that it may continue forever before you; for you, Lord GOD, have spoken it. Let the house of your servant be blessed forever with your blessing.”

8

1 After this, David struck the Philistines and subdued them; and David took the bridle of the mother city out of the hand of the Philistines.
2 He defeated Moab, and measured them with the line, making them to lie down on the ground; and he measured two lines to put to death, and one full line to keep alive. The Moabites became servants to David, and brought tribute.

3 David also struck Hadadezer the son of Rehob, king of Zobah, as he went to recover his dominion at the River.
4 David took from him one thousand seven hundred horsemen and twenty thousand footmen. David hamstrung the chariot horses, but reserved enough of them for one hundred chariots.
5 When the Syrians of Damascus came to help Hadadezer king of Zobah, David struck twenty two thousand men of the Syrians.
6 Then David put garrisons in Syria of Damascus; and the Syrians became servants to David, and brought tribute. The LORD gave victory to David wherever he went.

† **7:18** The word translated “Lord” is “Adonai.”

7 David took the shields of gold that
were on the servants of Hadadezer, and
brought them to Jerusalem.
8 From Betah and from Berothai, cities
of Hadadezer, King David took a great
quantity of bronze.
9 When Toi king of Hamath heard that
David had struck all the army of
Hadadezer,
10 then Toi sent Joram his son to King
David to greet him and to bless him,
because he had fought against Hadadezer
and struck him; for Hadadezer had wars
with Toi. Joram brought with him vessels
of silver, vessels of gold, and vessels of
bronze.
11 King David also dedicated these to the
LORD, with the silver and gold that he
dedicated of all the nations which he
subdued—
12 of Syria, of Moab, of the children of
Ammon, of the Philistines, of Amalek, and
of the plunder of Hadadezer, son of
Rehob, king of Zobah.
13 David earned a reputation when he
returned from striking down eighteen
thousand men of the Syrians in the Valley
of Salt.
14 He put garrisons in Edom.
Throughout all Edom, he put garrisons,
and all the Edomites became servants to
David. The LORD gave victory to David
wherever he went.
15 David reigned over all Israel; and
David executed justice and righteousness
for all his people.
16 Joab the son of Zeruiah was over the
army, Jehoshaphat the son of Ahilud was
recorder,
17 Zadok the son of Ahitub and
Ahimelech the son of Abiathar were
priests, Seraiah was scribe,
18 Benaiah the son of Jehoiada was over
the Cherethites and the Pelethites; and
David's sons were chief ministers.

9

1 David said, "Is there yet any who is left
of Saul's house, that I may show him
kindness for Jonathan's sake?"
2 There was of Saul's house a servant
whose name was Ziba, and they called
him to David; and the king said to him,
"Are you Ziba?"
He said, "I am your servant."
3 The king said, "Is there not yet any of
Saul's house, that I may show the
kindness of God to him?"
Ziba said to the king, "Jonathan still has
a son, who is lame in his feet."
4 The king said to him, "Where is he?"
Ziba said to the king, "Behold, he is in
the house of Machir the son of Ammiel, in
Lo Debar."
5 Then King David sent and brought him
out of the house of Machir the son of
Ammiel, from Lo Debar.
6 Mephibosheth, the son of Jonathan,
the son of Saul, came to David, fell on his
face, and showed respect. David said,
"Mephibosheth?"
He answered, "Behold, your servant!"
7 David said to him, "Don't be afraid, for
I will surely show you kindness for
Jonathan your father's sake, and will
restore to you all the land of Saul your
father. You will eat bread at my table
continually."
8 He bowed down, and said, "What is
your servant, that you should look at such
a dead dog as I am?"
9 Then the king called to Ziba, Saul's
servant, and said to him, "All that
belonged to Saul and to all his house I
have given to your master's son.
10 Till the land for him—you, your sons,
and your servants. Bring in the harvest,
that your master's son may have bread to
eat; but Mephibosheth your master's son
will always eat bread at my table."
Now Ziba had fifteen sons and twenty
servants.
11 Then Ziba said to the king, "According
to all that my lord the king commands his
servant, so your servant will do." So
Mephibosheth ate at the king's table like
one of the king's sons.
12 Mephibosheth had a young son,
whose name was Mica. All who lived in
Ziba's house were servants to
Mephibosheth.
13 So Mephibosheth lived in Jerusalem,
for he ate continually at the king's table.
He was lame in both his feet.

10

1 After this, the king of the children of
Ammon died, and Hanun his son reigned
in his place.
2 David said, “I will show kindness to
Hanun the son of Nahash, as his father
showed kindness to me.” So David sent by
his servants to comfort him concerning
his father. David’s servants came into the
land of the children of Ammon.
3 But the princes of the children of
Ammon said to Hanun their lord, “Do you
think that David honors your father, in
that he has sent comforters to you? Hasn’t
David sent his servants to you to search
the city, to spy it out, and to overthrow it?”
4 So Hanun took David’s servants,
shaved off one half of their beards, and
cut off their garments in the middle, even
to their buttocks, and sent them away.
5 When they told David this, he sent to
meet them, for the men were greatly
ashamed. The king said, “Wait at Jericho
until your beards have grown, and then
return.”
6 When the children of Ammon saw that
they had become odious to David, the
children of Ammon sent and hired the
Syrians of Beth Rehob and the Syrians of
Zobah, twenty thousand footmen, and the
king of Maacah with one thousand men,
and the men of Tob twelve thousand men.
7 When David heard of it, he sent Joab
and all the army of the mighty men.
8 The children of Ammon came out, and
put the battle in array at the entrance of
the gate. The Syrians of Zobah and of
Rehob and the men of Tob and Maacah
were by themselves in the field.
9 Now when Joab saw that the battle
was set against him before and behind, he
chose of all the choice men of Israel and
put them in array against the Syrians.
10 The rest of the people he committed
into the hand of Abishai his brother; and
he put them in array against the children
of Ammon.
11 He said, “If the Syrians are too strong
for me, then you shall help me; but if the
children of Ammon are too strong for you,
then I will come and help you.
12 Be courageous, and let’s be strong for
our people and for the cities of our God;
and may the LORD do what seems good to
him.”
13 So Joab and the people who were with
him came near to the battle against the
Syrians, and they fled before him.
14 When the children of Ammon saw
that the Syrians had fled, they likewise
fled before Abishai, and entered into the
city. Then Joab returned from the
children of Ammon and came to
Jerusalem.
15 When the Syrians saw that they were
defeated by Israel, they gathered
themselves together.
16 Hadadezer sent and brought out the
Syrians who were beyond the River; and
they came to Helam, with Shobach the
captain of the army of Hadadezer at their
head.
17 David was told that; and he gathered
all Israel together, passed over the Jordan,
and came to Helam. The Syrians set
themselves in array against David and
fought with him.
18 The Syrians fled before Israel; and
David killed seven hundred charioteers of
the Syrians and forty thousand horsemen,
and struck Shobach the captain of their
army, so that he died there.
19 When all the kings who were
servants to Hadadezer saw that they were
defeated before Israel, they made peace
with Israel and served them. So the
Syrians were afraid to help the children of
Ammon any more.

11

1 At the return of the year, at the time
when kings go out, David sent Joab and
his servants with him, and all Israel; and
they destroyed the children of Ammon
and besieged Rabbah. But David stayed at
Jerusalem.
2 At evening, David arose from his bed
and walked on the roof of the king’s
house. From the roof, he saw a woman
bathing, and the woman was very
beautiful to look at.
3 David sent and inquired after the
woman. One said, “Isn’t this Bathsheba,

the daughter of Eliam, Uriah the Hittite's wife?"
4 David sent messengers, and took her; and she came in to him, and he lay with her (for she was purified from her uncleanness); and she returned to her house.
5 The woman conceived; and she sent and told David, and said, "I am with child."
6 David sent to Joab, "Send me Uriah the Hittite." Joab sent Uriah to David.
7 When Uriah had come to him, David asked him how Joab did, and how the people fared, and how the war prospered.
8 David said to Uriah, "Go down to your house and wash your feet." Uriah departed out of the king's house, and a gift from the king was sent after him.
9 But Uriah slept at the door of the king's house with all the servants of his lord, and didn't go down to his house.
10 When they had told David, saying, "Uriah didn't go down to his house," David said to Uriah, "Haven't you come from a journey? Why didn't you go down to your house?"
11 Uriah said to David, "The ark, Israel, and Judah, are staying in tents; and my lord Joab and the servants of my lord are encamped in the open field. Shall I then go into my house to eat and to drink, and to lie with my wife? As you live, and as your soul lives, I will not do this thing!"
12 David said to Uriah, "Stay here today also, and tomorrow I will let you depart." So Uriah stayed in Jerusalem that day and the next day.
13 When David had called him, he ate and drank before him; and he made him drunk. At evening, he went out to lie on his bed with the servants of his lord, but didn't go down to his house.
14 In the morning, David wrote a letter to Joab and sent it by the hand of Uriah.
15 He wrote in the letter, saying, "Send Uriah to the forefront of the hottest battle, and retreat from him, that he may be struck and die."
16 When Joab kept watch on the city, he assigned Uriah to the place where he knew that valiant men were.
17 The men of the city went out and fought with Joab. Some of the people fell, even of David's servants; and Uriah the Hittite died also.
18 Then Joab sent and told David all the things concerning the war;
19 and he commanded the messenger, saying, "When you have finished telling all the things concerning the war to the king,
20 it shall be that, if the king's wrath arise, and he asks you, 'Why did you go so near to the city to fight? Didn't you know that they would shoot from the wall?
21 Who struck Abimelech the son of Jerubbesheth? Didn't 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 shall say, 'Your servant Uriah the Hittite is also dead.' "
22 So the messenger went, and came and showed David all that Joab had sent him for.
23 The messenger said to David, "The men prevailed against us, and came out to us into the field; and we were on them even to the entrance of the gate.
24 The shooters shot at your servants from off the wall; and some of the king's servants are dead, and your servant Uriah the Hittite is also dead."
25 Then David said to the messenger, "Tell Joab, 'Don't let this thing displease you, for the sword devours one as well as another. Make your battle stronger against the city, and overthrow it.' Encourage him."
26 When Uriah's wife heard that Uriah her husband was dead, she mourned for her husband.
27 When the mourning was past, David sent and took her home to his house, and she became his wife and bore him a son. But the thing that David had done displeased the LORD.

12

1 The LORD sent Nathan to David. He came to him, and said to him, "There were two men in one city: the one rich, and the other poor.

2 The rich man had very many flocks
and herds,
3 but the poor man had nothing, except
one little ewe lamb, which he had bought
and raised. It grew up together with him
and with his children. It ate of his own
food, drank of his own cup, and lay in his
bosom, and was like a daughter to him.
4 A traveler came to the rich man, and
he didn't want to take of his own flock and
of his own herd to prepare for the
wayfaring man who had come to him, but
took the poor man's lamb and prepared it
for the man who had come to him."
5 David's anger burned hot against the
man, and he said to Nathan, "As the LORD
lives, the man who has done this deserves
to die!
6 He must restore the lamb fourfold,
because he did this thing and because he
had no pity!"
7 Nathan said to David, "You are the
man! This is what the LORD, the God of
Israel, says: 'I anointed you king over
Israel, and I delivered you out of the hand
of Saul.
8 I gave you your master's house and
your master's wives into your bosom, and
gave you the house of Israel and of Judah;
and if that would have been too little, I
would have added to you many more such
things.
9 Why have you despised the LORD's
word, to do that which is evil in his sight?
You have struck Uriah the Hittite with the
sword, have taken his wife to be your
wife, and have slain him with the sword
of the children of Ammon.
10 Now therefore the sword will never
depart from your house, because you
have despised me and have taken Uriah
the Hittite's wife to be your wife.'
11 "This is what the LORD says: 'Behold,
I will raise up evil against you out of your
own house; and I will take your wives
before your eyes and give them to your
neighbor, and he will lie with your wives
in the sight of this sun.
12 For you did this secretly, but I will do
this thing before all Israel, and before the
sun.' "
13 David said to Nathan, "I have sinned
against the LORD."

Nathan said to David, "The LORD also
has put away your sin. You will not die.
14 However, because by this deed you
have given great occasion to the LORD's
enemies to blaspheme, the child also who
is born to you will surely die."
15 Then Nathan departed to his house.

The LORD struck the child that Uriah's
wife bore to David, and he was very sick.
16 David therefore begged God for the
child; and David fasted, and went in and
lay all night on the ground.
17 The elders of his house arose beside
him, to raise him up from the earth; but
he would not, and he didn't eat bread with
them.
18 On the seventh day, the child died.
David's servants were afraid to tell him
that the child was dead, for they said,
"Behold, while the child was yet alive, we
spoke to him and he didn't listen to our
voice. How will he then harm himself if
we tell him that the child is dead?"
19 But when David saw that his servants
were whispering together, David
perceived that the child was dead; and
David said to his servants, "Is the child
dead?"

They said, "He is dead."

20 Then David arose from the earth, and
washed and anointed himself, and
changed his clothing; and he came into
the LORD's house, and worshiped. Then
he came to his own house; and when he
requested, they set bread before him and
he ate.
21 Then his servants said to him, "What
is this that you have done? You fasted and
wept for the child while he was alive, but
when the child was dead, you rose up and
ate bread."
22 He said, "While the child was yet
alive, I fasted and wept; for I said, 'Who
knows whether the LORD will not be
gracious to me, that the child may live?'
23 But now he is dead. Why should I
fast? Can I bring him back again? I will go
to him, but he will not return to me."
24 David comforted Bathsheba his wife,
and went in to her, and lay with her. She
bore a son, and he called his name
Solomon. The LORD loved him;

25 and he sent by the hand of Nathan the
prophet, and he named him Jedidiah,† for
the LORD's sake.
26 Now Joab fought against Rabbah of
the children of Ammon, and took the
royal city.
27 Joab sent messengers to David, and
said, "I have fought against Rabbah. Yes, I
have taken the city of waters.
28 Now therefore gather the rest of the
people together, and encamp against the
city and take it; lest I take the city, and it
be called by my name."
29 David gathered all the people
together and went to Rabbah, and fought
against it and took it.
30 He took the crown of their king from
off his head; and its weight was a talent‡ of
gold, and in it were precious stones; and it
was set on David's head. He brought a
great quantity of plunder out of the city.
31 He brought out the people who were
in it, and put them to work under saws,
under iron picks, under axes of iron, and
made them go to the brick kiln; and he did
so to all the cities of the children of
Ammon. Then David and all the people
returned to Jerusalem.

13

1 After this, Absalom the son of David
had a beautiful sister, whose name was
Tamar; and Amnon the son of David loved
her.
2 Amnon was so troubled that he
became sick because of his sister Tamar,
for she was a virgin, and it seemed hard to
Amnon to do anything to her.
3 But Amnon had a friend whose name
was Jonadab the son of Shimeah, David's
brother; and Jonadab was a very subtle
man.
4 He said to him, "Why, son of the king,
are you so sad from day to day? Won't you
tell me?"
Amnon said to him, "I love Tamar, my
brother Absalom's sister."
5 Jonadab said to him, "Lay down on
your bed and pretend to be sick. When
your father comes to see you, tell him,
'Please let my sister Tamar come and give
me bread to eat, and prepare the food in
my sight, that I may see it and eat it from
her hand.' "
6 So Amnon lay down and faked being
sick. When the king came to see him,
Amnon said to the king, "Please let my
sister Tamar come and make me a couple
of cakes in my sight, that I may eat from
her hand."
7 Then David sent home to Tamar,
saying, "Go now to your brother Amnon's
house, and prepare food for him."
8 So Tamar went to her brother
Amnon's house; and he was lying down.
She took dough, kneaded it, made cakes in
his sight, and baked the cakes.
9 She took the pan and poured them out
before him, but he refused to eat. Amnon
said, "Have all men leave me." Then every
man went out from him.
10 Amnon said to Tamar, "Bring the food
into the room, that I may eat from your
hand." Tamar took the cakes which she
had made, and brought them into the
room to Amnon her brother.
11 When she had brought them near to
him to eat, he took hold of her and said to
her, "Come, lie with me, my sister!"
12 She answered him, "No, my brother,
do not force me! For no such thing ought
to be done in Israel. Don't you do this
folly!
13 As for me, where would I carry my
shame? And as for you, you will be as one
of the fools in Israel. Now therefore,
please speak to the king; for he will not
withhold me from you."
14 However, he would not listen to her
voice; but being stronger than she, he
forced her and lay with her.
15 Then Amnon hated her with
exceedingly great hatred; for the hatred
with which he hated her was greater than
the love with which he had loved her.
Amnon said to her, "Arise, be gone!"
16 She said to him, "Not so, because this
great wrong in sending me away is worse
than the other that you did to me!"
But he would not listen to her.

† **12:25** "Jedidiah" means "loved by the LORD". ‡ **12:30** A talent is about 30 kilograms or 66 pounds or 965 Troy ounces

17 Then he called his servant who
ministered to him, and said, “Now put this
woman out from me, and bolt the door
after her.”
18 She had a garment of various colors
on her, for the king’s daughters who were
virgins dressed in such robes. Then his
servant brought her out and bolted the
door after her.
19 Tamar put ashes on her head, and
tore her garment of various colors that
was on her; and she laid her hand on her
head and went her way, crying aloud as
she went.
20 Absalom her brother said to her, “Has
Amnon your brother been with you? But
now hold your peace, my sister. He is your
brother. Don’t take this thing to heart.”
So Tamar remained desolate in her
brother Absalom’s house.
21 But when King David heard of all
these things, he was very angry.
22 Absalom spoke to Amnon neither
good nor bad; for Absalom hated Amnon,
because he had forced his sister Tamar.
23 After two full years, Absalom had
sheep shearers in Baal Hazor, which is
beside Ephraim; and Absalom invited all
the king’s sons.
24 Absalom came to the king and said,
“See now, your servant has sheep
shearers. Please let the king and his
servants go with your servant.”
25 The king said to Absalom, “No, my
son, let’s not all go, lest we be burdensome
to you.” He pressed him; however he
would not go, but blessed him.
26 Then Absalom said, “If not, please let
my brother Amnon go with us.”
The king said to him, “Why should he go
with you?”
27 But Absalom pressed him, and he let
Amnon and all the king’s sons go with
him.
28 Absalom commanded his servants,
saying, “Mark now, when Amnon’s heart
is merry with wine; and when I tell you,
‘Strike Amnon,’ then kill him. Don’t be
afraid. Haven’t I commanded you? Be
courageous, and be valiant!”
29 The servants of Absalom did to
Amnon as Absalom had commanded.
Then all the king’s sons arose, and every
man got up on his mule and fled.
30 While they were on the way, the news
came to David, saying, “Absalom has slain
all the king’s sons, and there is not one of
them left!”
31 Then the king arose, and tore his
garments, and lay on the earth; and all his
servants stood by with their clothes torn.
32 Jonadab the son of Shimeah, David’s
brother, answered, “Don’t let my lord
suppose that they have killed all the
young men, the king’s sons, for Amnon
only is dead; for by the appointment of
Absalom this has been determined from
the day that he forced his sister Tamar.
33 Now therefore don’t let my lord the
king take the thing to his heart, to think
that all the king’s sons are dead; for only
Amnon is dead.”
34 But Absalom fled. The young man
who kept the watch lifted up his eyes and
looked, and behold, many people were
coming by way of the hillside behind him.
35 Jonadab said to the king, “Behold, the
king’s sons are coming! It is as your
servant said.”
36 As soon as he had finished speaking,
behold, the king’s sons came, and lifted up
their voices and wept. The king also and
all his servants wept bitterly.
37 But Absalom fled and went to Talmai
the son of Ammihur, king of Geshur.
David mourned for his son every day.
38 So Absalom fled and went to Geshur,
and was there three years.
39 King David longed to go out to
Absalom, for he was comforted
concerning Amnon, since he was dead.

14

1 Now Joab the son of Zeruiah perceived
that the king’s heart was toward Absalom.
2 Joab sent to Tekoa and brought a wise
woman from there, and said to her,
“Please act like a mourner, and put on
mourning clothing, please, and don’t
anoint yourself with oil; but be as a
woman who has mourned a long time for
the dead.
3 Go in to the king and speak like this to
him.” So Joab put the words in her mouth.

4 When the woman of Tekoa spoke to
the king, she fell on her face to the ground,
showed respect, and said, “Help, O king!”
5 The king said to her, “What ails you?”
She answered, “Truly I am a widow,
and my husband is dead.
6 Your servant had two sons; and they
both fought together in the field, and
there was no one to part them, but the one
struck the other and killed him.
7 Behold, the whole family has risen
against your servant, and they say,
‘Deliver him who struck his brother, that
we may kill him for the life of his brother
whom he killed, and so destroy the heir
also.’ Thus they would quench my coal
which is left, and would leave to my
husband neither name nor remainder on
the surface of the earth.”
8 The king said to the woman, “Go to
your house, and I will give a command
concerning you.”
9 The woman of Tekoa said to the king,
“My lord, O king, may the iniquity be on
me, and on my father’s house; and may
the king and his throne be guiltless.”
10 The king said, “Whoever says
anything to you, bring him to me, and he
will not bother you any more.”
11 Then she said, “Please let the king
remember the LORD your God, that the
avenger of blood destroy not any more,
lest they destroy my son.”
He said, “As the LORD lives, not one hair
of your son shall fall to the earth.”
12 Then the woman said, “Please let your
servant speak a word to my lord the king.”
He said, “Say on.”
13 The woman said, “Why then have you
devised such a thing against the people of
God? For in speaking this word the king is
as one who is guilty, in that the king does
not bring home again his banished one.
14 For we must die, and are like water
spilled on the ground, which can’t be
gathered up again; neither does God take
away life, but devises means, that he who
is banished not be an outcast from him.
15 Now therefore, seeing that I have
come to speak this word to my lord the
king, it is because the people have made
me afraid. Your servant said, ‘I will now
speak to the king; it may be that the king
will perform the request of his servant.’
16 For the king will hear, to deliver his
servant out of the hand of the man who
would destroy me and my son together
out of the inheritance of God.
17 Then your servant said, ‘Please let the
word of my lord the king bring rest; for as
an angel of God, so is my lord the king to
discern good and bad. May the LORD,
your God, be with you.’ ”
18 Then the king answered the woman,
“Please don’t hide anything from me that I
ask you.”
The woman said, “Let my lord the king
now speak.”
19 The king said, “Is the hand of Joab
with you in all this?”
The woman answered, “As your soul
lives, my lord the king, no one can turn to
the right hand or to the left from anything
that my lord the king has spoken; for your
servant Joab urged me, and he put all
these words in the mouth of your servant.
20 Your servant Joab has done this thing
to change the face of the matter. My lord
is wise, according to the wisdom of an
angel of God, to know all things that are
on the earth.”
21 The king said to Joab, “Behold now, I
have granted this thing. Go therefore, and
bring the young man Absalom back.”
22 Joab fell to the ground on his face,
showed respect, and blessed the king.
Joab said, “Today your servant knows that
I have found favor in your sight, my lord,
O king, in that the king has performed the
request of his servant.”
23 So Joab arose and went to Geshur,
and brought Absalom to Jerusalem.
24 The king said, “Let him return to his
own house, but let him not see my face.”
So Absalom returned to his own house,
and didn’t see the king’s face.
25 Now in all Israel there was no one to
be so much praised as Absalom for his
beauty. From the sole of his foot even to
the crown of his head there was no defect
in him.

26 When he cut the hair of his head (now it was at every year's end that he cut it; because it was heavy on him, therefore he cut it), he weighed the hair of his head at two hundred shekels,† after the king's weight.
27 Three sons were born to Absalom, and one daughter, whose name was Tamar. She was a woman with a beautiful face.
28 Absalom lived two full years in Jerusalem, and he didn't see the king's face.
29 Then Absalom sent for Joab, to send him to the king, but he would not come to him. Then he sent again a second time, but he would not come.
30 Therefore he said to his servants, "Behold, 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.
31 Then Joab arose and came to Absalom to his house, and said to him, "Why have your servants set my field on fire?"
32 Absalom answered Joab, "Behold, I sent to you, saying, 'Come here, that I may send you to the king, to say, "Why have I come from Geshur? It would be better for me to be there still. Now therefore, let me see the king's face; and if there is iniquity in me, let him kill me." ' "
33 So Joab came to the king and told him; and when he had called for Absalom, he came to the king and bowed himself on his face to the ground before the king; and the king kissed Absalom.

15

1 After this, Absalom prepared a chariot and horses for himself, and fifty men to run before him.
2 Absalom rose up early, and stood beside the way of the gate. When any man had a suit which should come to the king for judgment, then Absalom called to him, and said, "What city are you from?"
He said, "Your servant is of one of the tribes of Israel."
3 Absalom said to him, "Behold, your matters are good and right; but there is no man deputized by the king to hear you."
4 Absalom said moreover, "Oh that I were made judge in the land, that every man who has any suit or cause might come to me, and I would do him justice!"
5 It was so, that when any man came near to bow down to him, he stretched out his hand, took hold of him, and kissed him.
6 Absalom did this sort of thing to all Israel who came to the king for judgment. So Absalom stole the hearts of the men of Israel.
7 At the end of forty years, Absalom said to the king, "Please let me go and pay my vow, which I have vowed to the LORD, in Hebron.
8 For your servant vowed a vow while I stayed at Geshur in Syria, saying, 'If the LORD shall indeed bring me again to Jerusalem, then I will serve the LORD.' "
9 The king said to him, "Go in peace."
So he arose and went to Hebron.
10 But Absalom sent spies throughout all the tribes of Israel, saying, "As soon as you hear the sound of the trumpet, then you shall say, 'Absalom is king in Hebron!' "
11 Two hundred men went with Absalom out of Jerusalem, who were invited, and went in their simplicity; and they didn't know anything.
12 Absalom sent for Ahithophel the Gilonite, David's counselor, from his city, even from Giloh, while he was offering the sacrifices. The conspiracy was strong, for the people increased continually with Absalom.
13 A messenger came to David, saying, "The hearts of the men of Israel are after Absalom."
14 David said to all his servants who were with him at Jerusalem, "Arise! Let's flee, or else none of us will escape from Absalom. Hurry to depart, lest he overtake us quickly and bring down evil on us, and strike the city with the edge of the sword."
15 The king's servants said to the king, "Behold, your servants are ready to do whatever my lord the king chooses."
16 The king went out, and all his household after him. The king left ten

† **14:26** A shekel is about 10 grams or about 0.35 ounces, so 200 shekels is about 2 kilograms or about 4.4 pounds.

women, who were concubines, to keep the house.
17 The king went out, and all the people after him; and they stayed in Beth Merhak.
18 All his servants passed on beside him; and all the Cherethites, and all the Pelethites, and all the Gittites, six hundred men who came after him from Gath, passed on before the king.
19 Then the king said to Ittai the Gittite, "Why do you also go with us? Return, and stay with the king; for you are a foreigner and also an exile. Return to your own place.
20 Whereas you came but yesterday, should I today make you go up and down with us, since I go where I may? Return, and take back your brothers. Mercy and truth be with you."
21 Ittai answered the king and said, "As the LORD lives, and as my lord the king lives, surely in what place my lord the king is, whether for death or for life, your servant will be there also."
22 David said to Ittai, "Go and pass over." Ittai the Gittite passed over, and all his men, and all the little ones who were with him.
23 All the country wept with a loud voice, and all the people passed over. The king also himself passed over the brook Kidron, and all the people passed over toward the way of the wilderness.
24 Behold, Zadok also came, and all the Levites with him, bearing the ark of the covenant of God; and they set down God's ark; and Abiathar went up until all the people finished passing out of the city.
25 The king said to Zadok, "Carry God's ark back into the city. If I find favor in the LORD's eyes, he will bring me again, and show me both it and his habitation;
26 but if he says, 'I have no delight in you,' behold, here I am. Let him do to me as seems good to him."
27 The king said also to Zadok the priest, "Aren't you a seer? Return into the city in peace, and your two sons with you, Ahimaaz your son and Jonathan the son of Abiathar.
28 Behold, I will stay at the fords of the wilderness until word comes from you to inform me."
29 Zadok therefore and Abiathar carried God's ark to Jerusalem again; and they stayed there.
30 David went up by the ascent of the Mount of Olives, and wept as he went up; and he had his head covered and went barefoot. All the people who were with him each covered his head, and they went up, weeping as they went up.
31 Someone told David, saying, "Ahithophel is among the conspirators with Absalom."
David said, "LORD, please turn the counsel of Ahithophel into foolishness."
32 When David had come to the top, where God was worshiped, behold, Hushai the Archite came to meet him with his tunic torn and earth on his head.
33 David said to him, "If you pass on with me, then you will be a burden to me;
34 but if you return to the city, and tell Absalom, 'I will be your servant, O king. As I have been your father's servant in time past, so I will now be your servant; then you will defeat for me the counsel of Ahithophel.'
35 Don't you have Zadok and Abiathar the priests there with you? Therefore whatever you hear out of the king's house, tell it to Zadok and Abiathar the priests.
36 Behold, they have there with them their two sons, Ahimaaz, Zadok's son, and Jonathan, Abiathar's son. Send to me everything that you shall hear by them."
37 So Hushai, David's friend, came into the city; and Absalom came into Jerusalem.

16

1 When David was a little past the top, behold, Ziba the servant of Mephibosheth met him with a couple of donkeys saddled, and on them two hundred loaves of bread, and one hundred clusters of raisins, and one hundred summer fruits, and a container of wine.
2 The king said to Ziba, "What do you mean by these?"

Ziba said, “The donkeys are for the king’s household to ride on; and the bread and summer fruit for the young men to eat; and the wine, that those who are faint in the wilderness may drink.”
3 The king said, “Where is your master’s son?”
Ziba said to the king, “Behold, he is staying in Jerusalem; for he said, ‘Today the house of Israel will restore me the kingdom of my father.’ ”
4 Then the king said to Ziba, “Behold, all that belongs to Mephibosheth is yours.”
Ziba said, “I bow down. Let me find favor in your sight, my lord, O king.”
5 When King David came to Bahurim, behold, a man of the family of Saul’s house came out, whose name was Shimei, the son of Gera. He came out and cursed as he came.
6 He cast stones at David and at all the servants of King David, and all the people and all the mighty men were on his right hand and on his left.
7 Shimei said when he cursed, “Be gone, be gone, you man of blood, and wicked fellow!
8 The LORD has returned on you all the blood of Saul’s house, in whose place you have reigned! The LORD has delivered the kingdom into the hand of Absalom your son! Behold, you are caught by your own mischief, because you are a man of blood!”
9 Then Abishai the son of Zeruiah said to the king, “Why should this dead dog curse my lord the king? Please let me go over and take off his head.”
10 The king said, “What have I to do with you, you sons of Zeruiah? Because he curses, and because the LORD has said to him, ‘Curse David,’ who then shall say, ‘Why have you done so?’ ”
11 David said to Abishai and to all his servants, “Behold, my son, who came out of my bowels, seeks my life. How much more this Benjamite, now? Leave him alone, and let him curse; for the LORD has invited him.
12 It may be that the LORD will look on the wrong done to me, and that the LORD will repay me good for the cursing of me today.”
13 So David and his men went by the way; and Shimei went along on the hillside opposite him and cursed as he went, threw stones at him, and threw dust.
14 The king and all the people who were with him arrived weary; and he refreshed himself there.
15 Absalom and all the people, the men of Israel, came to Jerusalem, and Ahithophel with him.
16 When Hushai the Archite, David’s friend, had come to Absalom, Hushai said to Absalom, “Long live the king! Long live the king!”
17 Absalom said to Hushai, “Is this your kindness to your friend? Why didn’t you go with your friend?”
18 Hushai said to Absalom, “No; but whomever the LORD and this people and all the men of Israel have chosen, I will be his, and I will stay with him.
19 Again, whom should I serve? Shouldn’t I serve in the presence of his son? As I have served in your father’s presence, so I will be in your presence.”
20 Then Absalom said to Ahithophel, “Give your counsel what we shall do.”
21 Ahithophel said to Absalom, “Go in to your father’s concubines that he has left to keep the house. Then all Israel will hear that you are abhorred by your father. Then the hands of all who are with you will be strong.”
22 So they spread a tent for Absalom on the top of the house, and Absalom went in to his father’s concubines in the sight of all Israel.
23 The counsel of Ahithophel, which he gave in those days, was as if a man inquired at the inner sanctuary of God. All the counsel of Ahithophel was like this both with David and with Absalom.

17

1 Moreover Ahithophel said to Absalom, “Let me now choose twelve thousand men, and I will arise and pursue after David tonight.
2 I will come on him while he is weary and exhausted, and will make him afraid.

All the people who are with him will flee. I will strike the king only,
3 and I will bring back all the people to you. The man whom you seek is as if all returned. All the people shall be in peace."
4 The saying pleased Absalom well, and all the elders of Israel.
5 Then Absalom said, "Now call Hushai the Archite also, and let's hear likewise what he says."
6 When Hushai had come to Absalom, Absalom spoke to him, saying, "Ahithophel has spoken like this. Shall we do what he says? If not, speak up."
7 Hushai said to Absalom, "The counsel that Ahithophel has given this time is not good."
8 Hushai said moreover, "You know your father and his men, that they are mighty men, and they are fierce in their minds, like a bear robbed of her cubs in the field. Your father is a man of war, and will not lodge with the people.
9 Behold, he is now hidden in some pit, or in some other place. It will happen, when some of them have fallen at the first, that whoever hears it will say, 'There is a slaughter among the people who follow Absalom!'
10 Even he who is valiant, whose heart is as the heart of a lion, will utterly melt; for all Israel knows that your father is a mighty man, and those who are with him are valiant men.
11 But I counsel that all Israel be gathered together to you, from Dan even to Beersheba, as the sand that is by the sea for multitude; and that you go to battle in your own person.
12 So we will come on him in some place where he will be found, and we will light on him as the dew falls on the ground, then we will not leave so much as one of him and of all the men who are with him.
13 Moreover, if he has gone into a city, then all Israel will bring ropes to that city, and we will draw it into the river, until there isn't one small stone found there."
14 Absalom and all the men of Israel said, "The counsel of Hushai the Archite is better than the counsel of Ahithophel." For the LORD had ordained to defeat the good counsel of Ahithophel, to the intent that the LORD might bring evil on Absalom.
15 Then Hushai said to Zadok and to Abiathar the priests, "Ahithophel counseled Absalom and the elders of Israel that way; and I have counseled this way.
16 Now therefore send quickly, and tell David, saying, 'Don't lodge tonight at the fords of the wilderness, but by all means pass over, lest the king be swallowed up, and all the people who are with him.' "
17 Now Jonathan and Ahimaaz were staying by En Rogel; and a female servant used to go and report to them, and they went and told King David; for they couldn't risk being seen coming into the city.
18 But a boy saw them, and told Absalom. Then they both went away quickly and came to the house of a man in Bahurim, who had a well in his court; and they went down there.
19 The woman took and spread the covering over the well's mouth, and spread out crushed grain on it; and nothing was known.
20 Absalom's servants came to the woman to the house; and they said, "Where are Ahimaaz and Jonathan?"

The woman said to them, "They have gone over the brook of water."

When they had sought and could not find them, they returned to Jerusalem.
21 After they had departed, they came up out of the well and went and told King David; and they said to David, "Arise and pass quickly over the water; for thus has Ahithophel counseled against you."

22 Then David arose, and all the people who were with him, and they passed over the Jordan. By the morning light there lacked not one of them who had not gone over the Jordan.

23 When Ahithophel saw that his counsel was not followed, he saddled his donkey, arose, and went home to his city, set his house in order, and hanged himself; and he died, and was buried in the tomb of his father.

24 Then David came to Mahanaim.
Absalom passed over the Jordan, he and
all the men of Israel with him.
25 Absalom set Amasa over the army
instead of Joab. Now Amasa was the son
of a man whose name was Ithra the
Israelite, who went in to Abigail the
daughter of Nahash, sister to Zeruiah,
Joab's mother.
26 Israel and Absalom encamped in the
land of Gilead.
27 When David had come to Mahanaim,
Shobi the son of Nahash of Rabbah of the
children of Ammon, and Machir the son
of Ammiel of Lodebar, and Barzillai the
Gileadite of Rogelim,
28 brought beds, basins, earthen vessels,
wheat, barley, meal, parched grain,
beans, lentils, roasted grain,
29 honey, butter, sheep, and cheese of
the herd, for David and for the people
who were with him to eat; for they said,
"The people are hungry, weary, and
thirsty in the wilderness."

18

1 David counted the people who were
with him, and set captains of thousands
and captains of hundreds over them.
2 David sent the people out, a third part
under the hand of Joab, and a third part
under the hand of Abishai the son of
Zeruiah, Joab's brother, and a third part
under the hand of Ittai the Gittite. The
king said to the people, "I will also surely
go out with you myself."
3 But the people said, "You shall not go
out, for if we flee away, they will not care
for us, neither if half of us die, will they
care for us. But you are worth ten
thousand of us. Therefore now it is better
that you are ready to help us out of the
city."
4 The king said to them, "I will do what
seems best to you."
The king stood beside the gate, and all
the people went out by hundreds and by
thousands.
5 The king commanded Joab and
Abishai and Ittai, saying, "Deal gently for
my sake with the young man Absalom."
All the people heard when the king
commanded all the captains concerning
Absalom.
6 So the people went out into the field
against Israel; and the battle was in the
forest of Ephraim.
7 The people of Israel were struck there
before David's servants, and there was a
great slaughter there that day of twenty
thousand men.
8 For the battle was there spread over
the surface of all the country, and the
forest devoured more people that day
than the sword devoured.
9 Absalom happened to meet David's
servants. Absalom was riding on his
mule, and the mule went under the thick
boughs of a great oak; and his head
caught hold of the oak, and he was
hanging between the sky and earth; and
the mule that was under him went on.
10 A certain man saw it, and told Joab,
and said, "Behold, I saw Absalom hanging
in an oak."
11 Joab said to the man who told him,
"Behold, you saw it, and why didn't you
strike him there to the ground? I would
have given you ten pieces of silver and a
sash."
12 The man said to Joab, "Though I
should receive a thousand pieces of silver
in my hand, I still wouldn't stretch out my
hand against the king's son; for in our
hearing the king commanded you and
Abishai and Ittai, saying, 'Beware that no
one touch the young man Absalom.'
13 Otherwise, if I had dealt falsely
against his life (and there is no matter
hidden from the king), then you yourself
would have set yourself against me."
14 Then Joab said, "I'm not going to wait
like this with you." He took three darts in
his hand and thrust them through
Absalom's heart while he was still alive in
the middle of the oak.
15 Ten young men who bore Joab's
armor surrounded and struck Absalom,
and killed him.
16 Joab blew the trumpet, and the
people returned from pursuing after
Israel; for Joab held the people back.
17 They took Absalom and cast him into
a great pit in the forest, and raised over

him a very great heap of stones. Then all Israel fled, each to his own tent.
18 Now Absalom in his lifetime had taken and reared up for himself the pillar which is in the king's valley, for he said, "I have no son to keep my name in memory." He called the pillar after his own name. It is called Absalom's monument, to this day.
19 Then Ahimaaz the son of Zadok said, "Let me now run and carry the king news, how the LORD has avenged him of his enemies."
20 Joab said to him, "You must not be the bearer of news today, but you must carry news another day. But today you must carry no news, because the king's son is dead."
21 Then Joab said to the Cushite, "Go, tell the king what you have seen!" The Cushite bowed himself to Joab, and ran.
22 Then Ahimaaz the son of Zadok said yet again to Joab, "But come what may, please let me also run after the Cushite."
Joab said, "Why do you want to run, my son, since you will have no reward for the news?"
23 "But come what may," he said, "I will run."
He said to him, "Run!" Then Ahimaaz ran by the way of the Plain, and outran the Cushite.
24 Now David was sitting between the two gates; and the watchman went up to the roof of the gate to the wall, and lifted up his eyes and looked, and, behold, a man running alone.
25 The watchman shouted and told the king. The king said, "If he is alone, there is news in his mouth." He came closer and closer.
26 The watchman saw another man running; and the watchman called to the gatekeeper and said, "Behold, a man running alone!"
The king said, "He also brings news."
27 The watchman said, "I think the running of the first one is like the running of Ahimaaz the son of Zadok."
The king said, "He is a good man, and comes with good news."
28 Ahimaaz called, and said to the king, "All is well." He bowed himself before the king with his face to the earth, and said, "Blessed is the LORD your God, who has delivered up the men who lifted up their hand against my lord the king!"
29 The king said, "Is it well with the young man Absalom?"
Ahimaaz answered, "When Joab sent the king's servant, even me your servant, I saw a great tumult, but I don't know what it was."
30 The king said, "Come and stand here." He came and stood still.
31 Behold, the Cushite came. The Cushite said, "Good news for my lord the king, for the LORD has avenged you today of all those who rose up against you."
32 The king said to the Cushite, "Is it well with the young man Absalom?"
The Cushite answered, "May the enemies of my lord the king, and all who rise up against you to do you harm, be as that young man is."
33 The king was much moved, and went up to the room over the gate and wept. As he went, he said, "My son Absalom! My son, my son Absalom! I wish I had died instead of you, Absalom, my son, my son!"

19

1 Joab was told, "Behold, the king weeps and mourns for Absalom."
2 The victory that day was turned into mourning among all the people, for the people heard it said that day, "The king grieves for his son."
3 The people sneaked into the city that day, as people who are ashamed steal away when they flee in battle.
4 The king covered his face, and the king cried with a loud voice, "My son Absalom, Absalom, my son, my son!"
5 Joab came into the house to the king, and said, "Today you have shamed the faces of all your servants who today have saved your life, and the lives of your sons and of your daughters, and the lives of your wives, and the lives of your concubines;
6 in that you love those who hate you and hate those who love you. For you have declared today that princes and servants are nothing to you. For today I

perceive that if Absalom had lived and we had all died today, then it would have pleased you well.
7 Now therefore arise, go out and speak to comfort your servants; for I swear by the LORD, if you don't go out, not a man will stay with you this night. That would be worse to you than all the evil that has happened to you from your youth until now."
8 Then the king arose and sat in the gate. The people were all told, "Behold, the king is sitting in the gate." All the people came before the king. Now Israel had fled every man to his tent.
9 All the people were at strife throughout all the tribes of Israel, saying, "The king delivered us out of the hand of our enemies, and he saved us out of the hand of the Philistines; and now he has fled out of the land from Absalom.
10 Absalom, whom we anointed over us, is dead in battle. Now therefore why don't you speak a word of bringing the king back?"
11 King David sent to Zadok and to Abiathar the priests, saying, "Speak to the elders of Judah, saying, 'Why are you the last to bring the king back to his house, since the speech of all Israel has come to the king, to return him to his house?
12 You are my brothers. You are my bone and my flesh. Why then are you the last to bring back the king?'
13 Say to Amasa, 'Aren't you my bone and my flesh? God do so to me, and more also, if you aren't captain of the army before me continually instead of Joab.' "
14 He bowed the heart of all the men of Judah, even as one man, so that they sent to the king, saying, "Return, you and all your servants."
15 So the king returned, and came to the Jordan. Judah came to Gilgal, to go to meet the king, to bring the king over the Jordan.
16 Shimei the son of Gera, the Benjamite, who was of Bahurim, hurried and came down with the men of Judah to meet King David.
17 There were a thousand men of Benjamin with him, and Ziba the servant of Saul's house, and his fifteen sons and his twenty servants with him; and they went through the Jordan in the presence of the king.
18 A ferry boat went to bring over the king's household, and to do what he thought good.

Shimei the son of Gera fell down before the king when he had come over the Jordan.
19 He said to the king, "Don't let my lord impute iniquity to me, or remember that which your servant did perversely the day that my lord the king went out of Jerusalem, that the king should take it to his heart.
20 For your servant knows that I have sinned. Therefore behold, I have come today as the first of all the house of Joseph to go down to meet my lord the king."
21 But Abishai the son of Zeruiah answered, "Shouldn't Shimei be put to death for this, because he cursed the LORD's anointed?"
22 David said, "What have I to do with you, you sons of Zeruiah, that you should be adversaries to me today? Shall any man be put to death today in Israel? For don't I know that I am king over Israel today?"
23 The king said to Shimei, "You will not die." The king swore to him.
24 Mephibosheth the son of Saul came down to meet the king; and he had neither groomed his feet, nor trimmed his beard, nor washed his clothes, from the day the king departed until the day he came home in peace.
25 When he had come to Jerusalem to meet the king, the king said to him, "Why didn't you go with me, Mephibosheth?"
26 He answered, "My lord, O king, my servant deceived me. For your servant said, 'I will saddle a donkey for myself, that I may ride on it and go with the king,' because your servant is lame.
27 He has slandered your servant to my lord the king, but my lord the king is as an angel of God. Therefore do what is good in your eyes.
28 For all my father's house were but dead men before my lord the king; yet you

set your servant among those who ate at your own table. What right therefore have I yet that I should appeal any more to the king?"
29 The king said to him, "Why do you speak any more of your matters? I say, you and Ziba divide the land."
30 Mephibosheth said to the king, "Yes, let him take all, because my lord the king has come in peace to his own house."
31 Barzillai the Gileadite came down from Rogelim; and he went over the Jordan with the king to conduct him over the Jordan.
32 Now Barzillai was a very aged man, even eighty years old. He had provided the king with sustenance while he stayed at Mahanaim, for he was a very great man.
33 The king said to Barzillai, "Come over with me, and I will sustain you with me in Jerusalem."
34 Barzillai said to the king, "How many are the days of the years of my life, that I should go up with the king to Jerusalem?
35 I am eighty years old, today. Can I discern between good and bad? Can your servant taste what I eat or what I drink? Can I hear the voice of singing men and singing women any more? Why then should your servant be a burden to my lord the king?
36 Your servant will just go over the Jordan with the king. Why should the king repay me with such a reward?
37 Please let your servant turn back again, that I may die in my own city, by the grave of my father and my mother. But behold, your servant Chimham; let him go over with my lord the king; and do to him what shall seem good to you."
38 The king answered, "Chimham shall go over with me, and I will do to him that which shall seem good to you. Whatever you request of me, that I will do for you."
39 All the people went over the Jordan, and the king went over. Then the king kissed Barzillai and blessed him; and he returned to his own place.
40 So the king went over to Gilgal, and Chimham went over with him. All the people of Judah brought the king over, and also half the people of Israel.
41 Behold, all the men of Israel came to the king, and said to the king, "Why have our brothers the men of Judah stolen you away, and brought the king and his household, over the Jordan, and all David's men with him?"
42 All the men of Judah answered the men of Israel, "Because the king is a close relative to us. Why then are you angry about this matter? Have we eaten at all at the king's cost? Or has he given us any gift?"
43 The men of Israel answered the men of Judah, and said, "We have ten parts in the king, and we have also more claim to David than you. Why then did you despise us, that our advice should not be first had in bringing back our king?" The words of the men of Judah were fiercer than the words of the men of Israel.

20

1 There happened to be there a wicked fellow, whose name was Sheba the son of Bichri, a Benjamite; and he blew the trumpet, and said, "We have no portion in David, neither have we inheritance in the son of Jesse. Every man to his tents, Israel!"
2 So all the men of Israel went up from following David, and followed Sheba the son of Bichri; but the men of Judah joined with their king, from the Jordan even to Jerusalem.
3 David came to his house at Jerusalem; and the king took the ten women his concubines, whom he had left to keep the house, and put them in custody and provided them with sustenance, but didn't go in to them. So they were shut up to the day of their death, living in widowhood.
4 Then the king said to Amasa, "Call me the men of Judah together within three days, and be here present."
5 So Amasa went to call the men of Judah together, but he stayed longer than the set time which had been appointed to him.
6 David said to Abishai, "Now Sheba the son of Bichri will do us more harm than Absalom did. Take your lord's servants

and pursue after him, lest he get himself fortified cities, and escape out of our sight."
7 Joab's men went out after him with the Cherethites, the Pelethites, and all the mighty men; and they went out of Jerusalem to pursue Sheba the son of Bichri.
8 When they were at the great stone which is in Gibeon, Amasa came to meet them. Joab was clothed in his apparel of war that he had put on, and on it was a sash with a sword fastened on his waist in its sheath; and as he went along it fell out.
9 Joab said to Amasa, "Is it well with you, my brother?" Joab took Amasa by the beard with his right hand to kiss him.
10 But Amasa took no heed to the sword that was in Joab's hand. So he struck him with it in the body and shed out his bowels to the ground, and didn't strike him again; and he died. Joab and Abishai his brother pursued Sheba the son of Bichri.
11 One of Joab's young men stood by him, and said, "He who favors Joab, and he who is for David, let him follow Joab!"
12 Amasa lay wallowing in his blood in the middle of the highway. When the man saw that all the people stood still, he carried Amasa out of the highway into the field, and cast a garment over him when he saw that everyone who came by him stood still.
13 When he was removed out of the highway, all the people went on after Joab to pursue Sheba the son of Bichri.
14 He went through all the tribes of Israel to Abel, to Beth Maacah, and all the Berites. They were gathered together, and went also after him.
15 They came and besieged him in Abel of Beth Maacah, and they cast up a mound against the city, and it stood against the rampart; and all the people who were with Joab battered the wall to throw it down.
16 Then a wise woman cried out of the city, "Hear, hear! Please say to Joab, 'Come near here, that I may speak with you.' "
17 He came near to her; and the woman said, "Are you Joab?"
He answered, "I am."
Then she said to him, "Hear the words of your servant."
He answered, "I'm listening."
18 Then she spoke, saying, "They used to say in old times, 'They shall surely ask counsel at Abel,' and so they settled a matter.
19 I am among those who are peaceable and faithful in Israel. You seek to destroy a city and a mother in Israel. Why will you swallow up the LORD's inheritance?"
20 Joab answered, "Far be it, far be it from me, that I should swallow up or destroy.
21 The matter is not so. But a man of the hill country of Ephraim, Sheba the son of Bichri by name, has lifted up his hand against the king, even against David. Just deliver him, and I will depart from the city."
The woman said to Joab, "Behold, his head will be thrown to you over the wall."
22 Then the woman went to all the people in her wisdom. They cut off the head of Sheba the son of Bichri, and threw it out to Joab. He blew the trumpet, and they were dispersed from the city, every man to his tent. Then Joab returned to Jerusalem to the king.
23 Now Joab was over all the army of Israel, Benaiah the son of Jehoiada was over the Cherethites and over the Pelethites,
24 Adoram was over the men subject to forced labor, Jehoshaphat the son of Ahilud was the recorder,
25 Sheva was scribe, Zadok and Abiathar were priests,
26 and Ira the Jairite was chief minister to David.

21

1 There was a famine in the days of David for three years, year after year; and David sought the face of the LORD. The LORD said, "It is for Saul, and for his bloody house, because he put the Gibeonites to death."
2 The king called the Gibeonites and said to them (now the Gibeonites were not of the children of Israel, but of the remnant of the Amorites, and the children

of Israel had sworn to them; and Saul sought to kill them in his zeal for the children of Israel and Judah);
3 and David said to the Gibeonites, “What should I do for you? And with what should I make atonement, that you may bless the LORD’s inheritance?”
4 The Gibeonites said to him, “It is no matter of silver or gold between us and Saul or his house; neither is it for us to put any man to death in Israel.”
He said, “I will do for you whatever you say.”
5 They said to the king, “The man who consumed us and who plotted against us, that we should be destroyed from remaining in any of the borders of Israel,
6 let seven men of his sons be delivered to us, and we will hang them up to the LORD in Gibeah of Saul, the chosen of the LORD.”
The king said, “I will give them.”
7 But the king spared Mephibosheth the son of Jonathan the son of Saul, because of the LORD’s oath that was between them, between David and Jonathan the son of Saul.
8 But the king took the two sons of Rizpah the daughter of Aiah, whom she bore to Saul, Armoni and Mephibosheth; and the five sons of Merab the daughter of Saul, whom she bore to Adriel the son of Barzillai the Meholathite.
9 He delivered them into the hands of the Gibeonites; and they hanged them on the mountain before the LORD, and all seven of them fell together. They were put to death in the days of harvest, in the first days, at the beginning of barley harvest.
10 Rizpah the daughter of Aiah took sackcloth and spread it for herself on the rock, from the beginning of harvest until water poured on them from the sky. She allowed neither the birds of the sky to rest on them by day, nor the animals of the field by night.
11 David was told what Rizpah the daughter of Aiah, the concubine of Saul, had done.
12 So David went and took the bones of Saul and the bones of Jonathan his son from the men of Jabesh Gilead, who had stolen them from the street of Beth Shan, where the Philistines had hanged them in the day that the Philistines killed Saul in Gilboa;
13 and he brought up from there the bones of Saul and the bones of Jonathan his son. They also gathered the bones of those who were hanged.
14 They buried the bones of Saul and Jonathan his son in the country of Benjamin in Zela, in the tomb of Kish his father; and they performed all that the king commanded. After that, God answered prayer for the land.
15 The Philistines had war again with Israel; and David went down, and his servants with him, and fought against the Philistines. David grew faint;
16 and Ishbibenob, who was of the sons of the giant, the weight of whose spear was three hundred shekels of bronze in weight, he being armed with a new sword, thought he would kill David.
17 But Abishai the son of Zeruiah helped him, and struck the Philistine and killed him. Then the men of David swore to him, saying, “Don’t go out with us to battle any more, so that you don’t quench the lamp of Israel.”
18 After this, there was again war with the Philistines at Gob. Then Sibbecai the Hushathite killed Saph, who was of the sons of the giant.
19 There was again war with the Philistines at Gob, and Elhanan the son of Jaare-Oregim the Bethlehemite killed Goliath the Gittite’s brother, the staff of whose spear was like a weaver’s beam.
20 There was again war at Gath, where there was a man of great stature, who had six fingers on every hand and six toes on every foot, twenty-four in number, and he also was born to the giant.
21 When he defied Israel, Jonathan the son of Shimei, David’s brother, killed him.
22 These four were born to the giant in Gath; and they fell by the hand of David and by the hand of his servants.

22

1 David spoke to the LORD the words of this song in the day that the LORD

delivered him out of the hand of all his
enemies, and out of the hand of Saul,
2 and he said:
"The LORD is my rock,
my fortress,
and my deliverer, even mine;
3 God is my rock in whom I take refuge;
my shield, and the horn of my
salvation,
my high tower, and my refuge.
My savior, you save me from
violence.
4 I call on the LORD, who is worthy to be
praised;
So shall I be saved from my enemies.

5 For the waves of death surrounded me.
The floods of ungodliness made me
afraid.
6 The cords of Sheol† were around me.
The snares of death caught me.
7 In my distress, I called on the LORD.
Yes, I called to my God.
He heard my voice out of his temple.
My cry came into his ears.
8 Then the earth shook and trembled.
The foundations of heaven quaked
and were shaken,
because he was angry.
9 Smoke went up out of his nostrils.
Consuming fire came out of his
mouth.
Coals were kindled by it.
10 He bowed the heavens also, and came
down.
Thick darkness was under his feet.
11 He rode on a cherub, and flew.
Yes, he was seen on the wings of the
wind.
12 He made darkness a shelter around
himself,
gathering of waters, and thick clouds
of the skies.
13 At the brightness before him,
coals of fire were kindled.
14 The LORD thundered from heaven.
The Most High uttered his voice.
15 He sent out arrows and scattered them,
lightning and confused them.
16 Then the channels of the sea appeared.
The foundations of the world were
laid bare by the LORD's rebuke,
at the blast of the breath of his
nostrils.

17 He sent from on high and he took me.
He drew me out of many waters.
18 He delivered me from my strong enemy,
from those who hated me, for they
were too mighty for me.
19 They came on me in the day of my
calamity,
but the LORD was my support.
20 He also brought me out into a large
place.
He delivered me, because he
delighted in me.

21 The LORD rewarded me according to
my righteousness.
He rewarded me according to the
cleanness of my hands.
22 For I have kept the LORD's ways,
and have not wickedly departed from
my God.
23 For all his ordinances were before me.
As for his statutes, I didn't depart
from them.
24 I was also perfect toward him.
I kept myself from my iniquity.
25 Therefore the LORD has rewarded me
according to my righteousness,
According to my cleanness in his
eyesight.

26 With the merciful you will show
yourself merciful.
With the perfect man you will show
yourself perfect.
27 With the pure you will show
yourself pure.
With the crooked you will show
yourself shrewd.
28 You will save the afflicted people,
but your eyes are on the arrogant,
that you may bring them down.
29 For you are my lamp, LORD.
The LORD will light up my darkness.
30 For by you, I run against a troop.
By my God, I leap over a wall.
31 As for God, his way is perfect.
The LORD's word is tested.

† **22:6** Sheol is the place of the dead.

He is a shield to all those who take
refuge in him.

32 For who is God, besides the LORD?
Who is a rock, besides our God?
33 God is my strong fortress.
He makes my way perfect.
34 He makes his feet like hinds' feet,
and sets me on my high places.
35 He teaches my hands to war,
so that my arms bend a bow of
bronze.
36 You have also given me the shield of
your salvation.
Your gentleness has made me great.
37 You have enlarged my steps under me.
My feet have not slipped.
38 I have pursued my enemies and
destroyed them.
I didn't turn again until they were
consumed.
39 I have consumed them,
and struck them through,
so that they can't arise.
Yes, they have fallen under my feet.
40 For you have armed me with strength
for the battle.
You have subdued under me those
who rose up against me.
41 You have also made my enemies turn
their backs to me,
that I might cut off those who hate me.
42 They looked, but there was no one to
save;
even to the LORD, but he didn't
answer them.
43 Then I beat them as small as the dust of
the earth.
I crushed them as the mire of the
streets, and spread them abroad.

44 You also have delivered me from the
strivings of my people.
You have kept me to be the head of
the nations.
A people whom I have not known will
serve me.
45 The foreigners will submit themselves
to me.
As soon as they hear of me, they will
obey me.
46 The foreigners will fade away,
and will come trembling out of their
close places.

47 The LORD lives!
Blessed be my rock!
Exalted be God, the rock of my salvation,
48 even the God who executes
vengeance for me,
who brings down peoples under me,
49 who brings me away from my
enemies.
Yes, you lift me up above those who rise
up against me.
You deliver me from the violent man.
50 Therefore I will give thanks to you,
LORD, among the nations,
and will sing praises to your name.
51 He gives great deliverance to his king,
and shows loving kindness to his
anointed,
to David and to his offspring, forever
more."

23

1 Now these are the last words of David.
David the son of Jesse says,
the man who was raised on high says,
the anointed of the God of Jacob,
the sweet psalmist of Israel:
2 "The LORD's Spirit spoke by me.
His word was on my tongue.
3 The God of Israel said,
the Rock of Israel spoke to me,
'One who rules over men righteously,
who rules in the fear of God,
4 shall be as the light of the morning when
the sun rises,
a morning without clouds,
when the tender grass springs out of
the earth,
through clear shining after rain.'

5 Isn't my house so with God?
Yet he has made with me an
everlasting covenant,
ordered in all things, and sure,
for it is all my salvation and all my
desire.
Won't he make it grow?
6 But all the ungodly will be as thorns to be
thrust away,
because they can't be taken with the
hand.
7 The man who touches them must be
armed with iron and the staff of a
spear.

They will be utterly burned with fire in
their place."
8 These are the names of the mighty
men whom David had: Josheb
Basshebeth, a Tahchemonite, chief of the
captains; he was called Adino the Eznite,
who killed eight hundred at one time.
9 After him was Eleazar the son of Dodai
the son of an Ahohite, one of the three
mighty men with David when they defied
the Philistines who were there gathered
together to battle, and the men of Israel
had gone away.
10 He arose and struck the Philistines
until his hand was weary, and his hand
froze to the sword; and the LORD worked
a great victory that day; and the people
returned after him only to take plunder.
11 After him was Shammah the son of
Agee, a Hararite. The Philistines had
gathered together into a troop where
there was a plot of ground full of lentils;
and the people fled from the Philistines.
12 But he stood in the middle of the plot
and defended it, and killed the Philistines;
and the LORD worked a great victory.
13 Three of the thirty chief men went
down, and came to David in the harvest
time to the cave of Adullam; and the troop
of the Philistines was encamped in the
valley of Rephaim.
14 David was then in the stronghold; and
the garrison of the Philistines was then in
Bethlehem.
15 David said longingly, "Oh that
someone would give me water to drink
from the well of Bethlehem, which is by
the gate!"
16 The three mighty men broke through
the army of the Philistines, and drew
water out of the well of Bethlehem that
was by the gate and took it and brought it
to David; but he would not drink of it, but
poured it out to the LORD.
17 He said, "Be it far from me, LORD,
that I should do this! Isn't this the blood of
the men who risked their lives to go?"
Therefore he would not drink it. The
three mighty men did these things.
18 Abishai, the brother of Joab, the son
of Zeruiah, was chief of the three. He
lifted up his spear against three hundred
and killed them, and had a name among
the three.
19 Wasn't he most honorable of the
three? Therefore he was made their
captain. However he wasn't included as
one of the three.
20 Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, the son
of a valiant man of Kabzeel, who had
done mighty deeds, killed the two sons of
Ariel of Moab. He also went down and
killed a lion in the middle of a pit in a time
of snow.
21 He killed a huge Egyptian, and the
Egyptian had a spear in his hand; but he
went down to him with a staff and
plucked the spear out of the Egyptian's
hand, and killed him with his own spear.
22 Benaiah the son of Jehoiada did these
things, and had a name among the three
mighty men.
23 He was more honorable than the
thirty, but he didn't attain to the three.
David set him over his guard.
24 Asahel the brother of Joab was one of
the thirty: Elhanan the son of Dodo of
Bethlehem,
25 Shammah the Harodite, Elika the
Harodite,
26 Helez the Paltite, Ira the son of Ikkesh
the Tekoite,
27 Abiezer the Anathothite, Mebunnai
the Hushathite,
28 Zalmon the Ahohite, Maharai the
Netophathite,
29 Heleb the son of Baanah the
Netophathite, Ittai the son of Ribai of
Gibeah of the children of Benjamin,
30 Benaiah a Pirathonite, Hiddai of the
brooks of Gaash.
31 Abialbon the Arbathite, Azmaveth the
Barhumite,
32 Eliahba the Shaalbonite, the sons of
Jashen, Jonathan,
33 Shammah the Hararite, Ahiam the
son of Sharar the Ararite,
34 Eliphelet the son of Ahasbai, the son
of the Maacathite, Eliam the son of
Ahithophel the Gilonite,
35 Hezro the Carmelite, Paarai the
Arbite,
36 Igal the son of Nathan of Zobah, Bani
the Gadite,

37 Zelek the Ammonite, Naharai the
Beerothite, armor bearers to Joab the son
of Zeruiah,
38 Ira the Ithrite, Gareb the Ithrite,
39 and Uriah the Hittite: thirty-seven in
all.

24

1 Again the LORD's anger burned
against Israel, and he moved David
against them, saying, "Go, count Israel
and Judah."
2 The king said to Joab the captain of the
army, who was with him, "Now go back
and forth through all the tribes of Israel,
from Dan even to Beersheba, and count
the people, that I may know the sum of the
people."
3 Joab said to the king, "Now may the
LORD your God add to the people,
however many they may be, one hundred
times; and may the eyes of my lord the
king see it. But why does my lord the king
delight in this thing?"
4 Notwithstanding, the king's word
prevailed against Joab and against the
captains of the army. Joab and the
captains of the army went out from the
presence of the king to count the people of
Israel.
5 They passed over the Jordan and
encamped in Aroer, on the right side of
the city that is in the middle of the valley
of Gad, and to Jazer;
6 then they came to Gilead and to the
land of Tahtim Hodshi; and they came to
Dan Jaan and around to Sidon,
7 and came to the stronghold of Tyre,
and to all the cities of the Hivites and of
the Canaanites; and they went out to the
south of Judah, at Beersheba.
8 So when they had gone back and forth
through all the land, they came to
Jerusalem at the end of nine months and
twenty days.
9 Joab gave up the sum of the counting
of the people to the king; and there were
in Israel eight hundred thousand valiant
men who drew the sword, and the men of
Judah were five hundred thousand men.
10 David's heart struck him after he had
counted the people. David said to the
LORD, "I have sinned greatly in that
which I have done. But now, the LORD,
put away, I beg you, the iniquity of your
servant; for I have done very foolishly."
11 When David rose up in the morning,
the LORD's word came to the prophet Gad,
David's seer, saying,
12 "Go and speak to David, 'The LORD
says, "I offer you three things. Choose one
of them, that I may do it to you." ' "
13 So Gad came to David, and told him,
saying, "Shall seven years of famine come
to you in your land? Or will you flee three
months before your foes while they
pursue you? Or shall there be three days'
pestilence in your land? Now answer, and
consider what answer I shall return to
him who sent me."
14 David said to Gad, "I am in distress.
Let us fall now into the LORD's hand, for
his mercies are great. Let me not fall into
man's hand."
15 So the LORD sent a pestilence on
Israel from the morning even to the
appointed time; and seventy thousand
men died of the people from Dan even to
Beersheba.
16 When the angel stretched out his
hand toward Jerusalem to destroy it, the
LORD relented of the disaster, and said to
the angel who destroyed the people, "It is
enough. Now withdraw your hand." The
LORD's angel was by the threshing floor of
Araunah the Jebusite.
17 David spoke to the LORD when he
saw the angel who struck the people, and
said, "Behold, I have sinned, and I have
done perversely; but these sheep, what
have they done? Please let your hand be
against me, and against my father's
house."
18 Gad came that day to David and said
to him, "Go up, build an altar to the LORD
on the threshing floor of Araunah the
Jebusite."
19 David went up according to the
saying of Gad, as the LORD commanded.
20 Araunah looked out, and saw the king
and his servants coming on toward him.
Then Araunah went out and bowed

himself before the king with his face to
the ground.
21 Araunah said, “Why has my lord the
king come to his servant?”
David said, “To buy your threshing
floor, to build an altar to the LORD, that
the plague may be stopped from afflicting
the people.”
22 Araunah said to David, “Let my lord
the king take and offer up what seems
good to him. Behold, the cattle for the
burnt offering, and the threshing sledges
and the yokes of the oxen for the wood.
23 All this, O king, does Araunah give to
the king.” Araunah said to the king, “May
the LORD your God accept you.”
24 The king said to Araunah, “No, but I
will most certainly buy it from you for a
price. I will not offer burnt offerings to
the LORD my God which cost me nothing.”
So David bought the threshing floor and
the oxen for fifty shekels† of silver.
25 David built an altar to the LORD
there, and offered burnt offerings and
peace offerings. So the LORD was
entreated for the land, and the plague was
removed from Israel.

† **24:24** A shekel is about 10 grams or about 0.35 ounces, so 50 shekels is about 0.5 kilograms or 1.1 pounds.

The First Book of Kings

1 Now King David was old and advanced
in years; and they covered him with
clothes, but he couldn't keep warm.
2 Therefore his servants said to him,
"Let a young virgin be sought for my lord
the king. Let her stand before the king,
and cherish him; and let her lie in your
bosom, that my lord the king may keep
warm."
3 So they sought for a beautiful young
lady throughout all the borders of Israel,
and found Abishag the Shunammite, and
brought her to the king.
4 The young lady was very beautiful;
and she cherished the king, and served
him; but the king didn't know her
intimately.
5 Then Adonijah the son of Haggith
exalted himself, saying, "I will be king."
Then he prepared him chariots and
horsemen, and fifty men to run before
him.
6 His father had not displeased him at
any time in saying, "Why have you done
so?" and he was also a very handsome
man; and he was born after Absalom.
7 He conferred with Joab the son of
Zeruiah and with Abiathar the priest; and
they followed Adonijah and helped him.
8 But Zadok the priest, Benaiah the son
of Jehoiada, Nathan the prophet, Shimei,
Rei, and the mighty men who belonged to
David, were not with Adonijah.
9 Adonijah killed sheep, cattle, and
fatlings by the stone of Zoheleth, which is
beside En Rogel; and he called all his
brothers, the king's sons, and all the men
of Judah, the king's servants;
10 but he didn't call Nathan the prophet,
and Benaiah, and the mighty men, and
Solomon his brother.
11 Then Nathan spoke to Bathsheba the
mother of Solomon, saying, "Haven't you
heard that Adonijah the son of Haggith
reigns, and David our lord doesn't know
it?
12 Now therefore come, please let me
give you counsel, that you may save your
own life and your son Solomon's life.
13 Go in to King David, and tell him,
'Didn't you, my lord the king, swear to
your servant, saying, "Assuredly Solomon
your son shall reign after me, and he shall
sit on my throne"? Why then does
Adonijah reign?'
14 Behold,† while you are still talking
there with the king, I will also come in
after you and confirm your words."
15 Bathsheba went in to the king in his
room. The king was very old; and Abishag
the Shunammite was serving the king.
16 Bathsheba bowed and showed
respect to the king. The king said, "What
would you like?"
17 She said to him, "My lord, you swore
by the LORD‡ your God§ to your servant,
'Assuredly Solomon your son shall reign
after me, and he shall sit on my throne.'
18 Now, behold, Adonijah reigns; and
you, my lord the king, don't know it.
19 He has slain cattle and fatlings and
sheep in abundance, and has called all the
sons of the king, Abiathar the priest, and
Joab the captain of the army; but he hasn't
called Solomon your servant.
20 You, my lord the king, the eyes of all
Israel are on you, that you should tell
them who will sit on the throne of my lord
the king after him.
21 Otherwise it will happen, when my
lord the king sleeps with his fathers, that I
and my son Solomon will be considered
criminals."
22 Behold, while she was still talking
with the king, Nathan the prophet came
in.
23 They told the king, saying, "Behold,
Nathan the prophet!"
When he had come in before the king,
he bowed himself before the king with his
face to the ground.

† **1:14** "Behold", from "הִנֵּה", means look at, take notice, observe, see, or gaze at. It is often used as an interjection.
‡ **1:17** When rendered in ALL CAPITAL LETTERS, "LORD" or "GOD" is the translation of God's Proper Name (Hebrew "יהוה", usually pronounced Yahweh). § **1:17** The Hebrew word rendered "God" is "אֱלֹהִים" (Elohim).

24 Nathan said, “My lord, King, have you
said, ‘Adonijah shall reign after me, and
he shall sit on my throne’?
25 For he has gone down today, and has
slain cattle, fatlings, and sheep in
abundance, and has called all the king’s
sons, the captains of the army, and
Abiathar the priest. Behold, they are
eating and drinking before him, and
saying, ‘Long live King Adonijah!’
26 But he hasn’t called me, even me your
servant, Zadok the priest, Benaiah the son
of Jehoiada, and your servant Solomon.
27 Was this thing done by my lord the
king, and you haven’t shown to your
servants who should sit on the throne of
my lord the king after him?”
28 Then King David answered, “Call
Bathsheba in to me.” She came into the
king’s presence and stood before the king.
29 The king vowed and said, “As the
LORD lives, who has redeemed my soul
out of all adversity,
30 most certainly as I swore to you by the
LORD, the God of Israel, saying, ‘Assuredly
Solomon your son shall reign after me,
and he shall sit on my throne in my place;’
I will most certainly do this today.”
31 Then Bathsheba bowed with her face
to the earth and showed respect to the
king, and said, “Let my lord King David
live forever!”
32 King David said, “Call to me Zadok the
priest, Nathan the prophet, and Benaiah
the son of Jehoiada.” They came before
the king.
33 The king said to them, “Take with you
the servants of your lord, and cause
Solomon my son to ride on my own mule,
and bring him down to Gihon.
34 Let Zadok the priest and Nathan the
prophet anoint him there king over Israel.
Blow the trumpet, and say, ‘Long live King
Solomon!’
35 Then come up after him, and he shall
come and sit on my throne; for he shall be
king in my place. I have appointed him to
be prince over Israel and over Judah.”
36 Benaiah the son of Jehoiada answered
the king, and said, “Amen. May the LORD,
the God of my lord the king, say so.
37 As the LORD has been with my lord
the king, even so may he be with Solomon,
and make his throne greater than the
throne of my lord King David.”
38 So Zadok the priest, Nathan the
prophet, Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, and
the Cherethites and the Pelethites went
down and had Solomon ride on King
David’s mule, and brought him to Gihon.
39 Zadok the priest took the horn of oil
from the Tent, and anointed Solomon.
They blew the trumpet; and all the people
said, “Long live King Solomon!”
40 All the people came up after him, and
the people piped with pipes, and rejoiced
with great joy, so that the earth shook
with their sound.
41 Adonijah and all the guests who were
with him heard it as they had finished
eating. When Joab heard the sound of the
trumpet, he said, “Why is this noise of the
city being in an uproar?”
42 While he yet spoke, behold, Jonathan
the son of Abiathar the priest came; and
Adonijah said, “Come in; for you are a
worthy man, and bring good news.”
43 Jonathan answered Adonijah, “Most
certainly our lord King David has made
Solomon king.
44 The king has sent with him Zadok the
priest, Nathan the prophet, Benaiah the
son of Jehoiada, and the Cherethites and
the Pelethites; and they have caused him
to ride on the king’s mule.
45 Zadok the priest and Nathan the
prophet have anointed him king in Gihon.
They have come up from there rejoicing,
so that the city rang again. This is the
noise that you have heard.
46 Also, Solomon sits on the throne of
the kingdom.
47 Moreover the king’s servants came to
bless our lord King David, saying, ‘May
your God make the name of Solomon
better than your name, and make his
throne greater than your throne;’ and the
king bowed himself on the bed.
48 Also thus said the king, ‘Blessed be the
LORD, the God of Israel, who has given
one to sit on my throne today, my eyes
even seeing it.’ ”

49 All the guests of Adonijah were afraid,
and rose up, and each man went his way.
50 Adonijah was afraid because of
Solomon; and he arose, and went, and
hung onto the horns of the altar.
51 Solomon was told, "Behold, Adonijah
fears King Solomon; for, behold, he is
hanging onto the horns of the altar,
saying, 'Let King Solomon swear to me
first that he will not kill his servant with
the sword.' "
52 Solomon said, "If he shows himself a
worthy man, not a hair of his shall fall to
the earth; but if wickedness is found in
him, he shall die."
53 So King Solomon sent, and they
brought him down from the altar. He
came and bowed down to King Solomon;
and Solomon said to him, "Go to your
house."

2

1 Now the days of David came near that
he should die; and he commanded
Solomon his son, saying,
2 "I am going the way of all the earth.
You be strong therefore, and show
yourself a man;
3 and keep the instruction of the LORD
your God, to walk in his ways, to keep his
statutes, his commandments, his
ordinances, and his testimonies,
according to that which is written in the
law of Moses, that you may prosper in all
that you do and wherever you turn
yourself.
4 Then the LORD may establish his word
which he spoke concerning me, saying, 'If
your children are careful of their way, to
walk before me in truth with all their
heart and with all their soul, there shall
not fail you,' he said, 'a man on the throne
of Israel.'
5 "Moreover you know also what Joab
the son of Zeruiah did to me, even what he
did to the two captains of the armies of
Israel, to Abner the son of Ner and to
Amasa the son of Jether, whom he killed,
and shed the blood of war in peace, and
put the blood of war on his sash that was
around his waist and in his sandals that
were on his feet.
6 Do therefore according to your
wisdom, and don't let his gray head go
down to Sheol† in peace.
7 But show kindness to the sons of
Barzillai the Gileadite, and let them be
among those who eat at your table; for so
they came to me when I fled from
Absalom your brother.
8 "Behold, there is with you Shimei the
son of Gera, the Benjamite of Bahurim,
who cursed me with a grievous curse in
the day when I went to Mahanaim; but he
came down to meet me at the Jordan, and
I swore to him by the LORD, saying, 'I will
not put you to death with the sword.'
9 Now therefore don't hold him
guiltless, for you are a wise man; and you
will know what you ought to do to him,
and you shall bring his gray head down to
Sheol‡ with blood."
10 David slept with his fathers, and was
buried in David's city.
11 The days that David reigned over
Israel were forty years; he reigned seven
years in Hebron, and he reigned
thirty-three years in Jerusalem.
12 Solomon sat on David his father's
throne; and his kingdom was firmly
established.
13 Then Adonijah the son of Haggith
came to Bathsheba the mother of
Solomon. She said, "Do you come
peaceably?"
He said, "Peaceably.
14 He said moreover, I have something
to tell you."
She said, "Say on."
15 He said, "You know that the kingdom
was mine, and that all Israel set their
faces on me, that I should reign. However,
the kingdom is turned around, and has
become my brother's; for it was his from
the LORD.
16 Now I ask one petition of you. Don't
deny me."
She said to him, "Say on."
17 He said, "Please speak to Solomon the
king (for he will not tell you 'no'), that he

† **2:6** Sheol is the place of the dead. ‡ **2:9** Sheol is the place of the dead.

give me Abishag the Shunammite as
wife."
18 Bathsheba said, "All right. I will speak
for you to the king."
19 Bathsheba therefore went to King
Solomon, to speak to him for Adonijah.
The king rose up to meet her and bowed
himself to her, and sat down on his throne
and caused a throne to be set for the king's
mother; and she sat on his right hand.
20 Then she said, "I ask one small
petition of you; don't deny me."
The king said to her, "Ask on, my
mother, for I will not deny you."
21 She said, "Let Abishag the
Shunammite be given to Adonijah your
brother as wife."
22 King Solomon answered his mother,
"Why do you ask Abishag the Shunammite
for Adonijah? Ask for him the kingdom
also, for he is my elder brother; even for
him, and for Abiathar the priest, and for
Joab the son of Zeruiah."
23 Then King Solomon swore by the
LORD, saying, "God do so to me, and more
also, if Adonijah has not spoken this word
against his own life.
24 Now therefore as the LORD lives, who
has established me and set me on my
father David's throne, and who has made
me a house as he promised, surely
Adonijah shall be put to death today."
25 King Solomon sent Benaiah the son of
Jehoiada; and he fell on him, so that he
died.
26 To Abiathar the priest the king said,
"Go to Anathoth, to your own fields, for
you are worthy of death. But I will not at
this time put you to death, because you
bore the Lord§ GOD's ark before David
my father, and because you were afflicted
in all in which my father was afflicted."
27 So Solomon thrust Abiathar out from
being priest to the LORD, that he might
fulfill the LORD's word which he spoke
concerning the house of Eli in Shiloh.
28 This news came to Joab; for Joab had
followed Adonijah, although he didn't
follow Absalom. Joab fled to the LORD's
Tent, and held onto the horns of the altar.
29 King Solomon was told, "Joab has fled
to the LORD's Tent; and behold, he is by
the altar." Then Solomon sent Benaiah the
son of Jehoiada, saying, "Go, fall on him."
30 Benaiah came to the LORD's Tent, and
said to him, "The king says, 'Come out!' "
He said, "No; but I will die here."
Benaiah brought the king word again,
saying, "This is what Joab said, and this is
how he answered me."
31 The king said to him, "Do as he has
said, and fall on him, and bury him, that
you may take away the blood, which Joab
shed without cause, from me and from my
father's house.
32 The LORD will return his blood on his
own head, because he fell on two men
more righteous and better than he, and
killed them with the sword, and my father
David didn't know it: Abner the son of
Ner, captain of the army of Israel, and
Amasa the son of Jether, captain of the
army of Judah.
33 So their blood will return on the head
of Joab and on the head of his offspring†
forever. But for David, for his offspring,
for his house, and for his throne, there
will be peace forever from the LORD."
34 Then Benaiah the son of Jehoiada
went up and fell on him, and killed him;
and he was buried in his own house in the
wilderness.
35 The king put Benaiah the son of
Jehoiada in his place over the army; and
the king put Zadok the priest in the place
of Abiathar.
36 The king sent and called for Shimei,
and said to him, "Build yourself a house in
Jerusalem, and live there, and don't go
anywhere else.
37 For on the day you go out and pass
over the brook Kidron, know for certain
that you will surely die. Your blood will be
on your own head."
38 Shimei said to the king, "What you say
is good. As my lord the king has said, so
will your servant do." Shimei lived in
Jerusalem many days.
39 At the end of three years, two of
Shimei's slaves ran away to Achish, son of

§ **2:26** The word translated "Lord" is "Adonai." † **2:33** or, seed

Maacah, king of Gath. They told Shimei, saying, “Behold, your slaves are in Gath.”

40 Shimei arose, saddled his donkey, and went to Gath to Achish to seek his slaves; and Shimei went and brought his slaves from Gath.
41 Solomon was told that Shimei had gone from Jerusalem to Gath, and had come again.

42 The king sent and called for Shimei, and said to him, “Didn’t I adjure you by the LORD and warn you, saying, ‘Know for certain that on the day you go out and walk anywhere else, you shall surely die’? You said to me, ‘The saying that I have heard is good.’
43 Why then have you not kept the oath of the LORD and the commandment that I have instructed you with?”
44 The king said moreover to Shimei, “You know in your heart all the wickedness that you did to David my father. Therefore the LORD will return your wickedness on your own head.
45 But King Solomon will be blessed, and David’s throne will be established before the LORD forever.”
46 So the king commanded Benaiah the son of Jehoiada; and he went out, and fell on him, so that he died. The kingdom was established in the hand of Solomon.

3

1 Solomon made a marriage alliance with Pharaoh king of Egypt. He took Pharaoh’s daughter and brought her into David’s city until he had finished building his own house, the LORD’s house, and the wall around Jerusalem.
2 However, the people sacrificed in the high places, because there was not yet a house built for the LORD’s name.
3 Solomon loved the LORD, walking in the statutes of David his father, except that he sacrificed and burned incense in the high places.
4 The king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there, for that was the great high place. Solomon offered a thousand burnt offerings on that altar.

5 In Gibeon, the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, “Ask for what I should give you.”

6 Solomon said, “You have shown to your servant David my father great loving kindness, because he walked before you in truth, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart with you. You have kept for him this great loving kindness, that you have given him a son to sit on his throne, as it is today.
7 Now, LORD my God, you have made your servant king instead of David my father. I am just a little child. I don’t know how to go out or come in.
8 Your servant is among your people which you have chosen, a great people, that can’t be numbered or counted for multitude.
9 Give your servant therefore an understanding heart to judge your people, that I may discern between good and evil; for who is able to judge this great people of yours?”

10 This request pleased the Lord, that Solomon had asked this thing.
11 God said to him, “Because you have asked this thing, and have not asked for yourself long life, nor have you asked for riches for yourself, nor have you asked for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern justice,
12 behold, I have done according to your word. Behold, I have given you a wise and understanding heart, so that there has been no one like you before you, and after you none will arise like you.
13 I have also given you that which you have not asked, both riches and honor, so that there will not be any among the kings like you for all your days.
14 If you will walk in my ways, to keep my statutes and my commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your days.”

15 Solomon awoke; and behold, it was a dream. Then he came to Jerusalem and stood before the ark of the LORD’s covenant, and offered up burnt offerings,

offered peace offerings, and made a feast for all his servants.
16 Then two women who were prostitutes came to the king, and stood before him.
17 The one woman said, “Oh, my lord, I and this woman dwell in one house. I delivered a child with her in the house.
18 The third day after I delivered, this woman delivered also. We were together. There was no stranger with us in the house, just us two in the house.
19 This woman’s child died in the night, because she lay on it.
20 She arose at midnight, and took my son from beside me while your servant slept, and laid it in her bosom, and laid her dead child in my bosom.
21 When I rose in the morning to nurse my child, behold, he was dead; but when I had looked at him in the morning, behold, it was not my son whom I bore.”
22 The other woman said, “No! But the living one is my son, and the dead one is your son.”
The first one said, “No! But the dead one is your son, and the living one is my son.” They argued like this before the king.
23 Then the king said, “One says, ‘This is my son who lives, and your son is the dead one;’ and the other says, ‘No! But your son is the dead one, and my son is the living one.’ ”
24 The king said, “Get me a sword.” So they brought a sword before the king.
25 The king said, “Divide the living child in two, and give half to the one, and half to the other.”
26 Then the woman whose the living child was spoke to the king, for her heart yearned over her son, and she said, “Oh, my lord, give her the living child, and in no way kill him!”
But the other said, “He shall be neither mine nor yours. Divide him.”
27 Then the king answered, “Give the first woman the living child, and definitely do not kill him. She is his mother.”
28 All Israel heard of the judgment which the king had judged; and they feared the king, for they saw that the wisdom of God was in him to do justice.

4

1 King Solomon was king over all Israel.
2 These were the princes whom he had: Azariah the son of Zadok, the priest;
3 Elihoreph and Ahijah, the sons of Shisha, scribes; Jehoshaphat the son of Ahilud, the recorder;
4 Benaiah the son of Jehoiada was over the army; Zadok and Abiathar were priests;
5 Azariah the son of Nathan was over the officers; Zabud the son of Nathan was chief minister, the king’s friend;
6 Ahishar was over the household; and Adoniram the son of Abda was over the men subject to forced labor.
7 Solomon had twelve officers over all Israel, who provided food for the king and his household. Each man had to make provision for a month in the year.
8 These are their names: Ben Hur, in the hill country of Ephraim;
9 Ben Deker, in Makaz, in Shaalbim, Beth Shemesh, and Elon Beth Hanan;
10 Ben Hesed, in Arubboth (Socoh and all the land of Hepher belonged to him);
11 Ben Abinadab, in all the height of Dor (he had Taphath, Solomon’s daughter, as wife);
12 Baana the son of Ahilud, in Taanach and Megiddo, and all Beth Shean which is beside Zarethan, beneath Jezreel, from Beth Shean to Abel Meholah, as far as beyond Jokmeam;
13 Ben Geber, in Ramoth Gilead (the towns of Jair the son of Manasseh, which are in Gilead, belonged to him; and the region of Argob, which is in Bashan, sixty great cities with walls and bronze bars, belonged to him);
14 Ahinadab the son of Iddo, in Mahanaim;
15 Ahimaaz, in Naphtali (he also took Basemath the daughter of Solomon as wife);
16 Baana the son of Hushai, in Asher and Bealoth;
17 Jehoshaphat the son of Paruah, in Issachar;

18 Shimei the son of Ela, in Benjamin;
19 Geber the son of Uri, in the land of Gilead, the country of Sihon king of the Amorites and of Og king of Bashan; and he was the only officer who was in the land.

20 Judah and Israel were numerous as the sand which is by the sea in multitude, eating and drinking and making merry.
21 Solomon ruled over all the kingdoms from the River to the land of the Philistines, and to the border of Egypt. They brought tribute and served Solomon all the days of his life.
22 Solomon's provision for one day was thirty cors† of fine flour, sixty measures of meal,
23 ten head of fat cattle, twenty head of cattle out of the pastures, and one hundred sheep, in addition to deer, gazelles, roebucks, and fattened fowl.
24 For he had dominion over all on this side of the River, from Tiphsah even to Gaza, over all the kings on this side of the River; and he had peace on all sides around him.
25 Judah and Israel lived safely, every man under his vine and under his fig tree, from Dan even to Beersheba, all the days of Solomon.
26 Solomon had forty thousand stalls of horses for his chariots, and twelve thousand horsemen.
27 Those officers provided food for King Solomon, and for all who came to King Solomon's table, every man in his month. They let nothing be lacking.
28 They also brought barley and straw for the horses and swift steeds to the place where the officers were, each man according to his duty.
29 God gave Solomon abundant wisdom, understanding, and breadth of mind like the sand that is on the seashore.
30 Solomon's wisdom excelled the wisdom of all the children of the east and all the wisdom of Egypt.
31 For he was wiser than all men—wiser than Ethan the Ezrahite, Heman, Calcol, and Darda, the sons of Mahol; and his fame was in all the nations all around.
32 He spoke three thousand proverbs, and his songs numbered one thousand five.
33 He spoke of trees, from the cedar that is in Lebanon even to the hyssop that grows out of the wall; he also spoke of animals, of birds, of creeping things, and of fish.
34 People of all nations came to hear the wisdom of Solomon, sent by all kings of the earth who had heard of his wisdom.

5

1 Hiram king of Tyre sent his servants to Solomon, for he had heard that they had anointed him king in the place of his father, and Hiram had always loved David.
2 Solomon sent to Hiram, saying,
3 "You know that David my father could not build a house for the name of the LORD his God because of the wars which were around him on every side, until the LORD put his enemies under the soles of his feet.
4 But now the LORD my God has given me rest on every side. There is no enemy and no evil occurrence.
5 Behold, I intend to build a house for the name of the LORD my God, as the LORD spoke to David my father, saying, 'Your son, whom I will set on your throne in your place shall build the house for my name.'
6 Now therefore command that cedar trees be cut for me out of Lebanon. My servants will be with your servants; and I will give you wages for your servants according to all that you say. For you know that there is nobody among us who knows how to cut timber like the Sidonians."
7 When Hiram heard the words of Solomon, he rejoiced greatly, and said, "Blessed is the LORD today, who has given to David a wise son to rule over this great people."
8 Hiram sent to Solomon, saying, "I have heard the message which you have sent to me. I will do all your desire concerning

† **4:22** 1 cor is the same as a homer, or about 55.9 U. S. gallons (liquid) or 211 liters or 6 bushels

timber of cedar, and concerning cypress timber.
9 My servants will bring them down from Lebanon to the sea. I will make them into rafts to go by sea to the place that you specify to me, and will cause them to be broken up there, and you will receive them. You will accomplish my desire, in giving food for my household."
10 So Hiram gave Solomon cedar timber and cypress timber according to all his desire.
11 Solomon gave Hiram twenty thousand cors† of wheat for food to his household, and twenty cors‡ of pure oil. Solomon gave this to Hiram year by year.
12 The LORD gave Solomon wisdom, as he promised him. There was peace between Hiram and Solomon, and the two of them made a treaty together.
13 King Solomon raised a levy out of all Israel; and the levy was thirty thousand men.
14 He sent them to Lebanon, ten thousand a month by courses: for a month they were in Lebanon, and two months at home; and Adoniram was over the men subject to forced labor.
15 Solomon had seventy thousand who bore burdens, and eighty thousand who were stone cutters in the mountains,
16 besides Solomon's chief officers who were over the work: three thousand three hundred who ruled over the people who labored in the work.
17 The king commanded, and they cut out large stones, costly stones, to lay the foundation of the house with worked stone.
18 Solomon's builders and Hiram's builders and the Gebalites cut them, and prepared the timber and the stones to build the house.

6

1 In the four hundred and eightieth year after the children of Israel had come out of the land of Egypt, in the fourth year of Solomon's reign over Israel, in the month Ziv, which is the second month, he began to build the LORD's house.
2 The house which King Solomon built for the LORD had a length of sixty cubits,† and its width twenty, and its height thirty cubits.
3 The porch in front of the temple of the house had a length of twenty cubits, which was along the width of the house. Ten cubits was its width in front of the house.
4 He made windows of fixed lattice work for the house.
5 Against the wall of the house, he built floors all around, against the walls of the house all around, both of the temple and of the inner sanctuary; and he made side rooms all around.
6 The lowest floor was five cubits wide, and the middle was six cubits wide, and the third was seven cubits wide; for on the outside he made offsets in the wall of the house all around, that the beams should not be inserted into the walls of the house.
7 The house, when it was under construction, was built of stone prepared at the quarry; and no hammer or ax or any tool of iron was heard in the house while it was under construction.
8 The door for the middle side rooms was in the right side of the house. They went up by winding stairs into the middle floor, and out of the middle into the third.
9 So he built the house and finished it; and he covered the house with beams and planks of cedar.
10 He built the floors all along the house, each five cubits high; and they rested on the house with timbers of cedar.
11 The LORD's word came to Solomon, saying,
12 "Concerning this house which you are building, if you will walk in my statutes, and execute my ordinances, and keep all my commandments to walk in them, then I will establish my word with you, which I spoke to David your father.
13 I will dwell among the children of Israel, and will not forsake my people Israel."

† **5:11** 20,000 cors would be about 120,000 bushels or about 4.2 megaliters of wheat, which would weigh about 3,270 metric tons. ‡ **5:11** 20 cors is about 1,100 gallons or about 4220 liters. † **6:2** A cubit is the length from the tip of the middle finger to the elbow on a man's arm, or about 18 inches or 46 centimeters.

14 So Solomon built the house and
finished it.
15 He built the walls of the house within
with boards of cedar; from the floor of the
house to the walls of the ceiling, he
covered them on the inside with wood. He
covered the floor of the house with
cypress boards.
16 He built twenty cubits of the back
part of the house with boards of cedar
from the floor to the ceiling. He built this
within, for an inner sanctuary, even for
the most holy place.
17 In front of the temple sanctuary was
forty cubits long.
18 There was cedar on the house within,
carved with buds and open flowers. All
was cedar. No stone was visible.
19 He prepared an inner sanctuary in
the middle of the house within, to set the
ark of the LORD's covenant there.
20 Within the inner sanctuary was
twenty cubits in length, and twenty cubits
in width, and twenty cubits in its height.
He overlaid it with pure gold. He covered
the altar with cedar.
21 So Solomon overlaid the house within
with pure gold. He drew chains of gold
across before the inner sanctuary, and he
overlaid it with gold.
22 He overlaid the whole house with
gold, until all the house was finished. He
also overlaid the whole altar that
belonged to the inner sanctuary with gold.
23 In the inner sanctuary he made two
cherubim‡ of olive wood, each ten cubits
high.
24 Five cubits was the length of one wing
of the cherub, and five cubits was the
length of the other wing of the cherub.
From the tip of one wing to the tip of the
other was ten cubits.
25 The other cherub was ten cubits. Both
the cherubim were of one measure and
one form.
26 One cherub was ten cubits high, and
so was the other cherub.
27 He set the cherubim within the inner
house. The wings of the cherubim were
stretched out, so that the wing of the one
touched the one wall and the wing of the
other cherub touched the other wall; and
their wings touched one another in the
middle of the house.
28 He overlaid the cherubim with gold.
29 He carved all the walls of the house
around with carved figures of cherubim,
palm trees, and open flowers, inside and
outside.
30 He overlaid the floor of the house
with gold, inside and outside.
31 For the entrance of the inner
sanctuary, he made doors of olive wood.
The lintel and door posts were a fifth part
of the wall.
32 So he made two doors of olive wood;
and he carved on them carvings of
cherubim, palm trees, and open flowers,
and overlaid them with gold. He spread
the gold on the cherubim and on the palm
trees.
33 He also made the entrance of the
temple door posts of olive wood, out of a
fourth part of the wall,
34 and two doors of cypress wood. The
two leaves of the one door were folding,
and the two leaves of the other door were
folding.
35 He carved cherubim, palm trees, and
open flowers; and he overlaid them with
gold fitted on the engraved work.
36 He built the inner court with three
courses of cut stone and a course of cedar
beams.
37 The foundation of the LORD's house
was laid in the fourth year, in the month
Ziv.
38 In the eleventh year, in the month
Bul, which is the eighth month, the house
was finished throughout all its parts and
according to all its specifications. So he
spent seven years building it.

7

1 Solomon was building his own house
thirteen years, and he finished all his
house.
2 For he built the House of the Forest of
Lebanon. Its length was one hundred
cubits,† its width fifty cubits, and its
height thirty cubits, on four rows of cedar
pillars, with cedar beams on the pillars.

‡ **6:23** "Cherubim" is plural of "cherub", an angelic being. † **7:2** A cubit is the length from the tip of the middle finger to the elbow on a man's arm, or about 18 inches or 46 centimeters.

3 It was covered with cedar above over
the forty-five beams that were on the
pillars, fifteen in a row.
4 There were beams in three rows, and
window was facing window in three
ranks.
5 All the doors and posts were made
square with beams; and window was
facing window in three ranks.
6 He made the hall of pillars. Its length
was fifty cubits and its width thirty cubits,
with a porch before them, and pillars and
a threshold before them.
7 He made the porch of the throne
where he was to judge, even the porch of
judgment; and it was covered with cedar
from floor to floor.
8 His house where he was to dwell, the
other court within the porch, was of the
same construction. He made also a house
for Pharaoh's daughter (whom Solomon
had taken as wife), like this porch.
9 All these were of costly stones, even of
stone cut according to measure, sawed
with saws, inside and outside, even from
the foundation to the coping, and so on
the outside to the great court.
10 The foundation was of costly stones,
even great stones, stones of ten cubits and
stones of eight cubits.
11 Above were costly stones, even cut
stone, according to measure, and cedar
wood.
12 The great court around had three
courses of cut stone with a course of cedar
beams, like the inner court of the LORD's
house and the porch of the house.

13 King Solomon sent and brought
Hiram out of Tyre.
14 He was the son of a widow of the tribe
of Naphtali, and his father was a man of
Tyre, a worker in bronze; and he was
filled with wisdom and understanding
and skill to work all works in bronze. He
came to King Solomon and performed all
his work.
15 For he fashioned the two pillars of
bronze, eighteen cubits high apiece; and a
line of twelve cubits encircled either of
them.
16 He made two capitals of molten
bronze to set on the tops of the pillars. The
height of the one capital was five cubits,
and the height of the other capital was
five cubits.
17 There were nets of checker work and
wreaths of chain work for the capitals
which were on the top of the pillars:
seven for the one capital, and seven for
the other capital.
18 So he made the pillars; and there
were two rows of pomegranates around
the one network, to cover the capitals that
were on the top of the pillars; and he did
so for the other capital.
19 The capitals that were on the top of
the pillars in the porch were of lily work,
four cubits.
20 There were capitals above also on the
two pillars, close by the belly which was
beside the network. There were two
hundred pomegranates in rows around
the other capital.
21 He set up the pillars at the porch of
the temple. He set up the right pillar and
called its name Jachin; and he set up the
left pillar and called its name Boaz.
22 On the tops of the pillars was lily
work. So the work of the pillars was
finished.
23 He made the molten sea ten cubits
from brim to brim, round in shape. Its
height was five cubits; and a line of thirty
cubits encircled it.
24 Under its brim around there were
buds which encircled it for ten cubits,
encircling the sea. The buds were in two
rows, cast when it was cast.
25 It stood on twelve oxen, three looking
toward the north, and three looking
toward the west, and three looking
toward the south, and three looking
toward the east; and the sea was set on
them above, and all their hindquarters
were inward.
26 It was a hand width thick. Its brim
was worked like the brim of a cup, like the
flower of a lily. It held two thousand
baths.
27 He made the ten bases of bronze. The
length of one base was four cubits, four
cubits its width, and three cubits its
height.
28 The work of the bases was like this:
they had panels; and there were panels

between the ledges;
29 and on the panels that were between
the ledges were lions, oxen, and
cherubim; and on the ledges there was a
pedestal above; and beneath the lions and
oxen were wreaths of hanging work.
30 Every base had four bronze wheels
and axles of bronze; and its four feet had
supports. The supports were cast beneath
the basin, with wreaths at the side of each.
31 Its opening within the capital and
above was a cubit. Its opening was round
like the work of a pedestal, a cubit and a
half; and also on its opening were
engravings, and their panels were square,
not round.
32 The four wheels were underneath the
panels; and the axles of the wheels were
in the base. The height of a wheel was a
cubit and half a cubit.
33 The work of the wheels was like the
work of a chariot wheel. Their axles, their
rims, their spokes, and their hubs were all
of cast metal.
34 There were four supports at the four
corners of each base. Its supports were of
the base itself.
35 In the top of the base there was a
round band half a cubit high; and on the
top of the base its supports and its panels
were the same.
36 On the plates of its supports and on its
panels, he engraved cherubim, lions, and
palm trees, each in its space, with wreaths
all around.
37 He made the ten bases in this way: all
of them had one casting, one measure,
and one form.
38 He made ten basins of bronze. One
basin contained forty baths.‡ Every basin
measured four cubits. One basin was on
every one of the ten bases.
39 He set the bases, five on the right side
of the house and five on the left side of the
house. He set the sea on the right side of
the house eastward and toward the south.
40 Hiram made the pots, the shovels,
and the basins. So Hiram finished doing
all the work that he worked for King
Solomon in the LORD's house:
41 the two pillars; the two bowls of the
capitals that were on the top of the pillars;
the two networks to cover the two bowls
of the capitals that were on the top of the
pillars;
42 the four hundred pomegranates for
the two networks; two rows of
pomegranates for each network, to cover
the two bowls of the capitals that were on
the pillars;
43 the ten bases; the ten basins on the
bases;
44 the one sea; the twelve oxen under
the sea;
45 the pots; the shovels; and the basins.
All of these vessels, which Hiram made
for King Solomon for the LORD's house,
were of burnished bronze.
46 The king cast them in the plain of the
Jordan, in the clay ground between
Succoth and Zarethan.
47 Solomon left all the vessels
unweighed, because there were so many
of them. The weight of the bronze could
not be determined.
48 Solomon made all the vessels that
were in the LORD's house: the golden
altar and the table that the show bread
was on, of gold;
49 and the lamp stands, five on the right
side and five on the left, in front of the
inner sanctuary, of pure gold; and the
flowers, the lamps, and the tongs, of gold;
50 the cups, the snuffers, the basins, the
spoons, and the fire pans, of pure gold;
and the hinges, both for the doors of the
inner house, the most holy place, and for
the doors of the house, of the temple, of
gold.
51 Thus all the work that King Solomon
did in the LORD's house was finished.
Solomon brought in the things which
David his father had dedicated—the silver,
the gold, and the vessels—and put them in
the treasuries of the LORD's house.

8

1 Then Solomon assembled the elders of
Israel with all the heads of the tribes, the
princes of the fathers' households of the
children of Israel, to King Solomon in

‡ **7:38** 1 bath is one tenth of a cor, or about 5.6 U. S. gallons or 21 liters, so 40 baths was about 224 gallons or 840 liters.

Jerusalem, to bring up the ark of the
LORD's covenant out of David's city,
which is Zion.
2 All the men of Israel assembled
themselves to King Solomon at the feast in
the month Ethanim, which is the seventh
month.
3 All the elders of Israel came, and the
priests picked up the ark.
4 They brought up the LORD's ark, the
Tent of Meeting, and all the holy vessels
that were in the Tent. The priests and the
Levites brought these up.
5 King Solomon and all the congregation
of Israel, who were assembled to him,
were with him before the ark, sacrificing
sheep and cattle that could not be counted
or numbered for multitude.
6 The priests brought in the ark of the
LORD's covenant to its place, into the
inner sanctuary of the house, to the most
holy place, even under the cherubim's
wings.
7 For the cherubim spread their wings
out over the place of the ark, and the
cherubim covered the ark and its poles
above.
8 The poles were so long that the ends of
the poles were seen from the holy place
before the inner sanctuary, but they were
not seen outside. They are there to this
day.
9 There was nothing in the ark except
the two stone tablets which Moses put
there at Horeb, when the LORD made a
covenant with the children of Israel,
when they came out of the land of Egypt.
10 It came to pass, when the priests had
come out of the holy place, that the cloud
filled the LORD's house,
11 so that the priests could not stand to
minister by reason of the cloud; for the
LORD's glory filled the LORD's house.
12 Then Solomon said, "The LORD has
said that he would dwell in the thick
darkness.
13 I have surely built you a house of
habitation, a place for you to dwell in
forever."
14 The king turned his face around and
blessed all the assembly of Israel; and all
the assembly of Israel stood.
15 He said, "Blessed is the LORD, the God
of Israel, who spoke with his mouth to
David your father, and has with his hand
fulfilled it, saying,
16 'Since the day that I brought my
people Israel out of Egypt, I chose no city
out of all the tribes of Israel to build a
house, that my name might be there; but I
chose David to be over my people Israel.'
17 "Now it was in the heart of David my
father to build a house for the name of the
LORD, the God of Israel.
18 But the LORD said to David my father,
'Whereas it was in your heart to build a
house for my name, you did well that it
was in your heart.
19 Nevertheless, you shall not build the
house; but your son who shall come out of
your body, he shall build the house for my
name.'
20 The LORD has established his word
that he spoke; for I have risen up in the
place of David my father, and I sit on the
throne of Israel, as the LORD promised,
and have built the house for the name of
the LORD, the God of Israel.
21 There I have set a place for the ark, in
which is the LORD's covenant, which he
made with our fathers when he brought
them out of the land of Egypt."
22 Solomon stood before the LORD's
altar in the presence of all the assembly of
Israel, and spread out his hands toward
heaven;
23 and he said, "LORD, the God of Israel,
there is no God like you, in heaven above,
or on earth beneath; who keeps covenant
and loving kindness with your servants
who walk before you with all their heart;
24 who has kept with your servant David
my father that which you promised him.
Yes, you spoke with your mouth, and have
fulfilled it with your hand, as it is today.
25 Now therefore, may LORD, the God of
Israel, keep with your servant David my
father that which you have promised him,
saying, 'There shall not fail from you a
man in my sight to sit on the throne of
Israel, if only your children take heed to
their way, to walk before me as you have
walked before me.'

26 “Now therefore, God of Israel, please
let your word be verified, which you
spoke to your servant David my father.
27 But will God in very deed dwell on the
earth? Behold, heaven and the heaven of
heavens can’t contain you; how much less
this house that I have built!
28 Yet have respect for the prayer of
your servant and for his supplication,
LORD my God, to listen to the cry and to
the prayer which your servant prays
before you today;
29 that your eyes may be open toward
this house night and day, even toward the
place of which you have said, ‘My name
shall be there;’ to listen to the prayer
which your servant prays toward this
place.
30 Listen to the supplication of your
servant, and of your people Israel, when
they pray toward this place. Yes, hear in
heaven, your dwelling place; and when
you hear, forgive.
31 “If a man sins against his neighbor,
and an oath is laid on him to cause him to
swear, and he comes and swears before
your altar in this house,
32 then hear in heaven, and act, and
judge your servants, condemning the
wicked, to bring his way on his own head,
and justifying the righteous, to give him
according to his righteousness.
33 “When your people Israel are struck
down before the enemy because they
have sinned against you, if they turn
again to you and confess your name, and
pray and make supplication to you in this
house,
34 then hear in heaven, and forgive the
sin of your people Israel, and bring them
again to the land which you gave to their
fathers.
35 “When the sky is shut up and there is
no rain because they have sinned against
you, if they pray toward this place and
confess your name, and turn from their
sin when you afflict them,
36 then hear in heaven, and forgive the
sin of your servants, and of your people
Israel, when you teach them the good way
in which they should walk; and send rain
on your land which you have given to
your people for an inheritance.
37 “If there is famine in the land, if there
is pestilence, if there is blight, mildew,
locust or caterpillar; if their enemy
besieges them in the land of their cities,
whatever plague, whatever sickness there
is,
38 whatever prayer and supplication is
made by any man, or by all your people
Israel, who shall each know the plague of
his own heart, and spread out his hands
toward this house,
39 then hear in heaven, your dwelling
place, and forgive, and act, and give to
every man according to all his ways,
whose heart you know (for you, even you
only, know the hearts of all the children of
men);
40 that they may fear you all the days
that they live in the land which you gave
to our fathers.
41 “Moreover, concerning the foreigner,
who is not of your people Israel, when he
comes out of a far country for your
name’s sake
42 (for they shall hear of your great
name and of your mighty hand and of
your outstretched arm), when he comes
and prays toward this house,
43 hear in heaven, your dwelling place,
and do according to all that the foreigner
calls to you for; that all the peoples of the
earth may know your name, to fear you,
as do your people Israel, and that they
may know that this house which I have
built is called by your name.
44 “If your people go out to battle against
their enemy, by whatever way you shall
send them, and they pray to the LORD
toward the city which you have chosen,
and toward the house which I have built
for your name,
45 then hear in heaven their prayer and
their supplication, and maintain their
cause.
46 If they sin against you (for there is no
man who doesn’t sin), and you are angry
with them and deliver them to the enemy,
so that they carry them away captive to
the land of the enemy, far off or near;

47 yet if they repent in the land where
they are carried captive, and turn again,
and make supplication to you in the land
of those who carried them captive, saying,
'We have sinned and have done
perversely; we have dealt wickedly,'
48 if they return to you with all their
heart and with all their soul in the land of
their enemies who carried them captive,
and pray to you toward their land which
you gave to their fathers, the city which
you have chosen and the house which I
have built for your name,
49 then hear their prayer and their
supplication in heaven, your dwelling
place, and maintain their cause;
50 and forgive your people who have
sinned against you, and all their
transgressions in which they have
transgressed against you; and give them
compassion before those who carried
them captive, that they may have
compassion on them
51 (for they are your people and your
inheritance, which you brought out of
Egypt, from the middle of the iron
furnace);
52 that your eyes may be open to the
supplication of your servant and to the
supplication of your people Israel, to
listen to them whenever they cry to you.
53 For you separated them from among
all the peoples of the earth to be your
inheritance, as you spoke by Moses your
servant, when you brought our fathers
out of Egypt, Lord GOD."
54 It was so, that when Solomon had
finished praying all this prayer and
supplication to the LORD, he arose from
before the LORD's altar, from kneeling on
his knees with his hands spread out
toward heaven.
55 He stood and blessed all the assembly
of Israel with a loud voice, saying,
56 "Blessed be the LORD, who has given
rest to his people Israel, according to all
that he promised. There has not failed one
word of all his good promise, which he
promised by Moses his servant.
57 May the LORD our God be with us as
he was with our fathers. Let him not leave
us or forsake us,
58 that he may incline our hearts to him,
to walk in all his ways, and to keep his
commandments, his statutes, and his
ordinances, which he commanded our
fathers.
59 Let these my words, with which I
have made supplication before the LORD,
be near to the LORD our God day and
night, that he may maintain the cause of
his servant and the cause of his people
Israel, as every day requires;
60 that all the peoples of the earth may
know that the LORD himself is God. There
is no one else.
61 "Let your heart therefore be perfect
with the LORD our God, to walk in his
statutes, and to keep his commandments,
as it is today."
62 The king, and all Israel with him,
offered sacrifice before the LORD.
63 Solomon offered for the sacrifice of
peace offerings, which he offered to the
LORD, twenty two thousand head of cattle
and one hundred twenty thousand sheep.
So the king and all the children of Israel
dedicated the LORD's house.
64 The same day the king made the
middle of the court holy that was before
the LORD's house; for there he offered the
burnt offering, the meal offering, and the
fat of the peace offerings, because the
bronze altar that was before the LORD
was too little to receive the burnt offering,
the meal offering, and the fat of the peace
offerings.
65 So Solomon held the feast at that time,
and all Israel with him, a great assembly,
from the entrance of Hamath to the brook
of Egypt, before the LORD our God, seven
days and seven more days, even fourteen
days.
66 On the eighth day he sent the people
away; and they blessed the king, and went
to their tents joyful and glad in their
hearts for all the goodness that the LORD
had shown to David his servant, and to
Israel his people.

9

1 When Solomon had finished the
building of the LORD's house, the king's

house, and all Solomon's desire which he was pleased to do,
2 The LORD appeared to Solomon the second time, as he had appeared to him at Gibeon.
3 The LORD said to him, "I have heard your prayer and your supplication that you have made before me. I have made this house holy, which you have built, to put my name there forever; and my eyes and my heart shall be there perpetually.
4 As for you, if you will walk before me as David your father walked, in integrity of heart and in uprightness, to do according to all that I have commanded you, and will keep my statutes and my ordinances,
5 then I will establish the throne of your kingdom over Israel forever, as I promised to David your father, saying, 'There shall not fail from you a man on the throne of Israel.'
6 But if you turn away from following me, you or your children, and not keep my commandments and my statutes which I have set before you, but go and serve other gods and worship them,
7 then I will cut off Israel out of the land which I have given them; and I will cast this house, which I have made holy for my name, out of my sight; and Israel will be a proverb and a byword among all peoples.
8 Though this house is so high, yet everyone who passes by it will be astonished and hiss; and they will say, 'Why has the LORD done this to this land and to this house?'
9 and they will answer, 'Because they abandoned the LORD their God, who brought their fathers out of the land of Egypt, and embraced other gods, and worshiped them, and served them. Therefore the LORD has brought all this evil on them.' "
10 At the end of twenty years, in which Solomon had built the two houses, the LORD's house and the king's house
11 (now Hiram the king of Tyre had furnished Solomon with cedar trees and cypress trees, and with gold, according to all his desire), King Solomon gave Hiram twenty cities in the land of Galilee.
12 Hiram came out of Tyre to see the cities which Solomon had given him; and they didn't please him.
13 He said, "What cities are these which you have given me, my brother?" He called them the land of Cabul† to this day.
14 Hiram sent to the king one hundred twenty talents‡ of gold.
15 This is the reason of the forced labor which King Solomon conscripted: to build the LORD's house, his own house, Millo, Jerusalem's wall, Hazor, Megiddo, and Gezer.
16 Pharaoh king of Egypt had gone up, taken Gezer, burned it with fire, killed the Canaanites who lived in the city, and given it for a wedding gift to his daughter, Solomon's wife.
17 Solomon built in the land Gezer, Beth Horon the lower,
18 Baalath, Tamar in the wilderness,
19 all the storage cities that Solomon had, the cities for his chariots, the cities for his horsemen, and that which Solomon desired to build for his pleasure in Jerusalem, and in Lebanon, and in all the land of his dominion.
20 As for all the people who were left of the Amorites, the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites, who were not of the children of Israel—
21 their children who were left after them in the land, whom the children of Israel were not able utterly to destroy—of them Solomon raised a levy of bondservants to this day.
22 But of the children of Israel Solomon made no bondservants; but they were the men of war, his servants, his princes, his captains, and rulers of his chariots and of his horsemen.
23 These were the five hundred fifty chief officers who were over Solomon's work, who ruled over the people who labored in the work.
24 But Pharaoh's daughter came up out of David's city to her house which

† **9:13** "Cabul" sounds like Hebrew for "good-for-nothing".
‡ **9:14** A talent is about 30 kilograms or 66 pounds or 965 Troy ounces, so 120 talents is about 3.6 metric tons

Solomon had built for her. Then he built Millo.
25 Solomon offered burnt offerings and peace offerings on the altar which he built to the LORD three times per year, burning incense with them on the altar that was before the LORD. So he finished the house.
26 King Solomon made a fleet of ships in Ezion Geber, which is beside Eloth, on the shore of the Red Sea, in the land of Edom.
27 Hiram sent in the fleet his servants, sailors who had knowledge of the sea, with the servants of Solomon.
28 They came to Ophir, and fetched from there gold, four hundred and twenty talents,§ and brought it to King Solomon.

10

1 When the queen of Sheba heard of the fame of Solomon concerning the LORD's name, she came to test him with hard questions.
2 She came to Jerusalem with a very great caravan, with camels that bore spices, very much gold, and precious stones; and when she had come to Solomon, she talked with him about all that was in her heart.
3 Solomon answered all her questions. There wasn't anything hidden from the king which he didn't tell her.
4 When the queen of Sheba had seen all the wisdom of Solomon, the house that he had built,
5 the food of his table, the sitting of his servants, the attendance of his officials, their clothing, his cup bearers, and his ascent by which he went up to the LORD's house, there was no more spirit in her.
6 She said to the king, "It was a true report that I heard in my own land of your acts and of your wisdom.
7 However, I didn't believe the words until I came and my eyes had seen it. Behold, not even half was told me! Your wisdom and prosperity exceed the fame which I heard.
8 Happy are your men, happy are these your servants who stand continually before you, who hear your wisdom.
9 Blessed is the LORD your God, who delighted in you, to set you on the throne of Israel. Because the LORD loved Israel forever, therefore he made you king, to do justice and righteousness."
10 She gave the king one hundred twenty talents of gold, and a very great quantity of spices, and precious stones. Never again was there such an abundance of spices as these which the queen of Sheba gave to King Solomon.
11 The fleet of Hiram that brought gold from Ophir also brought in from Ophir great quantities of almug trees† and precious stones.
12 The king made of the almug trees pillars for the LORD's house and for the king's house, harps also and stringed instruments for the singers; no such almug trees came or were seen to this day.
13 King Solomon gave to the queen of Sheba all her desire, whatever she asked, in addition to that which Solomon gave her of his royal bounty. So she turned and went to her own land, she and her servants.
14 Now the weight of gold that came to Solomon in one year was six hundred sixty-six talents‡ of gold,
15 in addition to that which the traders brought, and the traffic of the merchants, and of all the kings of the mixed people, and of the governors of the country.
16 King Solomon made two hundred bucklers of beaten gold; six hundred shekels§ of gold went to one buckler.
17 He made three hundred shields of beaten gold; three minas† of gold went to one shield; and the king put them in the House of the Forest of Lebanon.
18 Moreover the king made a great throne of ivory, and overlaid it with the finest gold.

§ **9:28** A talent is about 30 kilograms or 66 pounds or 965 Troy ounces, so 420 talents is about 12.6 metric tons † **10:11** possibly an Indian sandalwood, with nice grain and a pleasant scent, and good for woodworking ‡ **10:14** A talent is about 30 kilograms or 66 pounds or 965 Troy ounces, so 666 talents is about 20 metric tons § **10:16** A shekel is about 10 grams or about 0.32 Troy ounces, so 600 shekels is about 6 kilograms or 13.2 pounds or 192 Troy ounces. † **10:17** A mina is about 600 grams or 1.3 U. S. pounds.

19 There were six steps to the throne,
and the top of the throne was round
behind; and there were armrests on
either side by the place of the seat, and
two lions standing beside the armrests.
20 Twelve lions stood there on the one
side and on the other on the six steps.
Nothing like it was made in any kingdom.
21 All King Solomon's drinking vessels
were of gold, and all the vessels of the
House of the Forest of Lebanon were of
pure gold. None were of silver, because it
was considered of little value in the days
of Solomon.
22 For the king had a fleet of ships of
Tarshish at sea with Hiram's fleet. Once
every three years the fleet of Tarshish
came bringing gold, silver, ivory, apes,
and peacocks.
23 So King Solomon exceeded all the
kings of the earth in riches and in wisdom.
24 All the earth sought the presence of
Solomon to hear his wisdom which God
had put in his heart.
25 Year after year, every man brought
his tribute, vessels of silver, vessels of
gold, clothing, armor, spices, horses, and
mules.
26 Solomon gathered together chariots
and horsemen. He had one thousand four
hundred chariots and twelve thousand
horsemen. He kept them in the chariot
cities and with the king at Jerusalem.
27 The king made silver as common as
stones in Jerusalem, and cedars as
common as the sycamore trees that are in
the lowland.
28 The horses which Solomon had were
brought out of Egypt. The king's
merchants received them in droves, each
drove at a price.
29 A chariot was imported from Egypt
for six hundred shekels‡ of silver, and a
horse for one hundred fifty shekels; and
so they exported them to all the kings of
the Hittites and to the kings of Syria.

11

1 Now King Solomon loved many
foreign women, together with the
daughter of Pharaoh: women of the
Moabites, Ammonites, Edomites,
Sidonians, and Hittites,
2 of the nations concerning which the
LORD said to the children of Israel, "You
shall not go among them, neither shall
they come among you, for surely they will
turn away your heart after their gods."
Solomon joined to these in love.
3 He had seven hundred wives,
princesses, and three hundred
concubines. His wives turned his heart
away.
4 When Solomon was old, his wives
turned away his heart after other gods;
and his heart was not perfect with the
LORD his God, as the heart of David his
father was.
5 For Solomon went after Ashtoreth the
goddess of the Sidonians, and after
Milcom the abomination of the
Ammonites.
6 Solomon did that which was evil in the
LORD's sight, and didn't go fully after the
LORD, as David his father did.
7 Then Solomon built a high place for
Chemosh the abomination of Moab, on
the mountain that is before Jerusalem,
and for Molech the abomination of the
children of Ammon.
8 So he did for all his foreign wives, who
burned incense and sacrificed to their
gods.
9 The LORD was angry with Solomon,
because his heart was turned away from
the LORD, the God of Israel, who had
appeared to him twice,
10 and had commanded him concerning
this thing, that he should not go after
other gods; but he didn't keep that which
the LORD commanded.
11 Therefore the LORD said to Solomon,
"Because this is done by you, and you
have not kept my covenant and my
statutes, which I have commanded you, I
will surely tear the kingdom from you,
and will give it to your servant.
12 Nevertheless, I will not do it in your
days, for David your father's sake; but I
will tear it out of your son's hand.
13 However, I will not tear away all the
kingdom; but I will give one tribe to your

‡ **10:29** A shekel is about 10 grams or about 0.35 ounces.

son, for David my servant's sake, and for Jerusalem's sake which I have chosen."
14 The LORD raised up an adversary to Solomon: Hadad the Edomite. He was one of the king's offspring in Edom.
15 For when David was in Edom, and Joab the captain of the army had gone up to bury the slain, and had struck every male in Edom
16 (for Joab and all Israel remained there six months, until he had cut off every male in Edom),
17 Hadad fled, he and certain Edomites of his father's servants with him, to go into Egypt, when Hadad was still a little child.
18 They arose out of Midian and came to Paran; and they took men with them out of Paran, and they came to Egypt, to Pharaoh king of Egypt, who gave him a house, and appointed him food, and gave him land.
19 Hadad found great favor in the sight of Pharaoh, so that he gave him as wife the sister of his own wife, the sister of Tahpenes the queen.
20 The sister of Tahpenes bore him Genubath his son, whom Tahpenes weaned in Pharaoh's house; and Genubath was in Pharaoh's house among the sons of Pharaoh.
21 When Hadad heard in Egypt that David slept with his fathers, and that Joab the captain of the army was dead, Hadad said to Pharaoh, "Let me depart, that I may go to my own country."
22 Then Pharaoh said to him, "But what have you lacked with me, that behold, you seek to go to your own country?"
He answered, "Nothing, however only let me depart."
23 God raised up an adversary to him, Rezon the son of Eliada, who had fled from his lord, Hadadezer king of Zobah.
24 He gathered men to himself, and became captain over a troop, when David killed them of Zobah. They went to Damascus and lived there, and reigned in Damascus.
25 He was an adversary to Israel all the days of Solomon, in addition to the mischief of Hadad. He abhorred Israel, and reigned over Syria.
26 Jeroboam the son of Nebat, an Ephraimite of Zeredah, a servant of Solomon, whose mother's name was Zeruah, a widow, also lifted up his hand against the king.
27 This was the reason why he lifted up his hand against the king: Solomon built Millo, and repaired the breach of his father David's city.
28 The man Jeroboam was a mighty man of valor; and Solomon saw that the young man was industrious, and he put him in charge of all the labor of the house of Joseph.
29 At that time, when Jeroboam went out of Jerusalem, the prophet Ahijah the Shilonite found him on the way. Now Ahijah had clad himself with a new garment; and the two of them were alone in the field.
30 Ahijah took the new garment that was on him, and tore it in twelve pieces.
31 He said to Jeroboam, "Take ten pieces; for the LORD, the God of Israel, says, 'Behold, I will tear the kingdom out of the hand of Solomon and will give ten tribes to you
32 (but he shall have one tribe, for my servant David's sake and for Jerusalem's sake, the city which I have chosen out of all the tribes of Israel),
33 because they have forsaken me, and have worshiped Ashtoreth the goddess of the Sidonians, Chemosh the god of Moab, and Milcom the god of the children of Ammon. They have not walked in my ways, to do that which is right in my eyes, and to keep my statutes and my ordinances, as David his father did.
34 " 'However, I will not take the whole kingdom out of his hand, but I will make him prince all the days of his life for David my servant's sake whom I chose, who kept my commandments and my statutes,
35 but I will take the kingdom out of his son's hand and will give it to you, even ten tribes.
36 I will give one tribe to his son, that David my servant may have a lamp always before me in Jerusalem, the city which I have chosen for myself to put my

name there.
37 I will take you, and you shall reign
according to all that your soul desires, and
shall be king over Israel.
38 It shall be, if you will listen to all that I
command you, and will walk in my ways,
and do that which is right in my eyes, to
keep my statutes and my commandments,
as David my servant did, that I will be with
you, and will build you a sure house, as I
built for David, and will give Israel to you.
39 I will afflict the offspring of David for
this, but not forever.' "
40 Therefore Solomon sought to kill
Jeroboam, but Jeroboam arose and fled
into Egypt, to Shishak king of Egypt, and
was in Egypt until the death of Solomon.
41 Now the rest of the acts of Solomon,
and all that he did, and his wisdom, aren't
they written in the book of the acts of
Solomon?
42 The time that Solomon reigned in
Jerusalem over all Israel was forty years.
43 Solomon slept with his fathers, and
was buried in his father David's city; and
Rehoboam his son reigned in his place.

12

1 Rehoboam went to Shechem, for all
Israel had come to Shechem to make him
king.
2 When Jeroboam the son of Nebat
heard of it (for he was yet in Egypt, where
he had fled from the presence of King
Solomon, and Jeroboam lived in Egypt;
3 and they sent and called him),
Jeroboam and all the assembly of Israel
came, and spoke to Rehoboam, saying,
4 "Your father made our yoke difficult.
Now therefore make the hard service of
your father, and his heavy yoke which he
put on us, lighter, and we will serve you."
5 He said to them, "Depart for three
days, then come back to me."
So the people departed.
6 King Rehoboam took counsel with the
old men who had stood before Solomon
his father while he yet lived, saying,
"What counsel do you give me to answer
these people?"
7 They replied, "If you will be a servant
to this people today, and will serve them,
and answer them with good words, then
they will be your servants forever."
8 But he abandoned the counsel of the
old men which they had given him, and
took counsel with the young men who had
grown up with him, who stood before
him.
9 He said to them, "What counsel do you
give, that we may answer these people
who have spoken to me, saying, 'Make the
yoke that your father put on us lighter'?"
10 The young men who had grown up
with him said to him, "Tell these people
who spoke to you, saying, 'Your father
made our yoke heavy, but make it lighter
to us'—tell them, 'My little finger is thicker
than my father's waist.
11 Now my father burdened you with a
heavy yoke, but I will add to your yoke.
My father chastised you with whips, but I
will chastise you with scorpions.' "
12 So Jeroboam and all the people came
to Rehoboam the third day, as the king
asked, saying, "Come to me again the third
day."
13 The king answered the people
roughly, and abandoned the counsel of
the old men which they had given him,
14 and spoke to them according to the
counsel of the young men, saying, "My
father made your yoke heavy, but I will
add to your yoke. My father chastised you
with whips, but I will chastise you with
scorpions."
15 So the king didn't listen to the people;
for it was a thing brought about from the
LORD, that he might establish his word,
which the LORD spoke by Ahijah the
Shilonite to Jeroboam the son of Nebat.
16 When all Israel saw that the king
didn't listen to them, the people answered
the king, saying, "What portion have we
in David? We don't have an inheritance in
the son of Jesse. To your tents, Israel! Now
see to your own house, David." So Israel
departed to their tents.
17 But as for the children of Israel who
lived in the cities of Judah, Rehoboam
reigned over them.

18 Then King Rehoboam sent Adoram,
who was over the men subject to forced
labor; and all Israel stoned him to death
with stones. King Rehoboam hurried to
get himself up to his chariot, to flee to
Jerusalem.
19 So Israel rebelled against David's
house to this day.

20 When all Israel heard that Jeroboam
had returned, they sent and called him to
the congregation, and made him king
over all Israel. There was no one who
followed David's house, except for the
tribe of Judah only.

21 When Rehoboam had come to
Jerusalem, he assembled all the house of
Judah and the tribe of Benjamin, a
hundred and eighty thousand chosen
men who were warriors, to fight against
the house of Israel, to bring the kingdom
again to Rehoboam the son of Solomon.
22 But the word of God came to
Shemaiah the man of God, saying,
23 "Speak to Rehoboam the son of
Solomon, king of Judah, and to all the
house of Judah and Benjamin, and to the
rest of the people, saying,
24 'The LORD says, "You shall not go up
or fight against your brothers, the
children of Israel. Everyone return to his
house; for this thing is from me." ' " So
they listened to the LORD's word, and
returned and went their way, according
to the LORD's word.

25 Then Jeroboam built Shechem in the
hill country of Ephraim, and lived in it;
and he went out from there and built
Penuel.
26 Jeroboam said in his heart, "Now the
kingdom will return to David's house.
27 If this people goes up to offer
sacrifices in the LORD's house at
Jerusalem, then the heart of this people
will turn again to their lord, even to
Rehoboam king of Judah; and they will
kill me, and return to Rehoboam king of
Judah."
28 So the king took counsel, and made
two calves of gold; and he said to them, "It
is too much for you to go up to Jerusalem.
Look and behold your gods, Israel, which
brought you up out of the land of Egypt!"
29 He set the one in Bethel, and the other
he put in Dan.
30 This thing became a sin, for the
people went even as far as Dan to worship
before the one there.
31 He made houses of high places, and
made priests from among all the people,
who were not of the sons of Levi.
32 Jeroboam ordained a feast in the
eighth month, on the fifteenth day of the
month, like the feast that is in Judah, and
he went up to the altar. He did so in
Bethel, sacrificing to the calves that he had
made, and he placed in Bethel the priests
of the high places that he had made.
33 He went up to the altar which he had
made in Bethel on the fifteenth day in the
eighth month, even in the month which
he had devised of his own heart; and he
ordained a feast for the children of Israel,
and went up to the altar to burn incense.

13

1 Behold, a man of God came out of
Judah by the LORD's word to Bethel; and
Jeroboam was standing by the altar to
burn incense.
2 He cried against the altar by the
LORD's word, and said, "Altar! Altar! The
LORD says: 'Behold, a son will be born to
David's house, Josiah by name. On you he
will sacrifice the priests of the high places
who burn incense on you, and they will
burn men's bones on you.' "
3 He gave a sign the same day, saying,
"This is the sign which the LORD has
spoken: Behold, the altar will be split
apart, and the ashes that are on it will be
poured out."

4 When the king heard the saying of the
man of God, which he cried against the
altar in Bethel, Jeroboam put out his hand
from the altar, saying, "Seize him!" His
hand, which he put out against him, dried
up, so that he could not draw it back again
to himself.
5 The altar was also split apart, and the
ashes poured out from the altar,

according to the sign which the man of God had given by the LORD's word.
6 The king answered the man of God, "Now intercede for the favor of the LORD your God, and pray for me, that my hand may be restored to me."
The man of God interceded with the LORD, and the king's hand was restored to him, and became as it was before.
7 The king said to the man of God, "Come home with me and refresh yourself, and I will give you a reward."
8 The man of God said to the king, "Even if you gave me half of your house, I would not go in with you, neither would I eat bread nor drink water in this place;
9 for so was it commanded me by the LORD's word, saying, 'You shall eat no bread, drink no water, and don't return by the way that you came.' "
10 So he went another way, and didn't return by the way that he came to Bethel.
11 Now an old prophet lived in Bethel, and one of his sons came and told him all the works that the man of God had done that day in Bethel. They also told their father the words which he had spoken to the king.
12 Their father said to them, "Which way did he go?" Now his sons had seen which way the man of God went, who came from Judah.
13 He said to his sons, "Saddle the donkey for me." So they saddled the donkey for him; and he rode on it.
14 He went after the man of God, and found him sitting under an oak. He said to him, "Are you the man of God who came from Judah?"
He said, "I am."
15 Then he said to him, "Come home with me and eat bread."
16 He said, "I may not return with you, nor go in with you. I will not eat bread or drink water with you in this place.
17 For it was said to me by the LORD's word, 'You shall eat no bread or drink water there, and don't turn again to go by the way that you came.' "
18 He said to him, "I also am a prophet as you are; and an angel spoke to me by the LORD's word, saying, 'Bring him back with you into your house, that he may eat bread and drink water.' " He lied to him.
19 So he went back with him, ate bread in his house, and drank water.
20 As they sat at the table, the LORD's word came to the prophet who brought him back;
21 and he cried out to the man of God who came from Judah, saying, "The LORD says, 'Because you have been disobedient to the LORD's word, and have not kept the commandment which the LORD your God commanded you,
22 but came back, and have eaten bread and drank water in the place of which he said to you, "Eat no bread, and drink no water," your body will not come to the tomb of your fathers.' "
23 After he had eaten bread and after he drank, he saddled the donkey for the prophet whom he had brought back.
24 When he had gone, a lion met him by the way and killed him. His body was thrown on the path, and the donkey stood by it. The lion also stood by the body.
25 Behold, men passed by and saw the body thrown on the path, and the lion standing by the body; and they came and told it in the city where the old prophet lived.
26 When the prophet who brought him back from the way heard of it, he said, "It is the man of God who was disobedient to the LORD's word. Therefore the LORD has delivered him to the lion, which has mauled him and slain him, according to the LORD's word which he spoke to him."
27 He said to his sons, saying, "Saddle the donkey for me," and they saddled it.
28 He went and found his body thrown on the path, and the donkey and the lion standing by the body. The lion had not eaten the body nor mauled the donkey.
29 The prophet took up the body of the man of God, and laid it on the donkey, and brought it back. He came to the city of the old prophet to mourn, and to bury him.
30 He laid his body in his own grave; and they mourned over him, saying, "Alas, my brother!"
31 After he had buried him, he spoke to his sons, saying, "When I am dead, bury

me in the tomb in which the man of God is buried. Lay my bones beside his bones.
32 For the saying which he cried by the LORD's word against the altar in Bethel, and against all the houses of the high places which are in the cities of Samaria, will surely happen."
33 After this thing, Jeroboam didn't turn from his evil way, but again made priests of the high places from among all the people. Whoever wanted to, he consecrated him, that there might be priests of the high places.
34 This thing became sin to the house of Jeroboam, even to cut it off and to destroy it from off the surface of the earth.

14

1 At that time Abijah the son of Jeroboam became sick.
2 Jeroboam said to his wife, "Please get up and disguise yourself, so that you won't be recognized as Jeroboam's wife. Go to Shiloh. Behold, Ahijah the prophet is there, who said that I would be king over this people.
3 Take with you ten loaves of bread, some cakes, and a jar of honey, and go to him. He will tell you what will become of the child."
4 Jeroboam's wife did so, and arose and went to Shiloh, and came to Ahijah's house. Now Ahijah could not see, for his eyes were set by reason of his age.
5 The LORD said to Ahijah, "Behold, Jeroboam's wife is coming to inquire of you concerning her son, for he is sick. Tell her such and such; for it will be, when she comes in, that she will pretend to be another woman."
6 So when Ahijah heard the sound of her feet as she came in at the door, he said, "Come in, Jeroboam's wife! Why do you pretend to be another? For I am sent to you with heavy news.
7 Go, tell Jeroboam, 'The LORD, the God of Israel, says: "Because I exalted you from among the people, and made you prince over my people Israel,
8 and tore the kingdom away from David's house, and gave it to you; and yet you have not been as my servant David, who kept my commandments, and who followed me with all his heart, to do that only which was right in my eyes,
9 but have done evil above all who were before you, and have gone and made for yourself other gods, molten images, to provoke me to anger, and have cast me behind your back,
10 therefore, behold, I will bring evil on the house of Jeroboam, and will cut off from Jeroboam everyone who urinates on a wall,† he who is shut up and he who is left at large in Israel, and will utterly sweep away the house of Jeroboam, as a man sweeps away dung until it is all gone.
11 The dogs will eat whoever belongs to Jeroboam who dies in the city; and the birds of the sky will eat whoever dies in the field, for the LORD has spoken it." '
12 Arise therefore, and go to your house. When your feet enter into the city, the child will die.
13 All Israel will mourn for him and bury him; for he only of Jeroboam will come to the grave, because in him there is found some good thing toward the LORD, the God of Israel, in the house of Jeroboam.
14 Moreover the LORD will raise up a king for himself over Israel who will cut off the house of Jeroboam. This is the day! What? Even now.
15 For the LORD will strike Israel, as a reed is shaken in the water; and he will root up Israel out of this good land which he gave to their fathers, and will scatter them beyond the River,‡ because they have made their Asherah poles, provoking the LORD to anger.
16 He will give Israel up because of the sins of Jeroboam, which he has sinned, and with which he has made Israel to sin."
17 Jeroboam's wife arose and departed, and came to Tirzah. As she came to the threshold of the house, the child died.
18 All Israel buried him and mourned for him, according to the LORD's word, which he spoke by his servant Ahijah the

† **14:10** or, male ‡ **14:15** That is, the Euphrates.

prophet.
19 The rest of the acts of Jeroboam, how
he fought and how he reigned, behold,
they are written in the book of the
chronicles of the kings of Israel.
20 The days which Jeroboam reigned
were twenty two years; then he slept with
his fathers, and Nadab his son reigned in
his place.
21 Rehoboam the son of Solomon
reigned in Judah. Rehoboam was
forty-one years old when he began to
reign, and he reigned seventeen years in
Jerusalem, the city which the LORD had
chosen out of all the tribes of Israel, to put
his name there. His mother's name was
Naamah the Ammonitess.
22 Judah did that which was evil in the
LORD's sight, and they provoked him to
jealousy with their sins which they
committed, above all that their fathers
had done.
23 For they also built for themselves
high places, sacred pillars, and Asherah
poles on every high hill and under every
green tree.
24 There were also sodomites in the
land. They did according to all the
abominations of the nations which the
LORD drove out before the children of
Israel.
25 In the fifth year of King Rehoboam,
Shishak king of Egypt came up against
Jerusalem;
26 and he took away the treasures of the
LORD's house and the treasures of the
king's house. He even took away all of it,
including all the gold shields which
Solomon had made.
27 King Rehoboam made shields of
bronze in their place, and committed
them to the hands of the captains of the
guard, who guarded the door of the king's
house.
28 It was so, that as often as the king
went into the LORD's house, the guard
bore them, and brought them back into
the guard room.
29 Now the rest of the acts of Rehoboam,
and all that he did, aren't they written in
the book of the chronicles of the kings of
Judah?
30 There was war between Rehoboam
and Jeroboam continually.
31 Rehoboam slept with his fathers, and
was buried with his fathers in David's
city. His mother's name was Naamah the
Ammonitess. Abijam his son reigned in
his place.

15

1 Now in the eighteenth year of King
Jeroboam the son of Nebat, Abijam began
to reign over Judah.
2 He reigned three years in Jerusalem.
His mother's name was Maacah the
daughter of Abishalom.
3 He walked in all the sins of his father,
which he had done before him; and his
heart was not perfect with the LORD his
God, as the heart of David his father.
4 Nevertheless for David's sake, the
LORD his God gave him a lamp in
Jerusalem, to set up his son after him and
to establish Jerusalem;
5 because David did that which was
right in the LORD's eyes, and didn't turn
away from anything that he commanded
him all the days of his life, except only in
the matter of Uriah the Hittite.
6 Now there was war between
Rehoboam and Jeroboam all the days of
his life.
7 The rest of the acts of Abijam, and all
that he did, aren't they written in the book
of the chronicles of the kings of Judah?
There was war between Abijam and
Jeroboam.
8 Abijam slept with his fathers, and they
buried him in David's city; and Asa his son
reigned in his place.
9 In the twentieth year of Jeroboam king
of Israel, Asa began to reign over Judah.
10 He reigned forty-one years in
Jerusalem. His mother's name was
Maacah the daughter of Abishalom.
11 Asa did that which was right in the
LORD's eyes, as David his father did.
12 He put away the sodomites out of the
land, and removed all the idols that his
fathers had made.
13 He also removed Maacah his mother
from being queen, because she had made
an abominable image for an Asherah. Asa

cut down her image and burned it at the brook Kidron.
14 But the high places were not taken away. Nevertheless the heart of Asa was perfect with the LORD all his days.
15 He brought into the LORD's house the things that his father had dedicated, and the things that he himself had dedicated: silver, gold, and utensils.

16 There was war between Asa and Baasha king of Israel all their days.
17 Baasha king of Israel went up against Judah, and built Ramah, that he might not allow anyone to go out or come in to Asa king of Judah.
18 Then Asa took all the silver and the gold that was left in the treasures of the LORD's house, and the treasures of the king's house, and delivered it into the hand of his servants. Then King Asa sent them to Ben Hadad, the son of Tabrimmon, the son of Hezion, king of Syria, who lived at Damascus, saying,
19 "Let there be a treaty between me and you, like that between my father and your father. Behold, I have sent to you a present of silver and gold. Go, break your treaty with Baasha king of Israel, that he may depart from me."

20 Ben Hadad listened to King Asa, and sent the captains of his armies against the cities of Israel, and struck Ijon, and Dan, and Abel Beth Maacah, and all Chinneroth, with all the land of Naphtali.
21 When Baasha heard of it, he stopped building Ramah, and lived in Tirzah.
22 Then King Asa made a proclamation to all Judah. No one was exempted. They carried away the stones of Ramah, and its timber, with which Baasha had built; and King Asa used it to build Geba of Benjamin, and Mizpah.
23 Now the rest of all the acts of Asa, and all his might, and all that he did, and the cities which he built, aren't they written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah? But in the time of his old age he was diseased in his feet.
24 Asa slept with his fathers, and was buried with his fathers in his father David's city; and Jehoshaphat his son reigned in his place.

25 Nadab the son of Jeroboam began to reign over Israel in the second year of Asa king of Judah; and he reigned over Israel two years.
26 He did that which was evil in the LORD's sight, and walked in the way of his father, and in his sin with which he made Israel to sin.
27 Baasha the son of Ahijah, of the house of Issachar, conspired against him; and Baasha struck him at Gibbethon, which belonged to the Philistines; for Nadab and all Israel were besieging Gibbethon.
28 Even in the third year of Asa king of Judah, Baasha killed him and reigned in his place.
29 As soon as he was king, he struck all the house of Jeroboam. He didn't leave to Jeroboam any who breathed, until he had destroyed him, according to the saying of the LORD, which he spoke by his servant Ahijah the Shilonite;
30 for the sins of Jeroboam which he sinned, and with which he made Israel to sin, because of his provocation with which he provoked the LORD, the God of Israel, to anger.

31 Now the rest of the acts of Nadab, and all that he did, aren't they written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel?
32 There was war between Asa and Baasha king of Israel all their days.

33 In the third year of Asa king of Judah, Baasha the son of Ahijah began to reign over all Israel in Tirzah for twenty-four years.
34 He did that which was evil in the LORD's sight, and walked in the way of Jeroboam, and in his sin with which he made Israel to sin.

16

1 The LORD's word came to Jehu the son of Hanani against Baasha, saying,
2 "Because I exalted you out of the dust and made you prince over my people Israel, and you have walked in the way of Jeroboam and have made my people

Israel to sin, to provoke me to anger with their sins,
3 behold, I will utterly sweep away Baasha and his house; and I will make your house like the house of Jeroboam the son of Nebat.
4 The dogs will eat Baasha's descendants who die in the city; and he who dies of his in the field, the birds of the sky will eat."
5 Now the rest of the acts of Baasha, and what he did, and his might, aren't they written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel?
6 Baasha slept with his fathers, and was buried in Tirzah; and Elah his son reigned in his place.
7 Moreover the LORD's word came by the prophet Jehu the son of Hanani against Baasha and against his house, both because of all the evil that he did in the LORD's sight, to provoke him to anger with the work of his hands, in being like the house of Jeroboam, and because he struck him.
8 In the twenty-sixth year of Asa king of Judah, Elah the son of Baasha began to reign over Israel in Tirzah for two years.
9 His servant Zimri, captain of half his chariots, conspired against him. Now he was in Tirzah, drinking himself drunk in the house of Arza, who was over the household in Tirzah;
10 and Zimri went in and struck him and killed him in the twenty-seventh year of Asa king of Judah, and reigned in his place.
11 When he began to reign, as soon as he sat on his throne, he attacked all the house of Baasha. He didn't leave him a single one who urinates on a wall† among his relatives or his friends.
12 Thus Zimri destroyed all the house of Baasha, according to the LORD's word which he spoke against Baasha by Jehu the prophet,
13 for all the sins of Baasha, and the sins of Elah his son, which they sinned and with which they made Israel to sin, to provoke the LORD, the God of Israel, to anger with their vanities.
14 Now the rest of the acts of Elah, and all that he did, aren't they written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel?
15 In the twenty-seventh year of Asa king of Judah, Zimri reigned seven days in Tirzah. Now the people were encamped against Gibbethon, which belonged to the Philistines.
16 The people who were encamped heard that Zimri had conspired, and had also killed the king. Therefore all Israel made Omri, the captain of the army, king over Israel that day in the camp.
17 Omri went up from Gibbethon, and all Israel with him, and they besieged Tirzah.
18 When Zimri saw that the city was taken, he went into the fortified part of the king's house and burned the king's house over him with fire, and died,
19 for his sins which he sinned in doing that which was evil in the LORD's sight, in walking in the way of Jeroboam, and in his sin which he did to make Israel to sin.
20 Now the rest of the acts of Zimri, and his treason that he committed, aren't they written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel?
21 Then the people of Israel were divided into two parts: half of the people followed Tibni the son of Ginath, to make him king, and half followed Omri.
22 But the people who followed Omri prevailed against the people who followed Tibni the son of Ginath; so Tibni died, and Omri reigned.
23 In the thirty-first year of Asa king of Judah, Omri began to reign over Israel for twelve years. He reigned six years in Tirzah.
24 He bought the hill Samaria of Shemer for two talents‡ of silver; and he built on the hill, and called the name of the city which he built, Samaria, after the name of Shemer, the owner of the hill.
25 Omri did that which was evil in the LORD's sight, and dealt wickedly above all who were before him.
26 For he walked in all the way of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, and in his sins

† **16:11** or, male ‡ **16:24** A talent is about 30 kilograms or 66 pounds.

with which he made Israel to sin, to provoke the LORD, the God of Israel, to anger with their vanities.
27 Now the rest of the acts of Omri which he did, and his might that he showed, aren't they written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel?
28 So Omri slept with his fathers, and was buried in Samaria; and Ahab his son reigned in his place.
29 In the thirty-eighth year of Asa king of Judah, Ahab the son of Omri began to reign over Israel. Ahab the son of Omri reigned over Israel in Samaria twenty-two years.
30 Ahab the son of Omri did that which was evil in the LORD's sight above all that were before him.
31 As if it had been a light thing for him to walk in the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, he took as wife Jezebel the daughter of Ethbaal king of the Sidonians, and went and served Baal and worshiped him.
32 He raised up an altar for Baal in the house of Baal, which he had built in Samaria.
33 Ahab made the Asherah; and Ahab did more yet to provoke the LORD, the God of Israel, to anger than all the kings of Israel who were before him.
34 In his days Hiel the Bethelite built Jericho. He laid its foundation with the loss of Abiram his firstborn, and set up its gates with the loss of his youngest son Segub, according to the LORD's word, which he spoke by Joshua the son of Nun.

17

1 Elijah the Tishbite, who was one of the settlers of Gilead, said to Ahab, "As the LORD, the God of Israel, lives, before whom I stand, there shall not be dew nor rain these years, but according to my word."
2 Then the LORD's word came to him, saying,
3 "Go away from here, turn eastward, and hide yourself by the brook Cherith, that is before the Jordan.
4 You shall drink from the brook. I have commanded the ravens to feed you there."
5 So he went and did according to the LORD's word, for he went and lived by the brook Cherith that is before the Jordan.
6 The ravens brought him bread and meat in the morning, and bread and meat in the evening; and he drank from the brook.
7 After a while, the brook dried up, because there was no rain in the land.
8 The LORD's word came to him, saying,
9 "Arise, go to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and stay there. Behold, I have commanded a widow there to sustain you."
10 So he arose and went to Zarephath; and when he came to the gate of the city, behold, a widow was there gathering sticks. He called to her and said, "Please get me a little water in a jar, that I may drink."
11 As she was going to get it, he called to her and said, "Please bring me a morsel of bread in your hand."
12 She said, "As the LORD your God lives, I don't have anything baked, but only a handful of meal in a jar and a little oil in a jar. Behold, I am gathering two sticks, that I may go in and bake it for me and my son, that we may eat it, and die."
13 Elijah said to her, "Don't be afraid. Go and do as you have said; but make me a little cake from it first, and bring it out to me, and afterward make some for you and for your son.
14 For the LORD, the God of Israel, says, 'The jar of meal will not run out, and the jar of oil will not fail, until the day that the LORD sends rain on the earth.' "
15 She went and did according to the saying of Elijah; and she, he, and her household ate many days.
16 The jar of meal didn't run out and the jar of oil didn't fail, according to the LORD's word, which he spoke by Elijah.
17 After these things, the son of the woman, the mistress of the house, became sick; and his sickness was so severe that there was no breath left in him.
18 She said to Elijah, "What have I to do with you, you man of God? You have come

to me to bring my sin to memory, and to kill my son!"
19 He said to her, "Give me your son." He took him out of her bosom, and carried him up into the room where he stayed, and laid him on his own bed.
20 He cried to the LORD and said, "LORD my God, have you also brought evil on the widow with whom I am staying, by killing her son?"
21 He stretched himself on the child three times, and cried to the LORD and said, "LORD my God, please let this child's soul come into him again."
22 The LORD listened to the voice of Elijah; and the soul of the child came into him again, and he revived.
23 Elijah took the child and brought him down out of the room into the house, and delivered him to his mother; and Elijah said, "Behold, your son lives."
24 The woman said to Elijah, "Now I know that you are a man of God, and that the LORD's word in your mouth is truth."

18

1 After many days, the LORD's word came to Elijah, in the third year, saying, "Go, show yourself to Ahab; and I will send rain on the earth."
2 Elijah went to show himself to Ahab. The famine was severe in Samaria.
3 Ahab called Obadiah, who was over the household. (Now Obadiah feared the LORD greatly;
4 for when Jezebel cut off the LORD's prophets, Obadiah took one hundred prophets, and hid them fifty to a cave, and fed them with bread and water.)
5 Ahab said to Obadiah, "Go through the land, to all the springs of water, and to all the brooks. Perhaps we may find grass and save the horses and mules alive, that we not lose all the animals."
6 So they divided the land between them to pass throughout it. Ahab went one way by himself, and Obadiah went another way by himself.
7 As Obadiah was on the way, behold, Elijah met him. He recognized him, and fell on his face, and said, "Is it you, my lord Elijah?"
8 He answered him, "It is I. Go, tell your lord, 'Behold, Elijah is here!' "
9 He said, "How have I sinned, that you would deliver your servant into the hand of Ahab, to kill me?
10 As the LORD your God lives, there is no nation or kingdom where my lord has not sent to seek you. When they said, 'He is not here,' he took an oath of the kingdom and nation that they didn't find you.
11 Now you say, 'Go, tell your lord, "Behold, Elijah is here." '
12 It will happen, as soon as I leave you, that the LORD's Spirit will carry you I don't know where; and so when I come and tell Ahab, and he can't find you, he will kill me. But I, your servant, have feared the LORD from my youth.
13 Wasn't it told my lord what I did when Jezebel killed the LORD's prophets, how I hid one hundred men of the LORD's prophets with fifty to a cave, and fed them with bread and water?
14 Now you say, 'Go, tell your lord, "Behold, Elijah is here".' He will kill me."
15 Elijah said, "As the LORD of Armies lives, before whom I stand, I will surely show myself to him today."
16 So Obadiah went to meet Ahab, and told him; and Ahab went to meet Elijah.
17 When Ahab saw Elijah, Ahab said to him, "Is that you, you troubler of Israel?"
18 He answered, "I have not troubled Israel, but you and your father's house, in that you have forsaken the LORD's commandments and you have followed the Baals.
19 Now therefore send, and gather to me all Israel to Mount Carmel, and four hundred fifty of the prophets of Baal, and four hundred of the prophets of the Asherah, who eat at Jezebel's table."
20 So Ahab sent to all the children of Israel, and gathered the prophets together to Mount Carmel.
21 Elijah came near to all the people, and said, "How long will you waver between the two sides? If the LORD is God, follow him; but if Baal, then follow him."
The people didn't say a word.

22 Then Elijah said to the people, “I, even
I only, am left as a prophet of the LORD;
but Baal’s prophets are four hundred fifty
men.
23 Let them therefore give us two bulls;
and let them choose one bull for
themselves, and cut it in pieces, and lay it
on the wood, and put no fire under; and I
will dress the other bull, and lay it on the
wood, and put no fire under it.
24 You call on the name of your god, and
I will call on the LORD’s name. The God
who answers by fire, let him be God.”
All the people answered, “What you say
is good.”
25 Elijah said to the prophets of Baal,
“Choose one bull for yourselves, and dress
it first, for you are many; and call on the
name of your god, but put no fire under
it.”
26 They took the bull which was given
them, and they dressed it, and called on
the name of Baal from morning even until
noon, saying, “Baal, hear us!” But there
was no voice, and nobody answered. They
leaped about the altar which was made.
27 At noon, Elijah mocked them, and
said, “Cry aloud, for he is a god. Either he
is deep in thought, or he has gone
somewhere, or he is on a journey, or
perhaps he sleeps and must be
awakened.”
28 They cried aloud, and cut themselves
in their way with knives and lances until
the blood gushed out on them.
29 When midday was past, they
prophesied until the time of the evening
offering; but there was no voice, no
answer, and nobody paid attention.
30 Elijah said to all the people, “Come
near to me!”; and all the people came near
to him. He repaired the LORD’s altar that
had been thrown down.
31 Elijah took twelve stones, according
to the number of the tribes of the sons of
Jacob, to whom the LORD’s word came,
saying, “Israel shall be your name.”
32 With the stones he built an altar in
the LORD’s name. He made a trench
around the altar large enough to contain
two seahs† of seed.
33 He put the wood in order, and cut the
bull in pieces and laid it on the wood. He
said, “Fill four jars with water, and pour it
on the burnt offering and on the wood.”
34 He said, “Do it a second time;” and
they did it the second time. He said, “Do it
a third time;” and they did it the third
time.
35 The water ran around the altar; and
he also filled the trench with water.
36 At the time of the evening offering,
Elijah the prophet came near and said,
“LORD, the God of Abraham, of Isaac, and
of Israel, let it be known today that you
are God in Israel and that I am your
servant, and that I have done all these
things at your word.
37 Hear me, LORD, hear me, that this
people may know that you, LORD, are
God, and that you have turned their heart
back again.”
38 Then the LORD’s fire fell and
consumed the burnt offering, the wood,
the stones, and the dust; and it licked up
the water that was in the trench.
39 When all the people saw it, they fell
on their faces. They said, “The LORD, he is
God! The LORD, he is God!”
40 Elijah said to them, “Seize the
prophets of Baal! Don’t let one of them
escape!”
They seized them; and Elijah brought
them down to the brook Kishon, and
killed them there.
41 Elijah said to Ahab, “Get up, eat and
drink; for there is the sound of abundance
of rain.”
42 So Ahab went up to eat and to drink.
Elijah went up to the top of Carmel; and
he bowed himself down on the earth, and
put his face between his knees.
43 He said to his servant, “Go up now
and look toward the sea.”
He went up and looked, then said,
“There is nothing.”
He said, “Go again” seven times.
44 On the seventh time, he said, “Behold,
a small cloud, like a man’s hand, is rising
out of the sea.”

† **18:32** 1 seah is about 7 liters or 1.9 gallons or 0.8 pecks

He said, “Go up, tell Ahab, ‘Get ready and go down, so that the rain doesn’t stop you.’ ”
45 In a little while, the sky grew black with clouds and wind, and there was a great rain. Ahab rode, and went to Jezreel.
46 The LORD’s hand was on Elijah; and he tucked his cloak into his belt and ran before Ahab to the entrance of Jezreel.

19

1 Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, and how he had killed all the prophets with the sword.
2 Then Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah, saying, “So let the gods do to me, and more also, if I don’t make your life as the life of one of them by tomorrow about this time!”
3 When he saw that, he arose and ran for his life, and came to Beersheba, which belongs to Judah, and left his servant there.
4 But he himself went a day’s journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a juniper tree. Then he requested for himself that he might die, and said, “It is enough. Now, O LORD, take away my life; for I am not better than my fathers.”
5 He lay down and slept under a juniper tree; and behold, an angel touched him, and said to him, “Arise and eat!”
6 He looked, and behold, there was at his head a cake baked on the coals, and a jar of water. He ate and drank, and lay down again.
7 The LORD’s angel came again the second time, and touched him, and said, “Arise and eat, because the journey is too great for you.”
8 He arose, and ate and drank, and went in the strength of that food forty days and forty nights to Horeb, God’s Mountain.
9 He came to a cave there, and camped there; and behold, the LORD’s word came to him, and he said to him, “What are you doing here, Elijah?”
10 He said, “I have been very jealous for the LORD, the God of Armies; for the children of Israel have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I, even I only, am left; and they seek my life, to take it away.”
11 He said, “Go out and stand on the mountain before the LORD.”
Behold, the LORD passed by, and a great and strong wind tore the mountains and broke in pieces the rocks before the LORD; but the LORD was not in the wind. After the wind there was an earthquake; but the LORD was not in the earthquake.
12 After the earthquake a fire passed; but the LORD was not in the fire. After the fire, there was a still small voice.
13 When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle, went out, and stood in the entrance of the cave. Behold, a voice came to him, and said, “What are you doing here, Elijah?”
14 He said, “I have been very jealous for the LORD, the God of Armies; for the children of Israel have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I, even I only, am left; and they seek my life, to take it away.”
15 The LORD said to him, “Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus. When you arrive, anoint Hazael to be king over Syria.
16 Anoint Jehu the son of Nimshi to be king over Israel; and anoint Elisha the son of Shaphat of Abel Meholah to be prophet in your place.
17 He who escapes from the sword of Hazael, Jehu will kill; and he who escapes from the sword of Jehu, Elisha will kill.
18 Yet I reserved seven thousand in Israel, all the knees of which have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him.”
19 So he departed from there and found Elisha the son of Shaphat, who was plowing with twelve yoke of oxen before him, and he with the twelfth. Elijah went over to him and put his mantle on him.
20 Elisha left the oxen and ran after Elijah, and said, “Let me please kiss my father and my mother, and then I will follow you.”
He said to him, “Go back again; for what have I done to you?”

21 He returned from following him, and took the yoke of oxen, killed them, and boiled their meat with the oxen's equipment, and gave to the people; and they ate. Then he arose, and went after Elijah, and served him.

20

1 Ben Hadad the king of Syria gathered all his army together; and there were thirty-two kings with him, with horses and chariots. He went up and besieged Samaria, and fought against it.
2 He sent messengers into the city to Ahab king of Israel and said to him, "Ben Hadad says,
3 'Your silver and your gold are mine. Your wives also and your children, even the best, are mine.' "
4 The king of Israel answered, "It is according to your saying, my lord, O king. I am yours, and all that I have."
5 The messengers came again and said, "Ben Hadad says, 'I sent indeed to you, saying, "You shall deliver me your silver, your gold, your wives, and your children;
6 but I will send my servants to you tomorrow about this time, and they will search your house and the houses of your servants. Whatever is pleasant in your eyes, they will put it in their hand, and take it away." ' "
7 Then the king of Israel called all the elders of the land, and said, "Please notice how this man seeks mischief; for he sent to me for my wives, and for my children, and for my silver, and for my gold; and I didn't deny him."
8 All the elders and all the people said to him, "Don't listen, and don't consent."
9 Therefore he said to the messengers of Ben Hadad, "Tell my lord the king, 'All that you sent for to your servant at the first I will do, but this thing I cannot do.' "

The messengers departed and brought him back the message.
10 Ben Hadad sent to him, and said, "The gods do so to me, and more also, if the dust of Samaria will be enough for handfuls for all the people who follow me."
11 The king of Israel answered, "Tell him, 'Don't let him who puts on his armor brag like he who takes it off.' "
12 When Ben Hadad heard this message as he was drinking, he and the kings in the pavilions, he said to his servants, "Prepare to attack!" So they prepared to attack the city.
13 Behold, a prophet came near to Ahab king of Israel, and said, "The LORD says, 'Have you seen all this great multitude? Behold, I will deliver it into your hand today. Then you will know that I am the LORD.' "
14 Ahab said, "By whom?"

He said, "The LORD says, 'By the young men of the princes of the provinces.' "

Then he said, "Who shall begin the battle?"

He answered, "You."
15 Then he mustered the young men of the princes of the provinces, and they were two hundred and thirty-two. After them, he mustered all the people, even all the children of Israel, being seven thousand.
16 They went out at noon. But Ben Hadad was drinking himself drunk in the pavilions, he and the kings, the thirty-two kings who helped him.
17 The young men of the princes of the provinces went out first; and Ben Hadad sent out, and they told him, saying, "Men are coming out from Samaria."
18 He said, "If they have come out for peace, take them alive; or if they have come out for war, take them alive."
19 So these went out of the city, the young men of the princes of the provinces, and the army which followed them.
20 They each killed his man. The Syrians fled, and Israel pursued them. Ben Hadad the king of Syria escaped on a horse with horsemen.
21 The king of Israel went out and struck the horses and chariots, and killed the Syrians with a great slaughter.
22 The prophet came near to the king of Israel and said to him, "Go, strengthen yourself, and plan what you must do, for

at the return of the year, the king of Syria
will come up against you."
23 The servants of the king of Syria said
to him, "Their god is a god of the hills;
therefore they were stronger than we. But
let's fight against them in the plain, and
surely we will be stronger than they.
24 Do this thing: take the kings away,
every man out of his place, and put
captains in their place.
25 Muster an army like the army that
you have lost, horse for horse and chariot
for chariot. We will fight against them in
the plain, and surely we will be stronger
than they are."
He listened to their voice and did so.
26 At the return of the year, Ben Hadad
mustered the Syrians and went up to
Aphek to fight against Israel.
27 The children of Israel were mustered
and given provisions, and went against
them. The children of Israel encamped
before them like two little flocks of young
goats, but the Syrians filled the country.
28 A man of God came near and spoke to
the king of Israel, and said, "The LORD
says, 'Because the Syrians have said, "The
LORD is a god of the hills, but he is not a
god of the valleys," therefore I will deliver
all this great multitude into your hand,
and you shall know that I am the LORD.' "
29 They encamped opposite each other
for seven days. Then on the seventh day
the battle was joined; and the children of
Israel killed one hundred thousand
footmen of the Syrians in one day.
30 But the rest fled to Aphek, into the
city; and the wall fell on twenty-seven
thousand men who were left. Ben Hadad
fled and came into the city, into an inner
room.
31 His servants said to him, "See now,
we have heard that the kings of the house
of Israel are merciful kings. Please let us
put sackcloth on our bodies and ropes on
our heads, and go out to the king of Israel.
Maybe he will save your life."
32 So they put sackcloth on their bodies
and ropes on their heads, and came to the
king of Israel, and said, "Your servant Ben
Hadad says, 'Please let me live.' "
He said, "Is he still alive? He is my
brother."
33 Now the men observed diligently and
hurried to take this phrase; and they said,
"Your brother Ben Hadad."
Then he said, "Go, bring him."
Then Ben Hadad came out to him; and
he caused him to come up into the chariot.
34 Ben Hadad said to him, "The cities
which my father took from your father I
will restore. You shall make streets for
yourself in Damascus, as my father made
in Samaria."
"I", said Ahab, "will let you go with this
covenant." So he made a covenant with
him and let him go.
35 A certain man of the sons of the
prophets said to his fellow by the LORD's
word, "Please strike me!"
The man refused to strike him.
36 Then he said to him, "Because you
have not obeyed the LORD's voice, behold,
as soon as you have departed from me, a
lion will kill you." As soon as he had
departed from him, a lion found him and
killed him.
37 Then he found another man, and
said, "Please strike me."
The man struck him and wounded him.
38 So the prophet departed and waited
for the king by the way, and disguised
himself with his headband over his eyes.
39 As the king passed by, he cried to the
king, and he said, "Your servant went out
into the middle of the battle; and behold, a
man came over and brought a man to me,
and said, 'Guard this man! If by any
means he is missing, then your life shall
be for his life, or else you shall pay a
talent† of silver.'
40 As your servant was busy here and
there, he was gone."
The king of Israel said to him, "So shall
your judgment be. You yourself have
decided it."
41 He hurried, and took the headband
away from his eyes; and the king of Israel
recognized that he was one of the
prophets.

† **20:39** A talent is about 30 kilograms or 66 pounds

42 He said to him, “The LORD says,
‘Because you have let go out of your hand
the man whom I had devoted to
destruction, therefore your life will take
the place of his life, and your people take
the place of his people.’ ”

43 The king of Israel went to his house
sullen and angry, and came to Samaria.

21

1 After these things, Naboth the
Jezreelite had a vineyard which was in
Jezreel, next to the palace of Ahab king of
Samaria.
2 Ahab spoke to Naboth, saying, “Give
me your vineyard, that I may have it for a
garden of herbs, because it is near my
house; and I will give you for it a better
vineyard than it. Or, if it seems good to
you, I will give you its worth in money.”

3 Naboth said to Ahab, “May the LORD
forbid me, that I should give the
inheritance of my fathers to you!”

4 Ahab came into his house sullen and
angry because of the word which Naboth
the Jezreelite had spoken to him, for he
had said, “I will not give you the
inheritance of my fathers.” He laid
himself down on his bed, and turned
away his face, and would eat no bread.
5 But Jezebel his wife came to him, and
said to him, “Why is your spirit so sad that
you eat no bread?”

6 He said to her, “Because I spoke to
Naboth the Jezreelite, and said to him,
‘Give me your vineyard for money; or
else, if it pleases you, I will give you
another vineyard for it.’ He answered, ‘I
will not give you my vineyard.’ ”

7 Jezebel his wife said to him, “Do you
now govern the kingdom of Israel? Arise,
and eat bread, and let your heart be
merry. I will give you the vineyard of
Naboth the Jezreelite.”
8 So she wrote letters in Ahab’s name
and sealed them with his seal, and sent the
letters to the elders and to the nobles who
were in his city, who lived with Naboth.
9 She wrote in the letters, saying,
“Proclaim a fast, and set Naboth on high
among the people.
10 Set two men, wicked fellows, before
him, and let them testify against him,
saying, ‘You cursed God and the king!’
Then carry him out, and stone him to
death.”
11 The men of his city, even the elders
and the nobles who lived in his city, did as
Jezebel had instructed them in the letters
which she had written and sent to them.
12 They proclaimed a fast, and set
Naboth on high among the people.
13 The two men, the wicked fellows,
came in and sat before him. The wicked
fellows testified against him, even against
Naboth, in the presence of the people,
saying, “Naboth cursed God and the king!”
Then they carried him out of the city and
stoned him to death with stones.
14 Then they sent to Jezebel, saying,
“Naboth has been stoned and is dead.”
15 When Jezebel heard that Naboth had
been stoned and was dead, Jezebel said to
Ahab, “Arise, take possession of the
vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite, which
he refused to give you for money; for
Naboth is not alive, but dead.”
16 When Ahab heard that Naboth was
dead, Ahab rose up to go down to the
vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite, to take
possession of it.

17 The LORD’s word came to Elijah the
Tishbite, saying,
18 “Arise, go down to meet Ahab king of
Israel, who dwells in Samaria. Behold, he
is in the vineyard of Naboth, where he has
gone down to take possession of it.
19 You shall speak to him, saying, ‘The
LORD says, “Have you killed and also
taken possession?” ’ You shall speak to
him, saying, ‘The LORD says, “In the place
where dogs licked the blood of Naboth,
dogs will lick your blood, even yours.” ’ ”
20 Ahab said to Elijah, “Have you found
me, my enemy?”

He answered, “I have found you,
because you have sold yourself to do that
which is evil in the LORD’s sight.

† **21:21** or, male

21 Behold, I will bring evil on you, and
will utterly sweep you away and will cut
off from Ahab everyone who urinates
against a wall,† and him who is shut up
and him who is left at large in Israel.
22 I will make your house like the house
of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, and like the
house of Baasha the son of Ahijah, for the
provocation with which you have
provoked me to anger, and have made
Israel to sin."
23 The LORD also spoke of Jezebel,
saying, "The dogs will eat Jezebel by the
rampart of Jezreel.
24 The dogs will eat whoever dies of
Ahab in the city; and the birds of the sky
will eat whoever dies in the field."
25 But there was no one like Ahab, who
sold himself to do that which was evil in
the LORD's sight, whom Jezebel his wife
stirred up.
26 He did very abominably in following
idols, according to all that the Amorites
did, whom the LORD cast out before the
children of Israel.
27 When Ahab heard those words, he
tore his clothes, put sackcloth on his body,
fasted, lay in sackcloth, and went about
despondently.
28 The LORD's word came to Elijah the
Tishbite, saying,
29 "See how Ahab humbles himself
before me? Because he humbles himself
before me, I will not bring the evil in his
days; but I will bring the evil on his house
in his son's day."

22

1 They continued three years without
war between Syria and Israel.
2 In the third year, Jehoshaphat the king
of Judah came down to the king of Israel.
3 The king of Israel said to his servants,
"You know that Ramoth Gilead is ours,
and we do nothing, and don't take it out of
the hand of the king of Syria?"
4 He said to Jehoshaphat, "Will you go
with me to battle to Ramoth Gilead?"
Jehoshaphat said to the king of Israel, "I
am as you are, my people as your people,
my horses as your horses."
5 Jehoshaphat said to the king of Israel,
"Please inquire first for the LORD's word."
6 Then the king of Israel gathered the
prophets together, about four hundred
men, and said to them, "Should I go
against Ramoth Gilead to battle, or should
I refrain?"
They said, "Go up; for the Lord will
deliver it into the hand of the king."
7 But Jehoshaphat said, "Isn't there here
a prophet of the LORD, that we may
inquire of him?"
8 The king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat,
"There is yet one man by whom we may
inquire of the LORD, Micaiah the son of
Imlah; but I hate him, for he does not
prophesy good concerning me, but evil."
Jehoshaphat said, "Don't let the king say
so."
9 Then the king of Israel called an
officer, and said, "Quickly get Micaiah the
son of Imlah."
10 Now the king of Israel and
Jehoshaphat the king of Judah were
sitting each on his throne, arrayed in their
robes, in an open place at the entrance of
the gate of Samaria; and all the prophets
were prophesying before them.
11 Zedekiah the son of Chenaanah made
himself horns of iron, and said, "The
LORD says, 'With these you will push the
Syrians, until they are consumed.' "
12 All the prophets prophesied so,
saying, "Go up to Ramoth Gilead and
prosper; for the LORD will deliver it into
the hand of the king."
13 The messenger who went to call
Micaiah spoke to him, saying, "See now,
the prophets declare good to the king with
one mouth. Please let your word be like
the word of one of them, and speak good."
14 Micaiah said, "As the LORD lives,
what the LORD says to me, that I will
speak."
15 When he had come to the king, the
king said to him, "Micaiah, shall we go to
Ramoth Gilead to battle, or shall we
forbear?"
He answered him, "Go up and prosper;
and the LORD will deliver it into the hand
of the king."

16 The king said to him, “How many
times do I have to adjure you that you
speak to me nothing but the truth in the
LORD’s name?”
17 He said, “I saw all Israel scattered on
the mountains, as sheep that have no
shepherd. The LORD said, ‘These have no
master. Let them each return to his house
in peace.’ ”
18 The king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat,
“Didn’t I tell you that he would not
prophesy good concerning me, but evil?”
19 Micaiah said, “Therefore hear the
LORD’s word. I saw the LORD sitting on
his throne, and all the army of heaven
standing by him on his right hand and on
his left.
20 The LORD said, ‘Who will entice
Ahab, that he may go up and fall at
Ramoth Gilead?’ One said one thing, and
another said another.
21 A spirit came out and stood before the
LORD, and said, ‘I will entice him.’
22 The LORD said to him, ‘How?’
He said, ‘I will go out and will be a lying
spirit in the mouth of all his prophets.’
He said, ‘You will entice him, and will
also prevail. Go out and do so.’
23 Now therefore, behold, the LORD has
put a lying spirit in the mouth of all these
your prophets; and the LORD has spoken
evil concerning you.”
24 Then Zedekiah the son of Chenaanah
came near and struck Micaiah on the
cheek, and said, “Which way did the
LORD’s Spirit go from me to speak to you?”
25 Micaiah said, “Behold, you will see on
that day when you go into an inner room
to hide yourself.”
26 The king of Israel said, “Take Micaiah,
and carry him back to Amon the governor
of the city and to Joash the king’s son.
27 Say, ‘The king says, “Put this fellow in
the prison, and feed him with bread of
affliction and with water of affliction,
until I come in peace.” ’ ”
28 Micaiah said, “If you return at all in
peace, the LORD has not spoken by me.”
He said, “Listen, all you people!”
29 So the king of Israel and Jehoshaphat
the king of Judah went up to Ramoth
Gilead.
30 The king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat,
“I will disguise myself and go into the
battle, but you put on your robes.” The
king of Israel disguised himself and went
into the battle.
31 Now the king of Syria had
commanded the thirty-two captains of his
chariots, saying, “Don’t fight with small
nor great, except only with the king of
Israel.”
32 When the captains of the chariots saw
Jehoshaphat, they said, “Surely that is the
king of Israel!” and they came over to
fight against him. Jehoshaphat cried out.
33 When the captains of the chariots saw
that it was not the king of Israel, they
turned back from pursuing him.
34 A certain man drew his bow at
random, and struck the king of Israel
between the joints of the armor.
Therefore he said to the driver of his
chariot, “Turn around, and carry me out
of the battle, for I am severely wounded.”
35 The battle increased that day. The
king was propped up in his chariot facing
the Syrians, and died at evening. The
blood ran out of the wound into the
bottom of the chariot.
36 A cry went throughout the army
about the going down of the sun, saying,
“Every man to his city, and every man to
his country!”
37 So the king died, and was brought to
Samaria; and they buried the king in
Samaria.
38 They washed the chariot by the pool
of Samaria; and the dogs licked up his
blood where the prostitutes washed
themselves, according to the LORD’s word
which he spoke.
39 Now the rest of the acts of Ahab, and
all that he did, and the ivory house which
he built, and all the cities that he built,
aren’t they written in the book of the
chronicles of the kings of Israel?
40 So Ahab slept with his fathers; and
Ahaziah his son reigned in his place.
41 Jehoshaphat the son of Asa began to
reign over Judah in the fourth year of
Ahab king of Israel.

42 Jehoshaphat was thirty-five years old
when he began to reign; and he reigned
twenty-five years in Jerusalem. His
mother's name was Azubah the daughter
of Shilhi.
43 He walked in all the way of Asa his
father. He didn't turn away from it, doing
that which was right in the LORD's eyes.
However, the high places were not taken
away. The people still sacrificed and
burned incense on the high places.
44 Jehoshaphat made peace with the
king of Israel.
45 Now the rest of the acts of
Jehoshaphat, and his might that he
showed, and how he fought, aren't they
written in the book of the chronicles of
the kings of Judah?
46 The remnant of the sodomites, that
remained in the days of his father Asa, he
put away out of the land.
47 There was no king in Edom. A deputy
ruled.
48 Jehoshaphat made ships of Tarshish
to go to Ophir for gold, but they didn't go,
for the ships wrecked at Ezion Geber.
49 Then Ahaziah the son of Ahab said to
Jehoshaphat, "Let my servants go with
your servants in the ships." But
Jehoshaphat would not.
50 Jehoshaphat slept with his fathers,
and was buried with his fathers in his
father David's city. Jehoram his son
reigned in his place.
51 Ahaziah the son of Ahab began to
reign over Israel in Samaria in the
seventeenth year of Jehoshaphat king of
Judah, and he reigned two years over
Israel.
52 He did that which was evil in the
LORD's sight, and walked in the way of his
father, and in the way of his mother, and
in the way of Jeroboam the son of Nebat,
in which he made Israel to sin.
53 He served Baal and worshiped him,
and provoked the LORD, the God of Israel,
to anger in all the ways that his father had
done so.

The Second Book of Kings

1 Moab rebelled against Israel after the
death of Ahab.
2 Ahaziah fell down through the lattice
in his upper room that was in Samaria,
and was sick. So he sent messengers, and
said to them, “Go, inquire of Baal Zebub,
the god of Ekron, whether I will recover
from this sickness.”
3 But the LORD’s† angel said to Elijah the
Tishbite, “Arise, go up to meet the
messengers of the king of Samaria, and
tell them, ‘Is it because there is no God‡ in
Israel that you go to inquire of Baal
Zebub, the god of Ekron?
4 Now therefore the LORD says, “You
will not come down from the bed where
you have gone up, but you will surely
die.” ’ ” Then Elijah departed.
5 The messengers returned to him, and
he said to them, “Why is it that you have
returned?”
6 They said to him, “A man came up to
meet us, and said to us, ‘Go, return to the
king who sent you, and tell him, “The
LORD says, ‘Is it because there is no God in
Israel that you send to inquire of Baal
Zebub, the god of Ekron? Therefore you
will not come down from the bed where
you have gone up, but you will surely
die.’ ” ’ ”
7 He said to them, “What kind of man
was he who came up to meet you and told
you these words?”
8 They answered him, “He was a hairy
man, and wearing a leather belt around
his waist.”
He said, “It’s Elijah the Tishbite.”
9 Then the king sent a captain of fifty
with his fifty to him. He went up to him;
and behold,§ he was sitting on the top of
the hill. He said to him, “Man of God, the
king has said, ‘Come down!’ ”
10 Elijah answered to the captain of fifty,
“If I am a man of God, then let fire come
down from the sky and consume you and
your fifty!” Then fire came down from the
sky, and consumed him and his fifty.
11 Again he sent to him another captain
of fifty with his fifty. He answered him,
“Man of God, the king has said, ‘Come
down quickly!’ ”
12 Elijah answered them, “If I am a man
of God, then let fire come down from the
sky and consume you and your fifty!”
Then God’s fire came down from the sky,
and consumed him and his fifty.
13 Again he sent the captain of a third
fifty with his fifty. The third captain of
fifty went up, and came and fell on his
knees before Elijah, and begged him, and
said to him, “Man of God, please let my life
and the life of these fifty of your servants
be precious in your sight.
14 Behold, fire came down from the sky
and consumed the last two captains of
fifty with their fifties. But now let my life
be precious in your sight.”
15 The LORD’s angel said to Elijah, “Go
down with him. Don’t be afraid of him.”
Then he arose and went down with him
to the king.
16 He said to him, “The LORD says,
‘Because you have sent messengers to
inquire of Baal Zebub, the god of Ekron, is
it because there is no God in Israel to
inquire of his word? Therefore you will
not come down from the bed where you
have gone up, but you will surely die.’ ”
17 So he died according to the LORD’s
word which Elijah had spoken. Jehoram
began to reign in his place in the second
year of Jehoram the son of Jehoshaphat
king of Judah, because he had no son.
18 Now the rest of the acts of Ahaziah
which he did, aren’t they written in the
book of the chronicles of the kings of
Israel?

2

1 When the LORD was about to take
Elijah up by a whirlwind into heaven,
Elijah went with Elisha from Gilgal.

† **1:3** When rendered in ALL CAPITAL LETTERS, “LORD” or “GOD” is the translation of God’s Proper Name (Hebrew “יהוה”, usually pronounced Yahweh). ‡ **1:3** The Hebrew word rendered “God” is “אֱלֹהִים” (Elohim). § **1:9** “Behold”, from “הִנֵּה”, means look at, take notice, observe, see, or gaze at. It is often used as an interjection.

2 Elijah said to Elisha, “Please wait here,
for the LORD has sent me as far as Bethel.”
Elisha said, “As the LORD lives, and as
your soul lives, I will not leave you.” So
they went down to Bethel.
3 The sons of the prophets who were at
Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him,
“Do you know that the LORD will take
away your master from over you today?”
He said, “Yes, I know it. Hold your
peace.”
4 Elijah said to him, “Elisha, please wait
here, for the LORD has sent me to Jericho.”
He said, “As the LORD lives, and as your
soul lives, I will not leave you.” So they
came to Jericho.
5 The sons of the prophets who were at
Jericho came near to Elisha, and said to
him, “Do you know that the LORD will
take away your master from over you
today?”
He answered, “Yes, I know it. Hold your
peace.”
6 Elijah said to him, “Please wait here,
for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan.”
He said, “As the LORD lives, and as your
soul lives, I will not leave you.” Then they
both went on.
7 Fifty men of the sons of the prophets
went and stood opposite them at a
distance; and they both stood by the
Jordan.
8 Elijah took his mantle, and rolled it up,
and struck the waters; and they were
divided here and there, so that they both
went over on dry ground.
9 When they had gone over, Elijah said
to Elisha, “Ask what I shall do for you,
before I am taken from you.”
Elisha said, “Please let a double portion
of your spirit be on me.”
10 He said, “You have asked a hard thing.
If you see me when I am taken from you, it
will be so for you; but if not, it will not be
so.”
11 As they continued on and talked,
behold, a chariot of fire and horses of fire
separated them; and Elijah went up by a
whirlwind into heaven.
12 Elisha saw it, and he cried, “My
father, my father, the chariots of Israel
and its horsemen!”
He saw him no more. Then he took hold
of his own clothes and tore them in two
pieces.
13 He also took up Elijah’s mantle that
fell from him, and went back and stood by
the bank of the Jordan.
14 He took Elijah’s mantle that fell from
him, and struck the waters, and said,
“Where is the LORD, the God of Elijah?”
When he also had struck the waters, they
were divided apart, and Elisha went over.
15 When the sons of the prophets who
were at Jericho facing him saw him, they
said, “The spirit of Elijah rests on Elisha.”
They came to meet him, and bowed
themselves to the ground before him.
16 They said to him, “See now, there are
with your servants fifty strong men.
Please let them go and seek your master.
Perhaps the LORD’s Spirit has taken him
up, and put him on some mountain or into
some valley.”
He said, “Don’t send them.”
17 When they urged him until he was
ashamed, he said, “Send them.”
Therefore they sent fifty men; and they
searched for three days, but didn’t find
him.
18 They came back to him while he
stayed at Jericho; and he said to them,
“Didn’t I tell you, ‘Don’t go’?”
19 The men of the city said to Elisha,
“Behold, please, the situation of this city is
pleasant, as my lord sees; but the water is
bad, and the land is barren.”
20 He said, “Bring me a new jar, and put
salt in it.” Then they brought it to him.
21 He went out to the spring of the
waters, and threw salt into it, and said,
“The LORD says, ‘I have healed these
waters. There shall not be from there any
more death or barren wasteland.’ ”
22 So the waters were healed to this day,
according to Elisha’s word which he
spoke.
23 He went up from there to Bethel. As
he was going up by the way, some youths
came out of the city and mocked him, and

said to him, “Go up, you baldy! Go up, you baldy!”
24 He looked behind him and saw them, and cursed them in the LORD’s name. Then two female bears came out of the woods and mauled forty-two of those youths.
25 He went from there to Mount Carmel, and from there he returned to Samaria.

3

1 Now Jehoram the son of Ahab began to reign over Israel in Samaria in the eighteenth year of Jehoshaphat king of Judah, and reigned twelve years.
2 He did that which was evil in the LORD’s sight, but not like his father and like his mother, for he put away the pillar of Baal that his father had made.
3 Nevertheless he held to the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, with which he made Israel to sin. He didn’t depart from them.
4 Now Mesha king of Moab was a sheep breeder; and he supplied the king of Israel with one hundred thousand lambs and the wool of one hundred thousand rams.
5 But when Ahab was dead, the king of Moab rebelled against the king of Israel.
6 King Jehoram went out of Samaria at that time, and mustered all Israel.
7 He went and sent to Jehoshaphat the king of Judah, saying, “The king of Moab has rebelled against me. Will you go with me against Moab to battle?”

He said, “I will go up. I am as you are, my people as your people, my horses as your horses.”
8 Then he said, “Which way shall we go up?”

Jehoram answered, “The way of the wilderness of Edom.”
9 So the king of Israel went with the king of Judah and the king of Edom, and they marched for seven days along a circuitous route. There was no water for the army or for the animals that followed them.
10 The king of Israel said, “Alas! For the LORD has called these three kings together to deliver them into the hand of Moab.”
11 But Jehoshaphat said, “Isn’t there a prophet of the LORD here, that we may inquire of the LORD by him?”

One of the king of Israel’s servants answered, “Elisha the son of Shaphat, who poured water on the hands of Elijah, is here.”
12 Jehoshaphat said, “The LORD’s word is with him.” So the king of Israel and Jehoshaphat and the king of Edom went down to him.
13 Elisha said to the king of Israel, “What have I to do with you? Go to the prophets of your father, and to the prophets of your mother.”

The king of Israel said to him, “No, for the LORD has called these three kings together to deliver them into the hand of Moab.”
14 Elisha said, “As the LORD of Armies lives, before whom I stand, surely, were it not that I respect the presence of Jehoshaphat the king of Judah, I would not look toward you, nor see you.
15 But now bring me a musician.” When the musician played, the LORD’s hand came on him.
16 He said, “The LORD says, ‘Make this valley full of trenches.’
17 For the LORD says, ‘You will not see wind, neither will you see rain, yet that valley will be filled with water, and you will drink, both you and your livestock and your other animals.
18 This is an easy thing in the LORD’s sight. He will also deliver the Moabites into your hand.
19 You shall strike every fortified city and every choice city, and shall fell every good tree, and stop all springs of water, and mar every good piece of land with stones.’ ”
20 In the morning, about the time of offering the sacrifice, behold, water came by the way of Edom, and the country was filled with water.
21 Now when all the Moabites heard that the kings had come up to fight against them, they gathered themselves together, all who were able to put on armor, young and old, and stood on the border.

22 They rose up early in the morning,
and the sun shone on the water, and the
Moabites saw the water opposite them as
red as blood.
23 They said, “This is blood. The kings
are surely destroyed, and they have
struck each other. Now therefore, Moab,
to the plunder!”
24 When they came to the camp of
Israel, the Israelites rose up and struck the
Moabites, so that they fled before them;
and they went forward into the land
attacking the Moabites.
25 They beat down the cities; and on
every good piece of land each man cast
his stone, and filled it. They also stopped
all the springs of water and cut down all
the good trees, until in Kir Hareseth all
they left was its stones; however the men
armed with slings went around it and
attacked it.
26 When the king of Moab saw that the
battle was too severe for him, he took
with him seven hundred men who drew a
sword, to break through to the king of
Edom; but they could not.
27 Then he took his oldest son who
would have reigned in his place, and
offered him for a burnt offering on the
wall. There was great wrath against
Israel; and they departed from him, and
returned to their own land.

4

1 Now a certain woman of the wives of
the sons of the prophets cried out to
Elisha, saying, “Your servant my husband
is dead. You know that your servant
feared the LORD. Now the creditor has
come to take for himself my two children
to be slaves.”
2 Elisha said to her, “What should 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.”
3 Then he said, “Go, borrow empty
containers from all your neighbors. Don’t
borrow just a few containers.
4 Go in and shut the door on you and on
your sons, and pour oil into all those
containers; and set aside those which are
full.”
5 So she went from him, and shut the
door on herself and on her sons. They
brought the containers to her, and she
poured oil.
6 When the containers were full, she
said to her son, “Bring me another
container.”
He said to her, “There isn’t another
container.” Then the oil stopped flowing.
7 Then she came and told the man of
God. He said, “Go, sell the oil, and pay
your debt; and you and your sons live on
the rest.”
8 One day Elisha went to Shunem,
where there was a prominent woman;
and she persuaded him to eat bread. So it
was, that as often as he passed by, he
turned in there to eat bread.
9 She said to her husband, “See now, I
perceive that this is a holy man of God
who passes by us continually.
10 Please, let’s make a little room on the
roof. Let’s set a bed, a table, a chair, and a
lamp stand for him there. When he comes
to us, he can stay there.”
11 One day he came there, and he went
to the room and lay there.
12 He said to Gehazi his servant, “Call
this Shunammite.” When he had called
her, she stood before him.
13 He said to him, “Say now to her,
‘Behold, you have cared for us with all this
care. What is to be done for you? Would
you like to be spoken for to the king, or to
the captain of the army?’ ”
She answered, “I dwell among my own
people.”
14 He said, “What then is to be done for
her?”
Gehazi answered, “Most certainly she
has no son, and her husband is old.”
15 He said, “Call her.” When he had
called her, she stood in the door.
16 He said, “At this season next year, you
will embrace a son.”
She said, “No, my lord, you man of God,
do not lie to your servant.”
17 The woman conceived, and bore a
son at that season when the time came
around, as Elisha had said to her.

18 When the child was grown, one day
he went out to his father to the reapers.
19 He said to his father, “My head! My
head!”
He said to his servant, “Carry him to his
mother.”
20 When he had taken him and brought
him to his mother, he sat on her knees
until noon, and then died.
21 She went up and laid him on the man
of God’s bed, and shut the door on him,
and went out.
22 She called to her husband and said,
“Please send me one of the servants, and
one of the donkeys, that I may run to the
man of God and come again.”
23 He said, “Why would you want to go
to him today? It is not a new moon or a
Sabbath.”
She said, “It’s all right.”
24 Then she saddled a donkey, and said
to her servant, “Drive, and go forward!
Don’t slow down for me, unless I ask you
to.”
25 So she went, and came to the man of
God to Mount Carmel. When the man of
God saw her afar off, he said to Gehazi his
servant, “Behold, there is the
Shunammite.
26 Please run now to meet her, and ask
her, ‘Is it well with you? Is it well with
your husband? Is it well with your
child?’ ”
She answered, “It is well.”
27 When she came to the man of God to
the hill, she caught hold of his feet. Gehazi
came near to thrust her away; but the
man of God said, “Leave her alone, for her
soul is troubled within her; and the LORD
has hidden it from me, and has not told
me.”
28 Then she said, “Did I ask you for a son,
my lord? Didn’t I say, ‘Do not deceive
me’?”
29 Then he said to Gehazi, “Tuck your
cloak into your belt, take my staff in your
hand, and go your way. If you meet any
man, don’t greet him; and if anyone greets
you, don’t answer him again. Then lay my
staff on the child’s face.”
30 The child’s mother said, “As the LORD
lives, and as your soul lives, I will not
leave you.”
So he arose, and followed her.
31 Gehazi went ahead of them, and laid
the staff on the child’s face; but there was
no voice and no hearing. Therefore he
returned to meet him, and told him, “The
child has not awakened.”
32 When Elisha had come into the house,
behold, the child was dead, and lying on
his bed.
33 He went in therefore, and shut the
door on them both, and prayed to the
LORD.
34 He went up and lay on the child, and
put his mouth on his mouth, and his eyes
on his eyes, and his hands on his hands.
He stretched himself on him; and the
child’s flesh grew warm.
35 Then he returned, and walked in the
house once back and forth, then went up
and stretched himself out on him. Then
the child sneezed seven times, and the
child opened his eyes.
36 He called Gehazi, and said, “Call this
Shunammite!” So he called her.
When she had come in to him, he said,
“Take up your son.”
37 Then she went in, fell at his feet, and
bowed herself to the ground; then she
picked up her son, and went out.
38 Elisha came again to Gilgal. There
was a famine in the land; and the sons of
the prophets were sitting before him; and
he said to his servant, “Get the large pot,
and boil stew for the sons of the prophets.”
39 One went out into the field to gather
herbs, and found a wild vine, and
gathered a lap full of wild gourds from it,
and came and cut them up into the pot of
stew; for they didn’t recognize them.
40 So they poured out for the men to eat.
As they were eating some of the stew, they
cried out and said, “Man of God, there is
death in the pot!” And they could not eat
it.
41 But he said, “Then bring meal.” He
threw it into the pot; and he said, “Serve it
to the people, that they may eat.” And
there was nothing harmful in the pot.
42 A man from Baal Shalishah came, and
brought the man of God some bread of the
first fruits: twenty loaves of barley and

fresh ears of grain in his sack. Elisha said, "Give to the people, that they may eat."
43 His servant said, "What, should I set this before a hundred men?"
But he said, "Give it to the people, that they may eat; for the LORD says, 'They will eat, and will have some left over.' "
44 So he set it before them and they ate and had some left over, according to the LORD's word.

5

1 Now Naaman, captain of the army of the king of Syria, was a great man with his master, and honorable, because by him the LORD had given victory to Syria; he was also a mighty man of valor, but he was a leper.
2 The Syrians had gone out in bands, and had brought away captive out of the land of Israel a little girl, and she waited on Naaman's wife.
3 She said to her mistress, "I wish that my lord were with the prophet who is in Samaria! Then he would heal him of his leprosy."
4 Someone went in and told his lord, saying, "The girl who is from the land of Israel said this."
5 The king of Syria said, "Go now, and I will send a letter to the king of Israel."
He departed, and took with him ten talents† of silver, six thousand pieces of gold, and ten changes of clothing.
6 He brought the letter to the king of Israel, saying, "Now when this letter has come to you, behold, I have sent Naaman my servant to you, that you may heal him of his leprosy."
7 When 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 sends to me to heal a man of his leprosy? But please consider and see how he seeks a quarrel against me."
8 It was so, when Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his clothes, that he sent to the king, saying, "Why have you torn your clothes? Let him come now to me, and he shall know that there is a prophet in Israel."
9 So Naaman came with his horses and with his chariots, and stood at the door of the house of Elisha.
10 Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying, "Go and wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall come again to you, and you shall be clean."
11 But Naaman was angry, and went away and said, "Behold, I thought, 'He will surely come out to me, and stand, and call on the name of the LORD his God, and wave his hand over the place, and heal the leper.'
12 Aren't Abanah and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Couldn't I wash in them and be clean?" So he turned and went away in a rage.
13 His servants came near and spoke to him, and said, "My father, if the prophet had asked you do some great thing, wouldn't you have done it? How much rather then, when he says to you, 'Wash, and be clean'?"
14 Then went he down and dipped himself seven times in the Jordan, according to the saying of the man of God; and his flesh was restored like the flesh of a little child, and he was clean.
15 He returned to the man of God, he and all his company, and came, and stood before him; and he said, "See now, I know that there is no God in all the earth, but in Israel. Now therefore, please take a gift from your servant."
16 But he said, "As the LORD lives, before whom I stand, I will receive none."
He urged him to take it; but he refused.
17 Naaman said, "If not, then, please let two mules' load of earth be given to your servant; for your servant will from now on offer neither burnt offering nor sacrifice to other gods, but to the LORD.
18 In this thing may the LORD pardon your servant: when my master goes into the house of Rimmon to worship there, and he leans on my hand, and I bow myself in the house of Rimmon. When I bow myself in the house of Rimmon, may the LORD pardon your servant in this thing."

† **5:5** A talent is about 30 kilograms or 66 pounds

19 He said to him, “Go in peace.”
So he departed from him a little way.
20 But Gehazi the servant of Elisha the man of God, said, “Behold, my master has spared this Naaman the Syrian, in not receiving at his hands that which he brought. As the LORD lives, I will run after him, and take something from him.”
21 So Gehazi followed after Naaman. When Naaman saw one running after him, he came down from the chariot to meet him, and said, “Is all well?”
22 He said, “All is well. My master has sent me, saying, ‘Behold, even now two young men of the sons of the prophets have come to me from the hill country of Ephraim. Please give them a talent‡ of silver and two changes of clothing.’ ”
23 Naaman said, “Be pleased to take two talents.” He urged him, and bound two talents of silver in two bags, with two changes of clothing, and laid them on two of his servants; and they carried them before him.
24 When he came to the hill, he took them from their hand, and stored them in the house. Then he let the men go, and they departed.
25 But he went in, and stood before his master. Elisha said to him, “Where did you come from, Gehazi?”
He said, “Your servant went nowhere.”
26 He said to him, “Didn’t my heart go with you when the man turned from his chariot to meet you? Is it a time to receive money, and to receive garments, and olive groves and vineyards, and sheep and cattle, and male servants and female servants?
27 Therefore the leprosy of Naaman will cling to you and to your offspring§ forever.”
He went out from his presence a leper, as white as snow.

6

1 The sons of the prophets said to Elisha, “See now, the place where we live and meet with you is too small for us.
2 Please let us go to the Jordan, and each man take a beam from there, and let’s make us a place there, where we may live.”
He answered, “Go!”
3 One said, “Please be pleased to go with your servants.”
He answered, “I will go.”
4 So he went with them. When they came to the Jordan, they cut down wood.
5 But as one was cutting down a tree, the ax head fell into the water. Then he cried out and said, “Alas, my master! For it was borrowed.”
6 The man of God asked, “Where did it fall?” He showed him the place. He cut down a stick, threw it in there, and made the iron float.
7 He said, “Take it.” So he put out his hand and took it.
8 Now the king of Syria was at war against Israel; and he took counsel with his servants, saying, “My camp will be in such and such a place.”
9 The man of God sent to the king of Israel, saying, “Beware that you not pass this place, for the Syrians are coming down there.”
10 The king of Israel sent to the place which the man of God told him and warned him of; and he saved himself there, not once or twice.
11 The king of Syria’s heart was very troubled about this. He called his servants, and said to them, “Won’t you show me which of us is for the king of Israel?”
12 One of his servants said, “No, my lord, O king; but Elisha, the prophet who is in Israel, tells the king of Israel the words that you speak in your bedroom.”
13 He said, “Go and see where he is, that I may send and get him.”
He was told, “Behold, he is in Dothan.”
14 Therefore he sent horses, chariots, and a great army there. They came by night and surrounded the city.
15 When the servant of the man of God had risen early and gone out, behold, an army with horses and chariots was around the city. His servant said to him, “Alas, my master! What shall we do?”

‡ **5:22** A talent is about 30 kilograms or 66 pounds § **5:27** or, seed

16 He answered, “Don’t be afraid, for
those who are with us are more than
those who are with them.”
17 Elisha prayed, and said, “LORD,
please open his eyes, that he may see.” the
LORD opened the young man’s eyes, and
he saw; and behold, the mountain was full
of horses and chariots of fire around
Elisha.
18 When they came down to him, Elisha
prayed to the LORD, and said, “Please
strike this people with blindness.”

He struck them with blindness
according to Elisha’s word.

19 Elisha said to them, “This is not the
way, neither is this the city. Follow me,
and I will bring you to the man whom you
seek.” He led them to Samaria.
20 When they had come into Samaria,
Elisha said, “LORD, open these men’s eyes,
that they may see.”

The LORD opened their eyes, and they
saw; and behold, they were in the middle
of Samaria.
21 The king of Israel said to Elisha, when
he saw them, “My father, shall I strike
them? Shall I strike them?”
22 He answered, “You shall not strike
them. Would you strike those whom you
have taken captive with your sword and
with your bow? Set bread and water
before them, that they may eat and drink,
then go to their master.”
23 He prepared a great feast for them.
After they ate and drank, he sent them
away and they went to their master. So
the bands of Syria stopped raiding the
land of Israel.
24 After this, Benhadad king of Syria
gathered all his army, and went up and
besieged Samaria.
25 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.
26 As the king of Israel was passing by
on the wall, a woman cried to him, saying,
“Help, my lord, O king!”
27 He said, “If the LORD doesn’t help you,
where could I get help for you? From the
threshing floor, or from the wine press?”
28 Then the king asked her, “What is
your problem?”

She answered, “This woman said to me,
‘Give your son, that we may eat him today,
and we will eat my son tomorrow.’
29 So we boiled my son and ate him; and
I said to her on the next day, ‘Give up your
son, that we may eat him;’ and she has
hidden her son.”
30 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 behold, he had sackcloth
underneath on his body.
31 Then he said, “God do so to me, and
more also, if the head of Elisha the son of
Shaphat stays on him today.”
32 But Elisha was sitting in his house,
and the elders were sitting with him.
Then the king sent a man from before
him; but before the messenger came to
him, he said to the elders, “Do you see
how this son of a murderer has sent to
take away my head? Behold, when the
messenger comes, shut the door, and hold
the door shut against him. Isn’t the sound
of his master’s feet behind him?”
33 While he was still talking with them,
behold, the messenger came down to him.
Then he said, “Behold, this evil is from the
LORD. Why should I wait for the LORD
any longer?”

7

1 Elisha said, “Hear the LORD’s word.
The LORD says, ‘Tomorrow about this
time a seah† of fine flour will be sold for a
shekel,‡ and two seahs of barley for a
shekel, in the gate of Samaria.’ ”
2 Then the captain on whose hand the
king leaned answered the man of God,
and said, “Behold, if the LORD made
windows in heaven, could this thing be?”

He said, “Behold, you will see it with
your eyes, but will not eat of it.”

† **6:25** A kab was about 2 liters, so a fourth of a kab would be about 500 milliliters or about a pint † **7:1** 1 seah is about 7 liters or 1.9 gallons or 0.8 pecks ‡ **7:1** A shekel is about 10 grams or about 0.35 ounces. In this context, it was probably a silver coin weighing that much.

3 Now there were four leprous men at
the entrance of the gate. They said to one
another, “Why do we sit here until we die?
4 If we say, ‘We will enter into the city,’
then the famine is in the city, and we will
die there. If we sit still here, we also die.
Now therefore come, and let’s surrender
to the army of the Syrians. If they save us
alive, we will live; and if they kill us, we
will only die.”

5 They rose up in the twilight to go to the
camp of the Syrians. When they had come
to the outermost part of the camp of the
Syrians, behold, no man was there.

6 For the Lord§ had made the army of
the Syrians to hear the sound of chariots
and the sound of horses, even the noise of
a great army; and they said to one
another, “Behold, the king of Israel has
hired against us the kings of the Hittites
and the kings of the Egyptians to attack
us.”
7 Therefore they arose and fled in the
twilight, and left their tents, their horses,
and their donkeys, even the camp as it
was, and fled for their life.
8 When these lepers came to the
outermost part of the camp, they went
into one tent, and ate and drank, then
carried away silver, gold, and clothing
and went and hid it. Then they came back,
and entered into another tent and carried
things from there also, and went and hid
them.
9 Then they said to one another, “We
aren’t doing right. Today is a day of good
news, and we keep silent. If we wait until
the morning light, punishment will
overtake us. Now therefore come, let’s go
and tell the king’s household.”

10 So they came and called to the city
gatekeepers; and they told them, “We
came to the camp of the Syrians, and,
behold, there was no man there, not even
a man’s voice, but the horses tied, and the
donkeys tied, and the tents as they were.”
11 Then the gatekeepers called out and
told it to the king’s household within.

12 The king arose in the night, and said
to his servants, “I will now show you what
the Syrians have done to us. They know
that we are hungry. Therefore they have
gone out of the camp to hide themselves
in the field, saying, ‘When they come out
of the city, we shall take them alive, and
get into the city.’ ”

13 One of his servants answered, “Please
let some people take five of the horses that
remain, which are left in the city. Behold,
they are like all the multitude of Israel
who are left in it. Behold, they are like all
the multitude of Israel who are
consumed. Let’s send and see.”
14 Therefore they took two chariots with
horses; and the king sent them out to the
Syrian army, saying, “Go and see.”

15 They went after them to the Jordan;
and behold, all the path was full of
garments and equipment which the
Syrians had cast away in their haste. The
messengers returned and told the king.
16 The people went out and plundered
the camp of the Syrians. So a seah† of fine
flour was sold for a shekel, and two
measures of barley for a shekel,‡
according to the LORD’s word.
17 The king had appointed the captain
on whose hand he leaned to be in charge
of the gate; and the people trampled over
him in the gate, and he died as the man of
God had said, who spoke when the king
came down to him.
18 It happened as the man of God had
spoken to the king, saying, “Two seahs§ of
barley for a shekel,† and a seah of fine
flour for a shekel, shall be tomorrow
about this time in the gate of Samaria;”
19 and that captain answered the man of
God, and said, “Now, behold, if the LORD
made windows in heaven, might such a
thing be?” and he said, “Behold, you will
see it with your eyes, but will not eat of it.”

§ **7:6** The word translated “Lord” is “Adonai.” † **7:16** 1 seah is about 7 liters or 1.9 gallons or 0.8 pecks ‡ **7:16** A shekel is about 10 grams or about 0.35 ounces. In this context, it was probably a silver coin weighing that much.
§ **7:18** 1 seah is about 7 liters or 1.9 gallons or 0.8 pecks † **7:18** A shekel is about 10 grams or about 0.35 ounces. In this context, it was probably a silver coin weighing that much.

20 It happened like that to him, for the people trampled over him in the gate, and he died.

8

1 Now Elisha had spoken to the woman whose son he had restored to life, saying, "Arise, and go, you and your household, and stay for a while wherever you can; for the LORD has called for a famine. It will also come on the land for seven years."

2 The woman arose, and did according to the man of God's word. She went with her household, and lived in the land of the Philistines for seven years.

3 At the end of seven years, the woman returned from the land of the Philistines. Then she went out to beg the king for her house and for her land.

4 Now 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."

5 As he was telling the king how he had restored to life him who was dead, behold, the woman whose son he had restored to life begged the king for her house and for her land. Gehazi said, "My lord, O king, this is the woman, and this is her son, whom Elisha restored to life."

6 When the king asked the woman, she told him. So the king appointed to her a certain officer, saying, "Restore all that was hers, and all the fruits of the field since the day that she left the land, even until now."

7 Elisha came to Damascus; and Benhadad the king of Syria was sick. He was told, "The man of God has come here."

8 The king said to Hazael, "Take a present in your hand, and go meet the man of God, and inquire of the LORD by him, saying, 'Will I recover from this sickness?' "

9 So Hazael went to meet him and took a present with him, even of every good thing of Damascus, forty camels' burden, and came and stood before him and said, "Your son Benhadad king of Syria has sent me to you, saying, 'Will I recover from this sickness?' "

10 Elisha said to him, "Go, tell him, 'You will surely recover;' however the LORD has shown me that he will surely die."

11 He settled his gaze steadfastly on him, until he was ashamed. Then the man of God wept.

12 Hazael said, "Why do you weep, my lord?"

He answered, "Because I know the evil that you will do to the children of Israel. You will set their strongholds on fire, and you will kill their young men with the sword, and will dash their little ones in pieces, and rip up their pregnant women."

13 Hazael said, "But what is your servant, who is but a dog, that he could do this great thing?"

Elisha answered, "The LORD has shown me that you will be king over Syria."

14 Then he departed from Elisha, and came to his master, who said to him, "What did Elisha say to you?"

He answered, "He told me that you would surely recover."

15 On the next day, he took a thick cloth, dipped it in water, and spread it on the king's face, so that he died. Then Hazael reigned in his place.

16 In the fifth year of Joram the son of Ahab king of Israel, Jehoshaphat being king of Judah then, Jehoram the son of Jehoshaphat king of Judah began to reign.

17 He was thirty-two years old when he began to reign. He reigned eight years in Jerusalem.

18 He walked in the way of the kings of Israel, as did Ahab's house, for he married Ahab's daughter. He did that which was evil in the LORD's sight.

19 However, the LORD would not destroy Judah, for David his servant's sake, as he promised him to give to him a lamp for his children always.

20 In his days Edom revolted from under the hand of Judah, and made a king over themselves.

21 Then Joram crossed over to Zair, and all his chariots with him; and he rose up by night and struck the Edomites who surrounded him with the captains of the chariots; and the people fled to their tents.

22 So Edom revolted from under the
hand of Judah to this day. Then Libnah
revolted at the same time.
23 The rest of the acts of Joram, and all
that he did, aren't they written in the book
of the chronicles of the kings of Judah?
24 Joram slept with his fathers, and was
buried with his fathers in David's city;
and Ahaziah his son reigned in his place.

25 In the twelfth year of Joram the son of
Ahab king of Israel, Ahaziah the son of
Jehoram king of Judah began to reign.
26 Ahaziah was twenty-two years old
when he began to reign; and he reigned
one year in Jerusalem. His mother's name
was Athaliah the daughter of Omri king of
Israel.
27 He walked in the way of Ahab's house
and did that which was evil in the LORD's
sight, as did Ahab's house, for he was the
son-in-law of Ahab's house.
28 He went with Joram the son of Ahab
to war against Hazael king of Syria at
Ramoth Gilead, and the Syrians wounded
Joram.
29 King Joram returned to be healed in
Jezreel from the wounds which the
Syrians had given him at Ramah, when he
fought against Hazael king of Syria.
Ahaziah the son of Jehoram, king of
Judah, went down to see Joram the son of
Ahab in Jezreel, because he was sick.

9

1 Elisha the prophet called one of the
sons of the prophets, and said to him, "Put
your belt on your waist, take this vial of
oil in your hand, and go to Ramoth Gilead.
2 When you come there, find Jehu the
son of Jehoshaphat the son of Nimshi, and
go in and make him rise up from among
his brothers, and take him to an inner
room.
3 Then take the vial of oil, and pour it on
his head, and say, 'The LORD says, "I have
anointed you king over Israel." ' Then
open the door, flee, and don't wait."

4 So the young man, the young prophet,
went to Ramoth Gilead.
5 When he came, behold, the captains of
the army were sitting. Then he said, "I
have a message for you, captain."

Jehu said, "To which one of us?"

He said, "To you, O captain."
6 He arose, and went into the house.
Then he poured the oil on his head, and
said to him, "The LORD, the God of Israel,
says, 'I have anointed you king over the
people of the LORD, even over Israel.
7 You must strike your master Ahab's
house, that I may avenge the blood of my
servants the prophets, and the blood of all
the servants of the LORD, at the hand of
Jezebel.
8 For the whole house of Ahab will
perish. I will cut off from Ahab everyone
who urinates against a wall,† both him
who is shut up and him who is left at large
in Israel.
9 I will make Ahab's house like the
house of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, and
like the house of Baasha the son of Ahijah.
10 The dogs will eat Jezebel on the plot of
ground of Jezreel, and there shall be no
one to bury her.' " Then he opened the
door and fled.
11 When Jehu came out to the servants
of his lord and one said to him, "Is all well?
Why did this madman come to you?"

He said to them, "You know the man
and how he talks."
12 They said, "That is a lie. Tell us now."

He said, "He said to me, 'The LORD says,
I have anointed you king over Israel.' "
13 Then they hurried, and each man
took his cloak, and put it under him on the
top of the stairs, and blew the trumpet,
saying, "Jehu is king."
14 So Jehu the son of Jehoshaphat the
son of Nimshi conspired against Joram.
(Now Joram was defending Ramoth
Gilead, he and all Israel, because of
Hazael king of Syria;
15 but King Joram had returned to be
healed in Jezreel of the wounds which the
Syrians had given him when he fought
with Hazael king of Syria.) Jehu said, "If
this is your thinking, then let no one

† **9:8** or, male

escape and go out of the city to go to tell it in Jezreel."
16 So Jehu rode in a chariot and went to Jezreel, for Joram lay there. Ahaziah king of Judah had come down to see Joram.
17 Now the watchman was standing on the tower in Jezreel, and he spied the company of Jehu as he came, and said, "I see a company."

Joram said, "Take a horseman, and send to meet them, and let him say, 'Is it peace?' "
18 So one went on horseback to meet him, and said, "the king says, 'Is it peace?' "

Jehu said, "What do you have to do with peace? Fall in behind me!"

The watchman said, "The messenger came to them, but he isn't coming back."
19 Then he sent out a second on horseback, who came to them and said, "The king says, 'Is it peace?' "

Jehu answered, "What do you have to do with peace? Fall in behind me!"
20 The watchman said, "He came to them, and isn't coming back. The driving is like the driving of Jehu the son of Nimshi, for he drives furiously."
21 Joram said, "Get ready!"

They got his chariot ready. Then Joram king of Israel and Ahaziah king of Judah went out, each in his chariot; and they went out to meet Jehu, and found him on Naboth the Jezreelite's land.
22 When Joram saw Jehu, he said, "Is it peace, Jehu?"

He answered, "What peace, so long as the prostitution of your mother Jezebel and her witchcraft abound?"
23 Joram turned his hands and fled, and said to Ahaziah, "This is treason, Ahaziah!"
24 Jehu drew his bow with his full strength, and struck Joram between his arms; and the arrow went out at his heart, and he sunk down in his chariot.
25 Then Jehu said to Bidkar his captain, "Pick him up, and throw him in the plot of the field of Naboth the Jezreelite; for remember how, when you and I rode together after Ahab his father, the LORD laid this burden on him:
26 'Surely I have seen yesterday the blood of Naboth, and the blood of his sons,' says the LORD; 'and I will repay you in this plot of ground,' says the LORD. Now therefore take and cast him onto the plot of ground, according to the LORD's word."
27 But when Ahaziah the king of Judah saw this, he fled by the way of the garden house. Jehu followed after him, and said, "Strike him also in the chariot!" They struck him at the ascent of Gur, which is by Ibleam. He fled to Megiddo, and died there.
28 His servants carried him in a chariot to Jerusalem, and buried him in his tomb with his fathers in David's city.
29 In the eleventh year of Joram the son of Ahab, Ahaziah began to reign over Judah.
30 When Jehu had come to Jezreel, Jezebel heard of it; and she painted her eyes, and adorned her head, and looked out at the window.
31 As Jehu entered in at the gate, she said, "Do you come in peace, Zimri, you murderer of your master?"
32 He lifted up his face to the window, and said, "Who is on my side? Who?"

Two or three eunuchs looked out at him.
33 He said, "Throw her down!"

So they threw her down; and some of her blood was sprinkled on the wall, and on the horses. Then he trampled her under foot.
34 When he had come in, he ate and drank. Then he said, "See now to this cursed woman, and bury her; for she is a king's daughter."
35 They went to bury her, but they found no more of her than the skull, the feet, and the palms of her hands.
36 Therefore they came back, and told him.

He said, "This is the LORD's word, which he spoke by his servant Elijah the Tishbite, saying, 'The dogs will eat the flesh of Jezebel on the plot of Jezreel,
37 and the body of Jezebel will be as dung on the surface of the field on

Jezreel's land, so that they won't say, "This is Jezebel." ' "

10

1 Now Ahab had seventy sons in Samaria. Jehu wrote letters and sent them to Samaria, to the rulers of Jezreel, even the elders, and to those who brought up Ahab's sons, saying,

2 "Now as soon as this letter comes to you, since your master's sons are with you, and you have chariots and horses, a fortified city also, and armor,

3 select the best and fittest of your master's sons, set him on his father's throne, and fight for your master's house."

4 But they were exceedingly afraid, and said, "Behold, the two kings didn't stand before him! How then shall we stand?"

5 He who was over the household, and he who was over the city, the elders also, and those who raised the children, sent to Jehu, saying, "We are your servants, and will do all that you ask us. We will not make any man king. You do that which is good in your eyes."

6 Then he wrote a letter the second time to them, saying, "If you are on my side, and if you will listen to my voice, take the heads of the men who are your master's sons, and come to me to Jezreel by tomorrow this time."

Now the king's sons, being seventy persons, were with the great men of the city, who brought them up.

7 When the letter came to them, they took the king's sons and killed them, even seventy people, and put their heads in baskets, and sent them to him to Jezreel.

8 A messenger came and told him, "They have brought the heads of the king's sons."

He said, "Lay them in two heaps at the entrance of the gate until the morning."

9 In the morning, he went out and stood, and said to all the people, "You are righteous. Behold, I conspired against my master and killed him, but who killed all these?

10 Know now that nothing will fall to the earth of the LORD's word, which the LORD spoke concerning Ahab's house. For the LORD has done that which he spoke by his servant Elijah."

11 So Jehu struck all that remained of Ahab's house in Jezreel, with all his great men, his familiar friends, and his priests, until he left him no one remaining.

12 He arose and departed, and went to Samaria. As he was at the shearing house of the shepherds on the way,

13 Jehu met with the brothers of Ahaziah king of Judah, and said, "Who are you?"

They answered, "We are the brothers of Ahaziah. We are going down to greet the children of the king and the children of the queen."

14 He said, "Take them alive!"

They took them alive, and killed them at the pit of the shearing house, even forty-two men. He didn't leave any of them.

15 When he had departed from there, he met Jehonadab the son of Rechab coming to meet him. He greeted him, and said to him, "Is your heart right, as my heart is with your heart?"

Jehonadab answered, "It is."

"If it is, give me your hand." He gave him his hand; and he took him up to him into the chariot.

16 He said, "Come with me, and see my zeal for the LORD." So they made him ride in his chariot.

17 When he came to Samaria, he struck all who remained to Ahab in Samaria, until he had destroyed them, according to the LORD's word which he spoke to Elijah.

18 Jehu gathered all the people together, and said to them, "Ahab served Baal a little, but Jehu will serve him much.

19 Now therefore call to me all the prophets of Baal, all of his worshipers, and all of his priests. Let no one be absent, for I have a great sacrifice to Baal. Whoever is absent, he shall not live." But Jehu did deceptively, intending to destroy the worshipers of Baal.

20 Jehu said, "Sanctify a solemn assembly for Baal!"

So they proclaimed it.

21 Jehu sent through all Israel; and all the worshipers of Baal came, so that there

was not a man left that didn't come. They came into the house of Baal; and the house of Baal was filled from one end to another.
22 He said to him who kept the wardrobe, "Bring out robes for all the worshipers of Baal!"
So he brought robes out to them.
23 Jehu went with Jehonadab the son of Rechab into the house of Baal. Then he said to the worshipers of Baal, "Search, and see that none of the servants of the LORD are here with you, but only the worshipers of Baal."
24 So they went in to offer sacrifices and burnt offerings. Now Jehu had appointed for himself eighty men outside, and said, "If any of the men whom I bring into your hands escape, he who lets him go, his life shall be for the life of him."
25 As soon as he had finished offering the burnt offering, Jehu said to the guard and to the captains, "Go in and kill them! Let no one escape." So they struck them with the edge of the sword. The guard and the captains threw the bodies out, and went to the inner shrine of the house of Baal.
26 They brought out the pillars that were in the house of Baal and burned them.
27 They broke down the pillar of Baal, and broke down the house of Baal, and made it a latrine, to this day.
28 Thus Jehu destroyed Baal out of Israel.
29 However, Jehu didn't depart from the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, with which he made Israel to sin—the golden calves that were in Bethel and that were in Dan.
30 The LORD said to Jehu, "Because you have done well in executing that which is right in my eyes, and have done to Ahab's house according to all that was in my heart, your descendants shall sit on the throne of Israel to the fourth generation."
31 But Jehu took no heed to walk in the law of the LORD, the God of Israel, with all his heart. He didn't depart from the sins of Jeroboam, with which he made Israel to sin.
32 In those days the LORD began to cut away parts of Israel; and Hazael struck them in all the borders of Israel
33 from 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, even Gilead and Bashan.
34 Now the rest of the acts of Jehu, and all that he did, and all his might, aren't they written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel?
35 Jehu slept with his fathers; and they buried him in Samaria. Jehoahaz his son reigned in his place.
36 The time that Jehu reigned over Israel in Samaria was twenty-eight years.

11

1 Now when Athaliah the mother of Ahaziah saw that her son was dead, she arose and destroyed all the royal offspring.
2 But Jehosheba, the daughter of King Joram, sister of Ahaziah, took Joash the son of Ahaziah, and stole him away from among the king's sons who were slain, even him and his nurse, and put them in the bedroom; and they hid him from Athaliah, so that he was not slain.
3 He was with her hidden in the LORD's house six years while Athaliah reigned over the land.
4 In the seventh year Jehoiada sent and fetched the captains over hundreds of the Carites and of the guard, and brought them to him into the LORD's house; and he made a covenant with them, and made a covenant with them in the LORD's house, and showed them the king's son.
5 He commanded them, saying, "This is what you must do: a third of you, who come in on the Sabbath, shall be keepers of the watch of the king's house;
6 a third of you shall be at the gate Sur; and a third of you at the gate behind the guard. So you shall keep the watch of the house, and be a barrier.
7 The two companies of you, even all who go out on the Sabbath, shall keep the watch of the LORD's house around the king.
8 You shall surround the king, every man with his weapons in his hand; and he who comes within the ranks, let him be

slain. Be with the king when he goes out,
and when he comes in."
9 The captains over hundreds did
according to all that Jehoiada the priest
commanded; and they each took his men,
those who were to come in on the Sabbath
with those who were to go out on the
Sabbath, and came to Jehoiada the priest.
10 The priest delivered to the captains
over hundreds the spears and shields that
had been King David's, which were in the
LORD's house.
11 The guard stood, every man with his
weapons in his hand, from the right side
of the house to the left side of the house,
along by the altar and the house, around
the king.
12 Then he brought out the king's son,
and put the crown on him, and gave him
the covenant; and they made him king
and anointed him; and they clapped their
hands, and said, "Long live the king!"
13 When Athaliah heard the noise of the
guard and of the people, she came to the
people into the LORD's house;
14 and she looked, and behold, the king
stood by the pillar, as the tradition was,
with the captains and the trumpets by the
king; and all the people of the land
rejoiced, and blew trumpets. Then
Athaliah tore her clothes and cried,
"Treason! Treason!"
15 Jehoiada the priest commanded the
captains of hundreds who were set over
the army, and said to them, "Bring her out
between the ranks. Kill anyone who
follows her with the sword." For the priest
said, "Don't let her be slain in the LORD's
house."
16 So they seized her; and she went by
the way of the horses' entry to the king's
house, and she was slain there.
17 Jehoiada made a covenant between
the LORD and the king and the people,
that they should be the LORD's people;
also between the king and the people.
18 All the people of the land went to the
house of Baal, and broke it down. They
broke his altars and his images in pieces
thoroughly, and killed Mattan the priest
of Baal before the altars. The priest
appointed officers over the LORD's house.
19 He took the captains over hundreds,
and the Carites, and the guard, and all the
people of the land; and they brought
down the king from the LORD's house,
and came by the way of the gate of the
guard to the king's house. He sat on the
throne of the kings.
20 So all the people of the land rejoiced,
and the city was quiet. They had slain
Athaliah with the sword at the king's
house.
21 Jehoash was seven years old when he
began to reign.

12

1 Jehoash began to reign in the seventh
year of Jehu, and he reigned forty years in
Jerusalem. His mother's name was Zibiah
of Beersheba.
2 Jehoash did that which was right in the
LORD's eyes all his days in which Jehoiada
the priest instructed him.
3 However, the high places were not
taken away. The people still sacrificed
and burned incense in the high places.
4 Jehoash said to the priests, "All the
money of the holy things that is brought
into the LORD's house, in current money,
the money of the people for whom each
man is evaluated,* and all the money that
it comes into any man's heart to bring into
the LORD's house,
5 let the priests take it to them, each man
from his donor; and they shall repair the
damage to the house, wherever any
damage is found."
6 But it was so, that in the twenty-third
year of King Jehoash the priests had not
repaired the damage to the house.
7 Then King Jehoash called for Jehoiada
the priest, and for the other priests, and
said to them, "Why aren't you repairing
the damage to the house? Now therefore
take no more money from your
treasurers, but deliver it for repair of the
damage to the house."

* **12:4** Exodus 30:12

8 The priests consented that they should
take no more money from the people, and
not repair the damage to the house.
9 But Jehoiada the priest took a chest
and bored a hole in its lid, and set it beside
the altar, on the right side as one comes
into the LORD's house; and the priests
who kept the threshold put all the money
that was brought into the LORD's house
into it.
10 When they saw that there was much
money in the chest, the king's scribe and
the high priest came up, and they put it in
bags and counted the money that was
found in the LORD's house.
11 They gave the money that was
weighed out into the hands of those who
did the work, who had the oversight of the
LORD's house; and they paid it out to the
carpenters and the builders who worked
on the LORD's house,
12 and to the masons and the stone
cutters, and for buying timber and cut
stone to repair the damage to the LORD's
house, and for all that was laid out for the
house to repair it.
13 But there were not made for the
LORD's house cups of silver, snuffers,
basins, trumpets, any vessels of gold or
vessels of silver, of the money that was
brought into the LORD's house;
14 for they gave that to those who did
the work, and repaired the LORD's house
with it.
15 Moreover they didn't demand an
accounting from the men into whose
hand they delivered the money to give to
those who did the work; for they dealt
faithfully.
16 The money for the trespass offerings
and the money for the sin offerings was
not brought into the LORD's house. It was
the priests'.
17 Then Hazael king of Syria went up
and fought against Gath, and took it; and
Hazael set his face to go up to Jerusalem.
18 Jehoash king of Judah took all the
holy things that Jehoshaphat and Jehoram
and Ahaziah, his fathers, kings of Judah,
had dedicated, and his own holy things,
and all the gold that was found in the
treasures of the LORD's house, and of the
king's house, and sent it to Hazael king of
Syria; and he went away from Jerusalem.
19 Now the rest of the acts of Joash, and
all that he did, aren't they written in the
book of the chronicles of the kings of
Judah?
20 His servants arose and made a
conspiracy, and struck Joash at the house
of Millo, on the way that goes down to
Silla.
21 For Jozacar the son of Shimeath, and
Jehozabad the son of Shomer, his
servants, struck him, and he died; and
they buried him with his fathers in
David's city; and Amaziah his son reigned
in his place.

13

1 In the twenty-third year of Joash the
son of Ahaziah, king of Judah, Jehoahaz
the son of Jehu began to reign over Israel
in Samaria for seventeen years.
2 He did that which was evil in the
LORD's sight, and followed the sins of
Jeroboam the son of Nebat, with which he
made Israel to sin. He didn't depart from
it.
3 The LORD's anger burned against
Israel, and he delivered them into the
hand of Hazael king of Syria, and into the
hand of Benhadad the son of Hazael,
continually.
4 Jehoahaz begged the LORD, and the
LORD listened to him; for he saw the
oppression of Israel, how the king of Syria
oppressed them.
5 (The LORD gave Israel a savior, so that
they went out from under the hand of the
Syrians; and the children of Israel lived in
their tents as before.
6 Nevertheless they didn't depart from
the sins of the house of Jeroboam, with
which he made Israel to sin, but walked in
them; and the Asherah also remained in
Samaria.)
7 For he didn't leave to Jehoahaz of the
people any more than fifty horsemen, and
ten chariots, and ten thousand footmen;
for the king of Syria destroyed them and
made them like the dust in threshing.

8 Now the rest of the acts of Jehoahaz,
and all that he did, and his might, aren't
they written in the book of the chronicles
of the kings of Israel?
9 Jehoahaz slept with his fathers; and
they buried him in Samaria; and Joash his
son reigned in his place.
10 In the thirty-seventh year of Joash
king of Judah, Jehoash the son of Jehoahaz
began to reign over Israel in Samaria for
sixteen years.
11 He did that which was evil in the
LORD's sight. He didn't depart from all the
sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, with
which he made Israel to sin; but he
walked in them.
12 Now the rest of the acts of Joash, and
all that he did, and his might with which
he fought against Amaziah king of Judah,
aren't they written in the book of the
chronicles of the kings of Israel?
13 Joash slept with his fathers; and
Jeroboam sat on his throne. Joash was
buried in Samaria with the kings of Israel.
14 Now Elisha became sick with the
illness of which he died; and Joash the
king of Israel came down to him, and wept
over him, and said, "My father, my father,
the chariots of Israel and its horsemen!"
15 Elisha said to him, "Take bow and
arrows;" and he took bow and arrows for
himself.
16 He said to the king of Israel, "Put your
hand on the bow;" and he put his hand on
it. Elisha laid his hands on the king's
hands.
17 He said, "Open the window
eastward;" and he opened it. Then Elisha
said, "Shoot!" and he shot. He said, "The
LORD's arrow of victory, even the arrow
of victory over Syria; for you will strike
the Syrians in Aphek until you have
consumed them."
18 He said, "Take the arrows;" and he
took them. He said to the king of Israel,
"Strike the ground;" and he struck three
times, and stopped.
19 The man of God was angry with him,
and said, "You should have struck five or
six times. Then you would have struck
Syria until you had consumed it, but now
you will strike Syria just three times."
20 Elisha died, and they buried him.
Now the bands of the Moabites invaded
the land at the coming in of the year.
21 As they were burying a man, behold,
they saw a band of raiders; and they
threw the man into Elisha's tomb. As soon
as the man touched Elisha's bones, he
revived, and stood up on his feet.
22 Hazael king of Syria oppressed Israel
all the days of Jehoahaz.
23 But the LORD was gracious to them,
and had compassion on them, and
favored them because of his covenant
with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and
would not destroy them and he didn't cast
them from his presence as yet.
24 Hazael king of Syria died; and
Benhadad his son reigned in his place.
25 Jehoash the son of Jehoahaz took
again out of the hand of Benhadad the son
of Hazael the cities which he had taken
out of the hand of Jehoahaz his father by
war. Joash struck him three times, and
recovered the cities of Israel.

14

1 In the second year of Joash, son of
Joahaz, king of Israel, Amaziah the son of
Joash king of Judah began to reign.
2 He was twenty-five years old when he
began to reign; and he reigned
twenty-nine years in Jerusalem. His
mother's name was Jehoaddin of
Jerusalem.
3 He did that which was right in the
LORD's eyes, yet not like David his father.
He did according to all that Joash his
father had done.
4 However the high places were not
taken away. The people still sacrificed
and burned incense in the high places.
5 As soon as the kingdom was
established in his hand, he killed his
servants who had slain the king his father,
6 but the children of the murderers he
didn't put to death, according to that
which is written in the book of the law of
Moses, as the LORD commanded, saying,
"The fathers shall not be put to death for
the children, nor the children be put to
death for the fathers; but every man shall
die for his own sin."

7 He killed ten thousand Edomites in the
Valley of Salt, and took Sela by war, and
called its name Joktheel, to this day.
8 Then Amaziah sent messengers to
Jehoash, the son of Jehoahaz son of Jehu,
king of Israel, saying, “Come, let’s look one
another in the face.”
9 Jehoash the king of Israel sent to
Amaziah king of Judah, saying, “The
thistle that was in Lebanon sent to the
cedar that was in Lebanon, saying, ‘Give
your daughter to my son as wife.’ Then a
wild animal that was in Lebanon passed
by, and trampled down the thistle.
10 You have indeed struck Edom, and
your heart has lifted you up. Enjoy the
glory of it, and stay at home; for why
should you meddle to your harm, that you
fall, even you, and Judah with you?”
11 But Amaziah would not listen. So
Jehoash king of Israel went up; and he
and Amaziah king of Judah looked one
another in the face at Beth Shemesh,
which belongs to Judah.
12 Judah was defeated by Israel; and
each man fled to his tent.
13 Jehoash king of Israel took Amaziah
king of Judah, the son of Jehoash the son
of Ahaziah, at Beth Shemesh and came to
Jerusalem, then broke down the wall of
Jerusalem from the gate of Ephraim to the
corner gate, four hundred cubits.†
14 He took all the gold and silver and all
the vessels that were found in the LORD’s
house and in the treasures of the king’s
house, the hostages also, and returned to
Samaria.
15 Now the rest of the acts of Jehoash
which he did, and his might, and how he
fought with Amaziah king of Judah, aren’t
they written in the book of the chronicles
of the kings of Israel?
16 Jehoash slept with his fathers, and
was buried in Samaria with the kings of
Israel; and Jeroboam his son reigned in
his place.
17 Amaziah the son of Joash king of
Judah lived after the death of Jehoash son
of Jehoahaz, king of Israel, fifteen years.
18 Now the rest of the acts of Amaziah,
aren’t they written in the book of the
chronicles of the kings of Judah?
19 They made a conspiracy against him
in Jerusalem, and he fled to Lachish; but
they sent after him to Lachish and killed
him there.
20 They brought him on horses, and he
was buried at Jerusalem with his fathers
in David’s city.
21 All the people of Judah took Azariah,
who was sixteen years old, and made him
king in the place of his father Amaziah.
22 He built Elath and restored it to Judah.
After that the king slept with his fathers.
23 In the fifteenth year of Amaziah the
son of Joash king of Judah, Jeroboam the
son of Joash king of Israel began to reign
in Samaria for forty-one years.
24 He did that which was evil in the
LORD’s sight. He didn’t depart from all the
sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, with
which he made Israel to sin.
25 He restored the border of Israel from
the entrance of Hamath to the sea of the
Arabah, according to the LORD, the God of
Israel’s word, which he spoke by his
servant Jonah the son of Amittai, the
prophet, who was from Gath Hepher.
26 For the LORD saw the affliction of
Israel, that it was very bitter for all, slave
and free; and there was no helper for
Israel.
27 The LORD didn’t say that he would
blot out the name of Israel from under the
sky; but he saved them by the hand of
Jeroboam the son of Joash.
28 Now the rest of the acts of Jeroboam,
and all that he did, and his might, how he
fought, and how he recovered Damascus,
and Hamath, which had belonged to
Judah, for Israel, aren’t they written in the
book of the chronicles of the kings of
Israel?
29 Jeroboam slept with his fathers, even
with the kings of Israel; and Zechariah his
son reigned in his place.

15

1 In the twenty-seventh year of

† **14:13** A cubit is the length from the tip of the middle finger to the elbow on a man’s arm, or about 18 inches or 46 centimeters.

Jeroboam king of Israel, Azariah son of Amaziah king of Judah began to reign.
2 He was sixteen years old when he began to reign, and he reigned fifty-two years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Jecoliah of Jerusalem.
3 He did that which was right in the LORD's eyes, according to all that his father Amaziah had done.
4 However, the high places were not taken away. The people still sacrificed and burned incense in the high places.
5 The LORD struck 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, judging the people of the land.
6 Now the rest of the acts of Azariah, and all that he did, aren't they written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah?
7 Azariah slept with his fathers; and they buried him with his fathers in David's city; and Jotham his son reigned in his place.
8 In the thirty-eighth year of Azariah king of Judah, Zechariah the son of Jeroboam reigned over Israel in Samaria six months.
9 He did that which was evil in the LORD's sight, as his fathers had done. He didn't depart from the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, with which he made Israel to sin.
10 Shallum the son of Jabesh conspired against him, and struck him before the people and killed him, and reigned in his place.
11 Now the rest of the acts of Zechariah, behold, they are written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel.
12 This was the LORD's word which he spoke to Jehu, saying, "Your sons to the fourth generation shall sit on the throne of Israel." So it came to pass.
13 Shallum the son of Jabesh began to reign in the thirty-ninth year of Uzziah king of Judah, and he reigned for a month in Samaria.
14 Menahem the son of Gadi went up from Tirzah, came to Samaria, struck Shallum the son of Jabesh in Samaria, killed him, and reigned in his place.
15 Now the rest of the acts of Shallum, and his conspiracy which he made, behold, they are written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel.
16 Then Menahem attacked Tiphsah and all who were in it and its border areas, from Tirzah. He attacked it because they didn't open their gates to him, and he ripped up all their women who were with child.
17 In the thirty ninth year of Azariah king of Judah, Menahem the son of Gadi began to reign over Israel for ten years in Samaria.
18 He did that which was evil in the LORD's sight. He didn't depart all his days from the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, with which he made Israel to sin.
19 Pul the king of Assyria came against the land, and Menahem gave Pul one thousand talents† of silver, that his hand might be with him to confirm the kingdom in his hand.
20 Menahem exacted the money from Israel, even from all the mighty men of wealth, from each man fifty shekels‡ of silver, to give to the king of Assyria. So the king of Assyria turned back, and didn't stay there in the land.
21 Now the rest of the acts of Menahem, and all that he did, aren't they written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel?
22 Menahem slept with his fathers, and Pekahiah his son reigned in his place.
23 In the fiftieth year of Azariah king of Judah, Pekahiah the son of Menahem began to reign over Israel in Samaria for two years.
24 He did that which was evil in the LORD's sight. He didn't depart from the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, with which he made Israel to sin.
25 Pekah the son of Remaliah, his captain, conspired against him and

† **15:19** A talent is about 30 kilograms or 66 pounds, so 1000 talents is about 30 metric tons ‡ **15:20** A shekel is about 10 grams or about 0.35 ounces, so 50 shekels was about 0.5 kilograms or 1.1 pounds.

attacked him in Samaria, in the fortress of the king's house, with Argob and Arieh; and with him were fifty men of the Gileadites. He killed him, and reigned in his place.
26 Now the rest of the acts of Pekahiah, and all that he did, behold, they are written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel.
27 In the fifty-second year of Azariah king of Judah, Pekah the son of Remaliah began to reign over Israel in Samaria for twenty years.
28 He did that which was evil in the LORD's sight. He didn't depart from the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, with which he made Israel to sin.
29 In the days of Pekah king of Israel, Tiglath Pileser king of Assyria came and took Ijon, Abel Beth Maacah, Janoah, Kedesh, Hazor, Gilead, and Galilee, all the land of Naphtali; and he carried them captive to Assyria.
30 Hoshea the son of Elah made a conspiracy against Pekah the son of Remaliah, attacked him, killed him, and reigned in his place, in the twentieth year of Jotham the son of Uzziah.
31 Now the rest of the acts of Pekah, and all that he did, behold, they are written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel.
32 In the second year of Pekah the son of Remaliah king of Israel, Jotham the son of Uzziah king of Judah began to reign.
33 He was twenty-five years old when he began to reign, and he reigned sixteen years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Jerusha the daughter of Zadok.
34 He did that which was right in the LORD's eyes. He did according to all that his father Uzziah had done.
35 However the high places were not taken away. The people still sacrificed and burned incense in the high places. He built the upper gate of the LORD's house.
36 Now the rest of the acts of Jotham, and all that he did, aren't they written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah?
37 In those days, the LORD began to send Rezin the king of Syria and Pekah the son of Remaliah against Judah.
38 Jotham slept with his fathers, and was buried with his fathers in his father David's city; and Ahaz his son reigned in his place.

16

1 In the seventeenth year of Pekah the son of Remaliah, Ahaz the son of Jotham king of Judah began to reign.
2 Ahaz was twenty years old when he began to reign, and he reigned sixteen years in Jerusalem. He didn't do that which was right in the LORD his God's eyes, like David his father.
3 But he walked in the way of the kings of Israel, and even made his son to pass through the fire, according to the abominations of the nations whom the LORD cast out from before the children of Israel.
4 He sacrificed and burned incense in the high places, on the hills, and under every green tree.
5 Then Rezin king of Syria and Pekah son of Remaliah king of Israel came up to Jerusalem to wage war. They besieged Ahaz, but could not overcome him.
6 At that time Rezin king of Syria recovered Elath to Syria, and drove the Jews from Elath; and the Syrians came to Elath, and live there to this day.
7 So Ahaz sent messengers to Tiglath Pileser king of Assyria, saying, "I am your servant and your son. Come up and save me out of the hand of the king of Syria and out of the hand of the king of Israel, who rise up against me."
8 Ahaz took the silver and gold that was found in the LORD's house, and in the treasures of the king's house, and sent it for a present to the king of Assyria.
9 The king of Assyria listened to him; and the king of Assyria went up against Damascus and took it, and carried its people captive to Kir, and killed Rezin.
10 King Ahaz went to Damascus to meet Tiglath Pileser king of Assyria, and saw the altar that was at Damascus; and King Ahaz sent to Urijah the priest a drawing of the altar and plans to build it.

11 Urijah the priest built an altar.
According to all that King Ahaz had sent
from Damascus, so Urijah the priest made
it for the coming of King Ahaz from
Damascus.
12 When the king had come from
Damascus, the king saw the altar; and the
king came near to the altar, and offered
on it.
13 He burned his burnt offering and his
meal offering, poured his drink offering,
and sprinkled the blood of his peace
offerings on the altar.
14 The bronze altar, which was before
the LORD, he brought from the front of
the house, from between his altar and the
LORD's house, and put it on the north side
of his altar.
15 King Ahaz commanded Urijah the
priest, saying, "On the great altar burn the
morning burnt offering, the evening meal
offering, the king's burnt offering and his
meal offering, with the burnt offering of
all the people of the land, their meal
offering, and their drink offerings; and
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
inquire by."
16 Urijah the priest did so, according to
all that King Ahaz commanded.
17 King Ahaz cut off the panels of the
bases, and removed the basin from off
them, and took down the sea from off the
bronze oxen that were under it, and put it
on a pavement of stone.
18 He removed the covered way for the
Sabbath that they had built in the house,
and the king's outer entrance to the
LORD's house, because of the king of
Assyria.
19 Now the rest of the acts of Ahaz which
he did, aren't they written in the book of
the chronicles of the kings of Judah?
20 Ahaz slept with his fathers, and was
buried with his fathers in David's city;
and Hezekiah his son reigned in his place.

17

1 In the twelfth year of Ahaz king of
Judah, Hoshea the son of Elah began to
reign in Samaria over Israel for nine
years.
2 He did that which was evil in the
LORD's sight, yet not as the kings of Israel
who were before him.
3 Shalmaneser king of Assyria came up
against him; and Hoshea became his
servant, and brought him tribute.
4 The king of Assyria discovered a
conspiracy in Hoshea; for he had sent
messengers to So king of Egypt, and
offered no tribute to the king of Assyria,
as he had done year by year. Therefore
the king of Assyria seized him, and bound
him in prison.
5 Then the king of Assyria came up
throughout all the land, went up to
Samaria, and besieged it three years.
6 In the ninth year of Hoshea the king of
Assyria took Samaria and carried Israel
away to Assyria, and placed them in
Halah, and on the Habor, the river of
Gozan, and in the cities of the Medes.
7 It was so because the children of Israel
had sinned against the LORD their God,
who brought them up out of the land of
Egypt from under the hand of Pharaoh
king of Egypt, and had feared other gods,
8 and walked in the statutes of the
nations whom the LORD cast out from
before the children of Israel, and of the
kings of Israel, which they made.
9 The children of Israel secretly did
things that were not right against the
LORD their God; and they built high
places for themselves in all their cities,
from the tower of the watchmen to the
fortified city;
10 and they set up for themselves pillars
and Asherah poles on every high hill and
under every green tree;
11 and there they burned incense in all
the high places, as the nations whom the
LORD carried away before them did; and
they did wicked things to provoke the
LORD to anger;
12 and they served idols, of which the
LORD had said to them, "You shall not do
this thing."
13 Yet the LORD 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, according to all the law which I commanded your fathers, and which I sent to you by my servants the prophets."
14 Notwithstanding, they would not listen, but hardened their neck like the neck of their fathers who didn't believe in the LORD their God.
15 They rejected his statutes and his covenant that he made with their fathers, and his testimonies which he testified to them; and they followed vanity, and became vain, and followed the nations that were around them, concerning whom the LORD had commanded them that they should not do like them.
16 They abandoned all the commandments of the LORD their God, and made molten images for themselves, even two calves, and made an Asherah, and worshiped all the army of the sky, and served Baal.
17 They caused their sons and their daughters to pass through the fire, used divination and enchantments, and sold themselves to do that which was evil in the LORD's sight, to provoke him to anger.
18 Therefore the LORD was very angry with Israel, and removed them out of his sight. There was none left but the tribe of Judah only.

19 Also Judah didn't keep the commandments of the LORD their God, but walked in the statutes of Israel which they made.
20 The LORD rejected all the offspring of Israel, afflicted them, and delivered them into the hands of raiders, until he had cast them out of his sight.
21 For he tore Israel from David's house; and they made Jeroboam the son of Nebat king; and Jeroboam drove Israel from following the LORD, and made them sin a great sin.
22 The children of Israel walked in all the sins of Jeroboam which he did; they didn't depart from them
23 until the LORD removed Israel out of his sight, as he said by all his servants the prophets. So Israel was carried away out of their own land to Assyria to this day.

24 The king of Assyria brought people from Babylon, from Cuthah, from Avva, and from Hamath and Sepharvaim, and placed them in the cities of Samaria instead of the children of Israel; and they possessed Samaria and lived in its cities.
25 So it was, at the beginning of their dwelling there, that they didn't fear the LORD. Therefore the LORD sent lions among them, which killed some of them.
26 Therefore they spoke to the king of Assyria, saying, "The nations which you have carried away and placed in the cities of Samaria don't know the law of the god of the land. Therefore he has sent lions among them; and behold, they kill them, because they don't know the law of the god of the land."
27 Then the king of Assyria commanded, saying, "Carry there one of the priests whom you brought from there; and let him† go and dwell there, and let him teach them the law of the god of the land."
28 So one of the priests whom they had carried away from Samaria came and lived in Bethel, and taught them how they should fear the LORD.
29 However every nation made gods of their own, and put them in the houses of the high places which the Samaritans had made, every nation in their cities in which they lived.
30 The men of Babylon made Succoth Benoth, and the men of Cuth made Nergal, and the men of Hamath made Ashima,
31 and the Avvites made Nibhaz and Tartak; and the Sepharvites burned their children in the fire to Adrammelech and Anammelech, the gods of Sepharvaim.
32 So they feared the LORD, and also made from among themselves priests of the high places for themselves, who sacrificed for them in the houses of the high places.
33 They feared the LORD, and also served their own gods, after the ways of the nations from among whom they had been carried away.
34 To this day they do what they did before. They don't fear the LORD, and

† **17:27** Hebrew: *them*

they do not follow the statutes, or the ordinances, or the law, or the commandment which the LORD commanded the children of Jacob, whom he named Israel;
35 with whom the LORD had made a covenant and commanded them, saying, "You shall not fear other gods, nor bow yourselves to them, nor serve them, nor sacrifice to them;
36 but you shall fear the LORD, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt with great power and with an outstretched arm, and you shall bow yourselves to him, and you shall sacrifice to him.
37 The statutes and the ordinances, and the law and the commandment which he wrote for you, you shall observe to do forever more. You shall not fear other gods.
38 You shall not forget the covenant that I have made with you. You shall not fear other gods.
39 But you shall fear the LORD your God, and he will deliver you out of the hand of all your enemies."
40 However they didn't listen, but they did what they did before.
41 So these nations feared the LORD, and also served their engraved images. Their children did likewise, and so did their children's children. They do as their fathers did to this day.

18

1 Now in the third year of Hoshea son of Elah king of Israel, Hezekiah the son of Ahaz king of Judah began to reign.
2 He was twenty-five years old when he began to reign, and he reigned twenty-nine years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Abi the daughter of Zechariah.
3 He did that which was right in the LORD's eyes, according to all that David his father had done.
4 He removed the high places, broke the pillars, and cut down the Asherah. He also broke in pieces the bronze serpent that Moses had made, because in those days the children of Israel burned incense to it; and he called it Nehushtan.
5 He trusted in the LORD, the God of Israel, so that after him was no one like him among all the kings of Judah, nor among them that were before him.
6 For he joined with the LORD. He didn't depart from following him, but kept his commandments, which the LORD commanded Moses.
7 The LORD was with him. Wherever he went, he prospered. He rebelled against the king of Assyria, and didn't serve him.
8 He struck the Philistines to Gaza and its borders, from the tower of the watchmen to the fortified city.
9 In 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.
10 At the end of three years they took it. In the sixth year of Hezekiah, which was the ninth year of Hoshea king of Israel, Samaria was taken.
11 The king of Assyria carried Israel away to Assyria, and put them in Halah, and on the Habor, the river of Gozan, and in the cities of the Medes,
12 because they didn't obey the LORD their God's voice, but transgressed his covenant, even all that Moses the servant of the LORD commanded, and would not hear it or do it.
13 Now in the fourteenth year of King Hezekiah, Sennacherib king of Assyria came up against all the fortified cities of Judah and took them.
14 Hezekiah king of Judah sent to the king of Assyria at Lachish, saying, "I have offended you. Withdraw from me. That which you put on me, I will bear." The king of Assyria appointed to Hezekiah king of Judah three hundred talents of silver and thirty talents† of gold.
15 Hezekiah gave him all the silver that was found in the LORD's house and in the treasures of the king's house.
16 At that time, Hezekiah cut off the gold from the doors of the LORD's temple, and from the pillars which Hezekiah king of

† **18:14** A talent is about 30 kilograms or 66 pounds or 965 Troy ounces

Judah had overlaid, and gave it to the king of Assyria.

17 The king of Assyria sent Tartan, Rabsaris, and Rabshakeh from Lachish to King Hezekiah with a great army to Jerusalem. They went up and came to Jerusalem. When they had come up, they came and stood by the conduit of the upper pool, which is in the highway of the fuller's field.
18 When they had called to the king, Eliakim the son of Hilkiah, who was over the household, and Shebnah the scribe, and Joah the son of Asaph the recorder came out to them.
19 Rabshakeh said to them, "Say now to Hezekiah, 'The great king, the king of Assyria, says, "What confidence is this in which you trust?
20 You say (but they are but vain words), 'There is counsel and strength for war.' Now on whom do you trust, that you have rebelled against me?
21 Now, behold, you trust in the staff of this bruised reed, even in Egypt. If a man leans on it, it will go into his hand and pierce it. So is Pharaoh king of Egypt to all who trust on him.
22 But if you tell me, 'We trust in the LORD our God,' isn't that he whose high places and whose altars Hezekiah has taken away, and has said to Judah and to Jerusalem, 'You shall worship before this altar in Jerusalem'?
23 Now therefore, please give pledges to my master the king of Assyria, and I will give you two thousand horses if you are able on your part to set riders on them.
24 How then can you turn away the face of one captain of the least of my master's servants, and put your trust on Egypt for chariots and for horsemen?
25 Have I now come up without the LORD against this place to destroy it? The LORD said to me, 'Go up against this land, and destroy it.' " ' "
26 Then Eliakim the son of Hilkiah, Shebnah, and Joah, said to Rabshakeh, "Please speak to your servants in the Syrian language, for we understand it. Don't speak with us in the Jews' language, in the hearing of the people who are on the wall."
27 But Rabshakeh said to them, "Has my master sent me to your master and to you, to speak these words? Hasn't he sent me to the men who sit on the wall, to eat their own dung, and to drink their own urine with you?"
28 Then Rabshakeh stood and cried with a loud voice in the Jews' language, and spoke, saying, "Hear the word of the great king, the king of Assyria.
29 The king says, 'Don't let Hezekiah deceive you, for he will not be able to deliver you out of his hand.
30 Don't let Hezekiah make you trust in the LORD, saying, "The LORD will surely deliver us, and this city shall not be given into the hand of the king of Assyria."
31 Don't listen to Hezekiah.' For the king of Assyria says, 'Make your peace with me, and come out to me; and everyone of you eat from his own vine, and everyone from his own fig tree, and everyone drink water from his own cistern;
32 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 of honey, that you may live and not die. Don't listen to Hezekiah when he persuades you, saying, "The LORD will deliver us."
33 Has any of the gods of the nations ever delivered his land out of the hand of the king of Assyria?
34 Where are the gods of Hamath and of Arpad? Where are the gods of Sepharvaim, of Hena, and Ivvah? Have they delivered Samaria out of my hand?
35 Who are they among all the gods of the countries, that have delivered their country out of my hand, that the LORD should deliver Jerusalem out of my hand?' "
36 But the people stayed quiet, and answered him not a word; for the king's commandment was, "Don't answer him."
37 Then Eliakim the son of Hilkiah, who was over the household, came with Shebna the scribe and Joah the son of Asaph the recorder to Hezekiah with their

clothes torn, and told him Rabshakeh's words.

19

1 When King Hezekiah heard it, he tore
his clothes, covered himself with
sackcloth, and went into the LORD's
house.
2 He sent Eliakim, who was over the
household, Shebna the scribe, and the
elders of the priests, covered with
sackcloth, to Isaiah the prophet the son of
Amoz.
3 They said to him, "Hezekiah says,
'Today is a day of trouble, of rebuke, and
of rejection; for the children have come to
the point of birth, and there is no strength
to deliver them.
4 It may be the LORD your God will hear
all the words of Rabshakeh, whom the
king of Assyria his master has sent to defy
the living God, and will rebuke the words
which the LORD your God has heard.
Therefore lift up your prayer for the
remnant that is left.' "
5 So the servants of King Hezekiah came
to Isaiah.
6 Isaiah said to them, "Tell your master
this: 'The LORD says, "Don't be afraid of
the words that you have heard, with
which the servants of the king of Assyria
have blasphemed me.
7 Behold, I will put a spirit in him, and
he will hear news, and will return to his
own land. I will cause him to fall by the
sword in his own land." ' "
8 So Rabshakeh returned and found the
king of Assyria warring against Libnah;
for he had heard that he had departed
from Lachish.
9 When he heard it said of Tirhakah
king of Ethiopia, "Behold, he has come out
to fight against you," he sent messengers
again to Hezekiah, saying,
10 "Tell Hezekiah king of Judah this:
'Don't let your God in whom you trust
deceive you, saying, Jerusalem will not be
given into the hand of the king of Assyria.
11 Behold, you have heard what the
kings of Assyria have done to all lands, by
destroying them utterly. Will you be
delivered?
12 Have the gods of the nations
delivered them, which my fathers have
destroyed—Gozan, Haran, Rezeph, and the
children of Eden who were in Telassar?
13 Where is the king of Hamath, the king
of Arpad, and the king of the city of
Sepharvaim, of Hena, and Ivvah?' "
14 Hezekiah received the letter from the
hand of the messengers and read it. Then
Hezekiah went up to the LORD's house,
and spread it before the LORD.
15 Hezekiah prayed before the LORD,
and said, "LORD, the God of Israel,
enthroned above the cherubim, you are
the God, even you alone, of all the
kingdoms of the earth. You have made
heaven and earth.
16 Incline your ear, LORD, and hear.
Open your eyes, LORD, and see. Hear the
words of Sennacherib, which he has sent
to defy the living God.
17 Truly, LORD, the kings of Assyria have
laid waste the nations and their lands,
18 and have cast their gods into the fire;
for they were no gods, but the work of
men's hands, wood and stone. Therefore
they have destroyed them.
19 Now therefore, LORD our God, save
us, I beg you, out of his hand, that all the
kingdoms of the earth may know that you,
LORD, are God alone."
20 Then Isaiah the son of Amoz sent to
Hezekiah, saying, "The LORD, the God of
Israel, says 'You have prayed to me against
Sennacherib king of Assyria, and I have
heard you.
21 This is the word that the LORD has
spoken concerning him: 'The virgin
daughter of Zion has despised you and
ridiculed you. The daughter of Jerusalem
has shaken her head at you.
22 Whom have you defied and
blasphemed? Against whom have you
exalted your voice and lifted up your eyes
on high? Against the Holy One of Israel!
23 By your messengers, you have defied
the Lord, and have said, "With the
multitude of my chariots, I have come up
to the height of the mountains, to the
innermost parts of Lebanon, and I will cut
down its tall cedars and its choice cypress

trees; and I will enter into his farthest
lodging place, the forest of his fruitful
field.
24 I have dug and drunk strange waters,
and I will dry up all the rivers of Egypt
with the sole of my feet."
25 Haven't you heard how I have done it
long ago, and formed it of ancient times?
Now I have brought it to pass, that it
should be yours to lay waste fortified
cities into ruinous heaps.
26 Therefore their inhabitants had little
power. They were dismayed and
confounded. They were like the grass of
the field and like the green herb, like the
grass on the housetops and like grain
blasted before it has grown up.
27 But I know your sitting down, your
going out, your coming in, and your
raging against me.
28 Because of your raging against me,
and because your arrogance has come up
into my ears, therefore I will put my hook
in your nose, and my bridle in your lips,
and I will turn you back by the way by
which you came.'
29 "This will be the sign to you: This
year, you will eat that which grows of
itself, and in the second year that which
springs from that; and in the third year
sow and reap, and plant vineyards and
eat their fruit.
30 The remnant that has escaped of the
house of Judah will again take root
downward, and bear fruit upward.
31 For out of Jerusalem a remnant will
go out, and out of Mount Zion those who
shall escape. The LORD's zeal will
perform this.
32 "Therefore the LORD says concerning
the king of Assyria, 'He will not come to
this city, nor shoot an arrow there. He will
not come before it with shield, nor cast up
a mound against it.
33 He will return the same way that he
came, and he will not come to this city,'
says the LORD.
34 'For I will defend this city to save it,
for my own sake and for my servant
David's sake.' "
35 That night, the LORD's angel went out
and struck one hundred eighty-five
thousand in the camp of the Assyrians.
When men arose early in the morning,
behold, these were all dead bodies.
36 So Sennacherib king of Assyria
departed, went home, and lived at
Nineveh.
37 As he was worshiping in the house of
Nisroch his god, Adrammelech and
Sharezer struck him with the sword; and
they escaped into the land of Ararat. Esar
Haddon his son reigned in his place.

20

1 In those days Hezekiah was sick and
dying. Isaiah the prophet the son of Amoz
came to him, and said to him, "The LORD
says, 'Set your house in order; for you will
die, and not live.' "
2 Then he turned his face to the wall,
and prayed to the LORD, saying,
3 "Remember now, LORD, I beg you,
how I have walked before you in truth
and with a perfect heart, and have done
that which is good in your sight." And
Hezekiah wept bitterly.
4 Before Isaiah had gone out into the
middle part of the city, the LORD's word
came to him, saying,
5 "Turn back, and tell Hezekiah the
prince of my people, 'The LORD, the God
of David your father, says, "I have heard
your prayer. I have seen your tears.
Behold, I will heal you. On the third day,
you will go up to the LORD's house.
6 I will add to your days fifteen years. I
will deliver you and this city out of the
hand of the king of Assyria. I will defend
this city for my own sake, and for my
servant David's sake." ' "
7 Isaiah said, "Take a cake of figs."
They took and laid it on the boil, and he
recovered.
8 Hezekiah said to Isaiah, "What will be
the sign that the LORD will heal me, and
that I will go up to the LORD's house the
third day?"
9 Isaiah said, "This will be the sign to
you from the LORD, that the LORD will do
the thing that he has spoken: should the

shadow go forward ten steps, or go back ten steps?"
10 Hezekiah answered, "It is a light thing for the shadow to go forward ten steps. No, but let the shadow return backward ten steps."
11 Isaiah the prophet cried to the LORD; and he brought the shadow ten steps backward, by which it had gone down on the sundial of Ahaz.
12 At that time Berodach Baladan the son of Baladan, king of Babylon, sent letters and a present to Hezekiah, for he had heard that Hezekiah had been sick.
13 Hezekiah listened to them, and showed them all the storehouse of his precious things—the silver, the gold, the spices, and the precious oil, and the house of his armor, and all that was found in his treasures. There was nothing in his house, or in all his dominion, that Hezekiah didn't show them.
14 Then Isaiah the prophet came to King Hezekiah, and said to him, "What did these men say? From where did they come to you?"
Hezekiah said, "They have come from a far country, even from Babylon."
15 He said, "What have they seen in your house?"
Hezekiah answered, "They have seen all that is in my house. There is nothing among my treasures that I have not shown them."
16 Isaiah said to Hezekiah, "Hear the LORD's word.
17 'Behold, the days come that all that is in your house, and that which your fathers have laid up in store to this day, will be carried to Babylon. Nothing will be left,' says the LORD.
18 'They will take away some of your sons who will issue from you, whom you will father; and they will be eunuchs in the palace of the king of Babylon.' "
19 Then Hezekiah said to Isaiah, "The LORD's word which you have spoken is good." He said moreover, "Isn't it so, if peace and truth will be in my days?"
20 Now the rest of the acts of Hezekiah, and all his might, and how he made the pool, and the conduit, and brought water into the city, aren't they written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah?
21 Hezekiah slept with his fathers, and Manasseh his son reigned in his place.

21

1 Manasseh was twelve years old when he began to reign, and he reigned fifty-five years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Hephzibah.
2 He did that which was evil in the LORD's sight, after the abominations of the nations whom the LORD cast out before the children of Israel.
3 For he built again the high places which Hezekiah his father had destroyed; and he raised up altars for Baal, and made an Asherah, as Ahab king of Israel did, and worshiped all the army of the sky, and served them.
4 He built altars in the LORD's house, of which the LORD said, "I will put my name in Jerusalem."
5 He built altars for all the army of the sky in the two courts of the LORD's house.
6 He made his son to pass through the fire, practiced sorcery, used enchantments, and dealt with those who had familiar spirits and with wizards. He did much evil in the LORD's sight, to provoke him to anger.
7 He set the engraved image of Asherah that he had made in the house of which the LORD said to David and to Solomon his son, "In this house, and in Jerusalem, which I have chosen out of all the tribes of Israel, I will put my name forever;
8 I will not cause the feet of Israel to wander any more out of the land which I gave their fathers, if only they will observe to do according to all that I have commanded them, and according to all the law that my servant Moses commanded them."
9 But they didn't listen, and Manasseh seduced them to do that which is evil more than the nations did whom the LORD destroyed before the children of Israel.
10 The LORD spoke by his servants the prophets, saying,

11 “Because Manasseh king of Judah has
done these abominations, and has done
wickedly above all that the Amorites did,
who were before him, and has also made
Judah to sin with his idols;
12 therefore the LORD the God of Israel
says, ‘Behold, I will bring such evil on
Jerusalem and Judah that whoever hears
of it, both his ears will tingle.
13 I will stretch over Jerusalem the line
of Samaria, and the plumb line of Ahab’s
house; and I will wipe Jerusalem as a man
wipes a dish, wiping it and turning it
upside down.
14 I will cast off the remnant of my
inheritance and deliver them into the
hands of their enemies. They will become
a prey and a plunder to all their enemies,
15 because they have done that which is
evil in my sight, and have provoked me to
anger since the day their fathers came out
of Egypt, even to this day.’ ”
16 Moreover Manasseh shed innocent
blood very much, until he had filled
Jerusalem from one end to another; in
addition to his sin with which he made
Judah to sin, in doing that which was evil
in the LORD’s sight.
17 Now the rest of the acts of Manasseh,
and all that he did, and his sin that he
sinned, aren’t they written in the book of
the chronicles of the kings of Judah?
18 Manasseh slept with his fathers, and
was buried in the garden of his own
house, in the garden of Uzza; and Amon
his son reigned in his place.
19 Amon was twenty-two years old
when he began to reign; and he reigned
two years in Jerusalem. His mother’s
name was Meshullemeth the daughter of
Haruz of Jotbah.
20 He did that which was evil in the
LORD’s sight, as Manasseh his father did.
21 He walked in all the ways that his
father walked in, and served the idols that
his father served, and worshiped them;
22 and he abandoned the LORD, the God
of his fathers, and didn’t walk in the way
of the LORD.
23 The servants of Amon conspired
against him, and put the king to death in
his own house.
24 But the people of the land killed all
those who had conspired against King
Amon; and the people of the land made
Josiah his son king in his place.
25 Now the rest of the acts of Amon
which he did, aren’t they written in the
book of the chronicles of the kings of
Judah?
26 He was buried in his tomb in the
garden of Uzza, and Josiah his son reigned
in his place.

22

1 Josiah was eight years old when he
began to reign, and he reigned thirty-one
years in Jerusalem. His mother’s name
was Jedidah the daughter of Adaiah of
Bozkath.
2 He did that which was right in the
LORD’s eyes, and walked in all the ways of
David his father, and didn’t turn away to
the right hand or to the left.
3 In the eighteenth year of King Josiah,
the king sent Shaphan, the son of Azaliah
the son of Meshullam, the scribe, to the
LORD’s house, saying,
4 “Go up to Hilkiah the high priest, that
he may count the money which is brought
into the LORD’s house, which the keepers
of the threshold have gathered of the
people.
5 Let them deliver it into the hand of the
workers who have the oversight of the
LORD’s house; and let them give it to the
workers who are in the LORD’s house, to
repair the damage to the house,
6 to the carpenters, and to the builders,
and to the masons, and for buying timber
and cut stone to repair the house.
7 However, no accounting shall be asked
of them for the money delivered into their
hand, for they deal faithfully.”
8 Hilkiah the high priest said to Shaphan
the scribe, “I have found the book of the
law in the LORD’s house.” Hilkiah
delivered the book to Shaphan, and he
read it.
9 Shaphan the scribe came to the king,
and brought the king word again, and
said, “Your servants have emptied out the
money that was found in the house, and
have delivered it into the hands of the

workmen who have the oversight of the LORD's house."
10 Shaphan the scribe told the king, saying, "Hilkiah the priest has delivered a book to me." Then Shaphan read it before the king.
11 When the king had heard the words of the book of the law, he tore his clothes.
12 The king commanded Hilkiah the priest, Ahikam the son of Shaphan, Achbor the son of Micaiah, Shaphan the scribe, and Asaiah the king's servant, saying,
13 "Go inquire of the LORD for me, and for the people, and for all Judah, concerning the words of this book that is found; for great is the LORD's wrath that is kindled against us, because our fathers have not listened to the words of this book, to do according to all that which is written concerning us."
14 So Hilkiah the priest, Ahikam, Achbor, Shaphan, and Asaiah went to Huldah the prophetess, the wife of Shallum the son of Tikvah, the son of Harhas, keeper of the wardrobe (now she lived in Jerusalem in the second quarter); and they talked with her.
15 She said to them, "The LORD the God of Israel says, 'Tell the man who sent you to me,
16 "The LORD says, 'Behold, I will bring evil on this place and on its inhabitants, even all the words of the book which the king of Judah has read.
17 Because they have forsaken me and have burned incense to other gods, that they might provoke me to anger with all the work of their hands, therefore my wrath shall be kindled against this place, and it will not be quenched.' "
18 But to the king of Judah, who sent you to inquire of the LORD, tell him, "The LORD the God of Israel says, 'Concerning the words which you have heard,
19 because your heart was tender, and you humbled yourself before the LORD when you heard what I spoke against this place and against its inhabitants, that they should become a desolation and a curse, and have torn your clothes and wept before me, I also have heard you,' says the LORD.
20 'Therefore behold, I will gather you to your fathers, and you will be gathered to your grave in peace. Your eyes will not see all the evil which I will bring on this place.' " ' " So they brought this message back to the king.

23

1 The king sent, and they gathered to him all the elders of Judah and of Jerusalem.
2 The king went up to the LORD's house, and all the men of Judah and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem with him—with the priests, the prophets, and all the people, both small and great; and he read in their hearing all the words of the book of the covenant which was found in the LORD's house.
3 The king stood by the pillar and made a covenant before the LORD to walk after the LORD and to keep his commandments, his testimonies, and his statutes with all his heart and all his soul, to confirm the words of this covenant that were written in this book; and all the people agreed to the covenant.
4 The king commanded Hilkiah the high priest, and the priests of the second order, and the keepers of the threshold, to bring out of the LORD's temple all the vessels that were made for Baal, for the Asherah, and for all the army of the sky; and he burned them outside of Jerusalem in the fields of the Kidron, and carried their ashes to Bethel.
5 He got rid of the idolatrous priests whom the kings of Judah had ordained to burn incense in the high places in the cities of Judah and in the places around Jerusalem; those also who burned incense to Baal, to the sun, to the moon, to the planets, and to all the army of the sky.
6 He brought out the Asherah from the LORD's house, outside of Jerusalem, to the brook Kidron, and burned it at the brook Kidron, and beat it to dust, and cast its dust on the graves of the common people.
7 He broke down the houses of the male shrine prostitutes that were in the LORD's

house, where the women wove hangings for the Asherah.
8 He brought all the priests out of the cities of Judah, and defiled the high places where the priests had burned incense, from Geba to Beersheba; and he broke down the high places of the gates that were at the entrance of the gate of Joshua the governor of the city, which were on a man's left hand at the gate of the city.
9 Nevertheless the priests of the high places didn't come up to the LORD's altar in Jerusalem, but they ate unleavened bread among their brothers.
10 He defiled Topheth, which is in the valley of the children of Hinnom, that no man might make his son or his daughter to pass through the fire to Molech.
11 He took away the horses that the kings of Judah had dedicated to the sun, at the entrance of the LORD's house, by the room of Nathan Melech the officer who was in the court; and he burned the chariots of the sun with fire.
12 The king broke down the altars that were on the roof of the upper room of Ahaz, which the kings of Judah had made, and the altars which Manasseh had made in the two courts of the LORD's house, and beat them down from there, and cast their dust into the brook Kidron.
13 The king defiled the high places that were before Jerusalem, which were on the right hand of the mountain of corruption, which Solomon the king of Israel had built for Ashtoreth the abomination of the Sidonians, and for Chemosh the abomination of Moab, and for Milcom the abomination of the children of Ammon.
14 He broke in pieces the pillars, cut down the Asherah poles, and filled their places with men's bones.
15 Moreover the altar that was at Bethel and the high place which Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who made Israel to sin, had made, even that altar and the high place he broke down; and he burned the high place and beat it to dust, and burned the Asherah.
16 As Josiah turned himself, he spied the tombs that were there in the mountain; and he sent, and took the bones out of the tombs, and burned them on the altar, and defiled it, according to the LORD's word which the man of God proclaimed, who proclaimed these things.
17 Then he said, "What monument is that which I see?"

The men of the city told him, "It is the tomb of the man of God who came from Judah and proclaimed these things that you have done against the altar of Bethel."

18 He said, "Let him be! Let no one move his bones." So they let his bones alone, with the bones of the prophet who came out of Samaria.
19 All the houses also of the high places that were in the cities of Samaria, which the kings of Israel had made to provoke the LORD to anger, Josiah took away, and did to them according to all the acts that he had done in Bethel.
20 He killed all the priests of the high places that were there, on the altars, and burned men's bones on them; and he returned to Jerusalem.

21 The king commanded all the people, saying, "Keep the Passover to the LORD your God, as it is written in this book of the covenant."
22 Surely there was not kept such a Passover from the days of the judges who judged Israel, nor in all the days of the kings of Israel, nor of the kings of Judah;
23 but in the eighteenth year of King Josiah, this Passover was kept to the LORD in Jerusalem.

24 Moreover, Josiah removed those who had familiar spirits, the wizards, and the teraphim,† and the idols, and all the abominations that were seen in the land of Judah and in Jerusalem, that he might confirm the words of the law which were written in the book that Hilkiah the priest found in the LORD's house.
25 There was no king like him before him, who turned to the LORD with all his heart, and with all his soul, and with all his might, according to all the law of Moses; and there was none like him who arose after him.

† **23:24** teraphim were household idols.

26 Notwithstanding, the LORD didn't
turn from the fierceness of his great
wrath, with which his anger burned
against Judah, because of all the
provocation with which Manasseh had
provoked him.
27 The LORD said, "I will also remove
Judah out of my sight, as I have removed
Israel; and I will cast off this city which I
have chosen, even Jerusalem, and the
house of which I said, 'My name shall be
there.' "
28 Now the rest of the acts of Josiah, and
all that he did, aren't they written in the
book of the chronicles of the kings of
Judah?
29 In his days Pharaoh Necoh king of
Egypt went up against the king of Assyria
to the river Euphrates; and King Josiah
went against him, but Pharaoh Necoh
killed him at Megiddo when he saw him.
30 His servants carried him dead in a
chariot from Megiddo, brought him to
Jerusalem, and buried him in his own
tomb. The people of the land took
Jehoahaz the son of Josiah, and anointed
him, and made him king in his father's
place.
31 Jehoahaz was twenty-three years old
when he began to reign; and he reigned
three months in Jerusalem. His mother's
name was Hamutal the daughter of
Jeremiah of Libnah.
32 He did that which was evil in the
LORD's sight, according to all that his
fathers had done.
33 Pharaoh Necoh put him in bonds at
Riblah in the land of Hamath, that he
might not reign in Jerusalem; and put the
land to a tribute of one hundred talents of
silver and a talent‡ of gold.
34 Pharaoh Necoh made Eliakim the son
of Josiah king in the place of Josiah his
father, and changed his name to
Jehoiakim; but he took Jehoahaz away,
and he came to Egypt and died there.
35 Jehoiakim gave the silver and the gold
to Pharaoh; but he taxed the land to give
the money according to the
commandment of Pharaoh. He exacted
the silver and the gold of the people of the
land, from everyone according to his
assessment, to give it to Pharaoh Necoh.
36 Jehoiakim was twenty-five years old
when he began to reign, and he reigned
eleven years in Jerusalem. His mother's
name was Zebidah the daughter of
Pedaiah of Rumah.
37 He did that which was evil in the
LORD's sight, according to all that his
fathers had done.

24

1 In his days Nebuchadnezzar king of
Babylon came up, and Jehoiakim became
his servant for three years. Then he
turned and rebelled against him.
2 The LORD sent against him bands of
the Chaldeans, bands of the Syrians,
bands of the Moabites, and bands of the
children of Ammon, and sent them
against Judah to destroy it, according to
the LORD's word which he spoke by his
servants the prophets.
3 Surely at the commandment of the
LORD this came on Judah, to remove them
out of his sight for the sins of Manasseh,
according to all that he did,
4 and also for the innocent blood that he
shed; for he filled Jerusalem with
innocent blood, and the LORD would not
pardon.
5 Now the rest of the acts of Jehoiakim,
and all that he did, aren't they written in
the book of the chronicles of the kings of
Judah?
6 So Jehoiakim slept with his fathers,
and Jehoiachin his son reigned in his
place.
7 The king of Egypt didn't come out of
his land any more; for the king of Babylon
had taken, from the brook of Egypt to the
river Euphrates, all that belonged to the
king of Egypt.
8 Jehoiachin was eighteen years old
when he began to reign, and he reigned in
Jerusalem three months. His mother's
name was Nehushta the daughter of
Elnathan of Jerusalem.

‡ **23:33** A talent is about 30 kilograms or 66 pounds or 965 Troy ounces

9 He did that which was evil in the
LORD's sight, according to all that his
father had done.
10 At that time the servants of
Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came up
to Jerusalem, and the city was besieged.
11 Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon
came to the city while his servants were
besieging it,
12 and Jehoiachin the king of Judah
went out to the king of Babylon—he, his
mother, his servants, his princes, and his
officers; and the king of Babylon captured
him in the eighth year of his reign.
13 He carried out from there all the
treasures of the LORD's house and the
treasures of the king's house, and cut in
pieces all the vessels of gold which
Solomon king of Israel had made in the
LORD's temple, as the LORD had said.
14 He carried away all Jerusalem, and all
the princes, and all the mighty men of
valor, even ten thousand captives, and all
the craftsmen and the smiths. No one
remained except the poorest people of the
land.
15 He carried away Jehoiachin to
Babylon, with the king's mother, the
king's wives, his officers, and the chief
men of the land. He carried them into
captivity from Jerusalem to Babylon.
16 All the men of might, even seven
thousand, and the craftsmen and the
smiths one thousand, all of them strong
and fit for war, even them the king of
Babylon brought captive to Babylon.
17 The king of Babylon made Mattaniah,
Jehoiachin's father's brother, king in his
place, and changed his name to Zedekiah.

18 Zedekiah was twenty-one years old
when he began to reign, and he reigned
eleven years in Jerusalem. His mother's
name was Hamutal the daughter of
Jeremiah of Libnah.
19 He did that which was evil in the
LORD's sight, according to all that
Jehoiakim had done.
20 For through the anger of the LORD,
this happened in Jerusalem and Judah,
until he had cast them out from his
presence.

Then Zedekiah rebelled against the king
of Babylon.

25

1 In the ninth year of his reign, in the
tenth month, in the tenth day of the
month, Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon
came, he and all his army, against
Jerusalem, and encamped against it; and
they built forts against it around it.
2 So the city was besieged until the
eleventh year of King Zedekiah.
3 On the ninth day of the fourth month,
the famine was severe in the city, so that
there was no bread for the people of the
land.
4 Then a breach was made in the city,
and all the men of war fled by night by the
way of the gate between the two walls,
which was by the king's garden (now the
Chaldeans were against the city around
it); and the king went by the way of the
Arabah.
5 But the Chaldean army pursued the
king, and overtook him in the plains of
Jericho; and all his army was scattered
from him.
6 Then they captured the king and
carried him up to the king of Babylon to
Riblah; and they passed judgment on him.
7 They killed Zedekiah's sons before his
eyes, then put out Zedekiah's eyes, bound
him in fetters, and carried him to Babylon.
8 Now in the fifth month, on the seventh
day of the month, which was the
nineteenth year of King Nebuchadnezzar
king of Babylon, Nebuzaradan the captain
of the guard, a servant of the king of
Babylon, came to Jerusalem.
9 He burned the LORD's house, the
king's house, and all the houses of
Jerusalem. He burned every great house
with fire.
10 All the army of the Chaldeans, who
were with the captain of the guard, broke
down the walls around Jerusalem.
11 Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard
carried away captive the rest of the
people who were left in the city and those
who had deserted to the king of
Babylon—all the rest of the multitude.

12 But the captain of the guard left some
of the poorest of the land to work the
vineyards and fields.
13 The Chaldeans broke up the pillars of
bronze that were in the LORD's house and
the bases and the bronze sea that were in
the LORD's house, and carried the bronze
pieces to Babylon.
14 They took away the pots, the shovels,
the snuffers, the spoons, and all the
vessels of bronze with which they
ministered.
15 The captain of the guard took away
the fire pans, the basins, that which was of
gold, for gold, and that which was of
silver, for silver.
16 The two pillars, the one sea, and the
bases, which Solomon had made for the
LORD's house, the bronze of all these
vessels was not weighed.
17 The height of the one pillar was
eighteen cubits,† and a capital of bronze
was on it. The height of the capital was
three cubits, with network and
pomegranates on the capital around it, all
of bronze; and the second pillar with its
network was like these.
18 The captain of the guard took Seraiah
the chief priest, Zephaniah the second
priest, and the three keepers of the
threshold;
19 and out of the city he took an officer
who was set over the men of war; and five
men of those who saw the king's face, who
were found in the city; and the scribe, the
captain of the army, who mustered the
people of the land, and sixty men of the
people of the land who were found in the
city.
20 Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard
took them, and brought them to the king
of Babylon to Riblah.
21 The king of Babylon attacked them
and put them to death at Riblah in the
land of Hamath. So Judah was carried
away captive out of his land.
22 As for the people who were left in the
land of Judah whom Nebuchadnezzar
king of Babylon had left, even over them
he made Gedaliah the son of Ahikam, the
son of Shaphan, governor.
23 Now when all the captains of the
forces, they and their men, heard that the
king of Babylon had made Gedaliah
governor, they came to Gedaliah to
Mizpah, even Ishmael the son of
Nethaniah, Johanan the son of Kareah,
Seraiah the son of Tanhumeth the
Netophathite, and Jaazaniah the son of
the Maacathite, they and their men.
24 Gedaliah swore to them and to their
men, and said to them, "Don't be afraid
because of the servants of the Chaldeans.
Dwell in the land and serve the king of
Babylon, and it will be well with you."
25 But in the seventh month, Ishmael the
son of Nethaniah, the son of Elishama, of
the royal offspring came, and ten men
with him, and struck Gedaliah so that he
died, with the Jews and the Chaldeans that
were with him at Mizpah.
26 All the people, both small and great,
and the captains of the forces arose and
came to Egypt; for they were afraid of the
Chaldeans.
27 In the thirty-seventh year of the
captivity of Jehoiachin king of Judah, in
the twelfth month, on the twenty-seventh
day of the month, Evilmerodach king of
Babylon, in the year that he began to
reign, released Jehoiachin king of Judah
out of prison,
28 and he spoke kindly to him and set his
throne above the throne of the kings who
were with him in Babylon,
29 and changed his prison garments.
Jehoiachin ate bread before him
continually all the days of his life;
30 and for his allowance, there was a
continual allowance given him from the
king, every day a portion, all the days of
his life.

† **25:17** A cubit is the length from the tip of the middle finger to the elbow on a man's arm, or about 18 inches or 46 centimeters.

The First Book of Chronicles

1 Adam, Seth, Enosh,
2 Kenan, Mahalalel, Jared,
3 Enoch, Methuselah, Lamech,
4 Noah, Shem, Ham, and Japheth.
5 The sons of Japheth: Gomer, Magog, Madai, Javan, Tubal, Meshech, and Tiras.
6 The sons of Gomer: Ashkenaz, Diphath, and Togarmah.
7 The sons of Javan: Elishah, Tarshish, Kittim, and Rodanim.
8 The sons of Ham: Cush, Mizraim, Put, and Canaan.
9 The sons of Cush: Seba, Havilah, Sabta, Raama, Sabteca. The sons of Raamah: Sheba and Dedan.
10 Cush became the father of Nimrod. He began to be a mighty one on the earth.
11 Mizraim became the father of Ludim, Anamim, Lehabim, Naphtuhim,
12 Pathrusim, Casluhim (where the Philistines came from), and Caphtorim.
13 Canaan became the father of Sidon his firstborn, Heth,
14 the Jebusite, the Amorite, the Girgashite,
15 the Hivite, the Arkite, the Sinite,
16 the Arvadite, the Zemarite, and the Hamathite.
17 The sons of Shem: Elam, Asshur, Arpachshad, Lud, Aram, Uz, Hul, Gether, and Meshech.
18 Arpachshad became the father of Shelah, and Shelah became the father of Eber.
19 To Eber were born two sons: the name of the one was Peleg, for in his days the earth was divided; and his brother's name was Joktan.
20 Joktan became the father of Almodad, Sheleph, Hazarmaveth, Jerah,
21 Hadoram, Uzal, Diklah,
22 Ebal, Abimael, Sheba,
23 Ophir, Havilah, and Jobab. All these were the sons of Joktan.
24 Shem, Arpachshad, Shelah,
25 Eber, Peleg, Reu,
26 Serug, Nahor, Terah,
27 Abram (also called Abraham).
28 The sons of Abraham: Isaac and Ishmael.
29 These are their generations: the firstborn of Ishmael, Nebaioth; then Kedar, Adbeel, Mibsam,
30 Mishma, Dumah, Massa, Hadad, Tema,
31 Jetur, Naphish, and Kedemah. These are the sons of Ishmael.
32 The sons of Keturah, Abraham's concubine: she bore Zimran, Jokshan, Medan, Midian, Ishbak, and Shuah. The sons of Jokshan: Sheba and Dedan.
33 The sons of Midian: Ephah, Epher, Hanoch, Abida, and Eldaah. All these were the sons of Keturah.
34 Abraham became the father of Isaac. The sons of Isaac: Esau and Israel.
35 The sons of Esau: Eliphaz, Reuel, Jeush, Jalam, and Korah.
36 The sons of Eliphaz: Teman, Omar, Zephi, Gatam, Kenaz, Timna, and Amalek.
37 The sons of Reuel: Nahath, Zerah, Shammah, and Mizzah.
38 The sons of Seir: Lotan, Shobal, Zibeon, Anah, Dishon, Ezer, and Dishan.
39 The sons of Lotan: Hori and Homam; and Timna was Lotan's sister.
40 The sons of Shobal: Alian, Manahath, Ebal, Shephi, and Onam. The sons of Zibeon: Aiah and Anah.
41 The son of Anah: Dishon. The sons of Dishon: Hamran, Eshban, Ithran, and Cheran.
42 The sons of Ezer: Bilhan, Zaavan, and Jaakan. The sons of Dishan: Uz and Aran.
43 Now these are the kings who reigned in the land of Edom, before any king reigned over the children of Israel: Bela the son of Beor; and the name of his city was Dinhabah.
44 Bela died, and Jobab the son of Zerah of Bozrah reigned in his place.
45 Jobab died, and Husham of the land of the Temanites reigned in his place.
46 Husham died, and Hadad the son of Bedad, who struck Midian in the field of Moab, reigned in his place; and the name of his city was Avith.
47 Hadad died, and Samlah of Masrekah reigned in his place.
48 Samlah died, and Shaul of Rehoboth by the River reigned in his place.

49 Shaul died, and Baal Hanan the son of
Achbor reigned in his place.
50 Baal Hanan died, and Hadad reigned
in his place; and the name of his city was
Pai. His wife's name was Mehetabel, the
daughter of Matred, the daughter of
Mezahab.
51 Then Hadad died. The chiefs of Edom
were: chief Timna, chief Aliah, chief
Jetheth,
52 chief Oholibamah, chief Elah, chief
Pinon,
53 chief Kenaz, chief Teman, chief
Mibzar,
54 chief Magdiel, and chief Iram. These
are the chiefs of Edom.

2

1 These are the sons of Israel: Reuben,
Simeon, Levi, Judah, Issachar, Zebulun,
2 Dan, Joseph, Benjamin, Naphtali, Gad,
and Asher.
3 The sons of Judah: Er, Onan, and
Shelah, which three were born to him of
Shua's daughter the Canaanitess. Er,
Judah's firstborn, was wicked in the
LORD's† sight; and he killed him.
4 Tamar his daughter-in-law bore him
Perez and Zerah. All the sons of Judah
were five.
5 The sons of Perez: Hezron and Hamul.
6 The sons of Zerah: Zimri, Ethan,
Heman, Calcol, and Dara—five of them in
all.
7 The son of Carmi: Achar, the troubler
of Israel, who committed a trespass in the
devoted thing.
8 The son of Ethan: Azariah.
9 The sons also of Hezron, who were
born to him: Jerahmeel, Ram, and
Chelubai.
10 Ram became the father of
Amminadab, and Amminadab became
the father of Nahshon, prince of the
children of Judah;
11 and Nahshon became the father of
Salma, and Salma became the father of
Boaz,
12 and Boaz became the father of Obed,
and Obed became the father of Jesse;
13 and Jesse became the father of his
firstborn Eliab, Abinadab the second,
Shimea the third,
14 Nethanel the fourth, Raddai the fifth,
15 Ozem the sixth, and David the
seventh;
16 and their sisters were Zeruiah and
Abigail. The sons of Zeruiah: Abishai,
Joab, and Asahel, three.
17 Abigail bore Amasa; and the father of
Amasa was Jether the Ishmaelite.
18 Caleb the son of Hezron became the
father of children by Azubah his wife, and
by Jerioth; and these were her sons:
Jesher, Shobab, and Ardon.
19 Azubah died, and Caleb married
Ephrath, who bore him Hur.
20 Hur became the father of Uri, and Uri
became the father of Bezalel.
21 Afterward Hezron went in to the
daughter of Machir the father of Gilead,
whom he took as wife when he was sixty
years old; and she bore him Segub.
22 Segub became the father of Jair, who
had twenty-three cities in the land of
Gilead.
23 Geshur and Aram took the towns of
Jair from them, with Kenath, and its
villages, even sixty cities. All these were
the sons of Machir the father of Gilead.
24 After Hezron died in Caleb
Ephrathah, Abijah, Hezron's wife, bore
him Ashhur the father of Tekoa.
25 The sons of Jerahmeel the firstborn of
Hezron were Ram the firstborn, Bunah,
Oren, Ozem, and Ahijah.
26 Jerahmeel had another wife, whose
name was Atarah. She was the mother of
Onam.
27 The sons of Ram the firstborn of
Jerahmeel were Maaz, Jamin, and Eker.
28 The sons of Onam were Shammai and
Jada. The sons of Shammai: Nadab and
Abishur.
29 The name of the wife of Abishur was
Abihail; and she bore him Ahban and
Molid.
30 The sons of Nadab: Seled and
Appaim; but Seled died without children.
31 The son of Appaim: Ishi. The son of
Ishi: Sheshan. The son of Sheshan: Ahlai.

† **2:3** When rendered in ALL CAPITAL LETTERS, "LORD" or "GOD" is the translation of God's Proper Name (Hebrew "יהוה", usually pronounced Yahweh).

32 The sons of Jada the brother of
Shammai: Jether and Jonathan; and
Jether died without children.
33 The sons of Jonathan: Peleth and
Zaza. These were the sons of Jerahmeel.
34 Now Sheshan had no sons, but only
daughters. Sheshan had a servant, an
Egyptian, whose name was Jarha.
35 Sheshan gave his daughter to Jarha
his servant as wife; and she bore him
Attai.
36 Attai became the father of Nathan,
and Nathan became the father of Zabad,
37 and Zabad became the father of
Ephlal, and Ephlal became the father of
Obed,
38 and Obed became the father of Jehu,
and Jehu became the father of Azariah,
39 and Azariah became the father of
Helez, and Helez became the father of
Eleasah,
40 and Eleasah became the father of
Sismai, and Sismai became the father of
Shallum,
41 and Shallum became the father of
Jekamiah, and Jekamiah became the
father of Elishama.
42 The sons of Caleb the brother of
Jerahmeel were Mesha his firstborn, who
was the father of Ziph, and the sons of
Mareshah the father of Hebron.
43 The sons of Hebron: Korah, Tappuah,
Rekem, and Shema.
44 Shema became the father of Raham,
the father of Jorkeam; and Rekem became
the father of Shammai.
45 The son of Shammai was Maon; and
Maon was the father of Beth Zur.
46 Ephah, Caleb's concubine, bore
Haran, Moza, and Gazez; and Haran
became the father of Gazez.
47 The sons of Jahdai: Regem, Jothan,
Geshan, Pelet, Ephah, and Shaaph.
48 Maacah, Caleb's concubine, bore
Sheber and Tirhanah.
49 She bore also Shaaph the father of
Madmannah, Sheva the father of
Machbena and the father of Gibea; and
the daughter of Caleb was Achsah.

50 These were the sons of Caleb, the son
of Hur, the firstborn of Ephrathah: Shobal
the father of Kiriath Jearim,
51 Salma the father of Bethlehem, and
Hareph the father of Beth Gader.
52 Shobal the father of Kiriath Jearim
had sons: Haroeh, half of the Menuhoth.
53 The families of Kiriath Jearim: the
Ithrites, the Puthites, the Shumathites,
and the Mishraites; from them came the
Zorathites and the Eshtaolites.
54 The sons of Salma: Bethlehem, the
Netophathites, Atroth Beth Joab, and half
of the Manahathites, the Zorites.
55 The families of scribes who lived at
Jabez: the Tirathites, the Shimeathites,
and the Sucathites. These are the Kenites
who came from Hammath, the father of
the house of Rechab.

3

1 Now these were the sons of David, who
were born to him in Hebron: the
firstborn, Amnon, of Ahinoam the
Jezreelitess; the second, Daniel, of Abigail
the Carmelitess;
2 the third, Absalom the son of Maacah
the daughter of Talmai king of Geshur; the
fourth, Adonijah the son of Haggith;
3 the fifth, Shephatiah of Abital; the
sixth, Ithream by Eglah his wife:
4 six were born to him in Hebron; and
he reigned there seven years and six
months. He reigned thirty-three years in
Jerusalem;
5 and these were born to him in
Jerusalem: Shimea, Shobab, Nathan, and
Solomon, four, by Bathshua the daughter
of Ammiel;
6 and Ibhar, Elishama, Eliphelet,
7 Nogah, Nepheg, Japhia,
8 Elishama, Eliada, and Eliphelet, nine.
9 All these were the sons of David, in
addition to the sons of the concubines;
and Tamar was their sister.
10 Solomon's son was Rehoboam, Abijah
his son, Asa his son, Jehoshaphat his son,
11 Joram his son, Ahaziah his son, Joash
his son,
12 Amaziah his son, Azariah his son,
Jotham his son,
13 Ahaz his son, Hezekiah his son,
Manasseh his son,
14 Amon his son, and Josiah his son.

15 The sons of Josiah: the firstborn
Johanan, the second Jehoiakim, the third
Zedekiah, and the fourth Shallum.
16 The sons of Jehoiakim: Jeconiah his
son, and Zedekiah his son.
17 The sons of Jeconiah, the captive:
Shealtiel his son,
18 Malchiram, Pedaiah, Shenazzar,
Jekamiah, Hoshama, and Nedabiah.
19 The sons of Pedaiah: Zerubbabel and
Shimei. The sons of Zerubbabel:
Meshullam and Hananiah; and Shelomith
was their sister;
20 and Hashubah, Ohel, Berechiah,
Hasadiah, and Jushab Hesed, five.
21 The sons of Hananiah: Pelatiah and
Jeshaiah; the sons of Rephaiah, the sons of
Arnan, the sons of Obadiah, the sons of
Shecaniah.
22 The son of Shecaniah: Shemaiah. The
sons of Shemaiah: Hattush, Igal, Bariah,
Neariah, and Shaphat, six.
23 The sons of Neariah: Elioenai,
Hizkiah, and Azrikam, three.
24 The sons of Elioenai: Hodaviah,
Eliashib, Pelaiah, Akkub, Johanan,
Delaiah, and Anani, seven.

4

1 The sons of Judah: Perez, Hezron,
Carmi, Hur, and Shobal.
2 Reaiah the son of Shobal became the
father of Jahath; and Jahath became the
father of Ahumai and Lahad. These are
the families of the Zorathites.
3 These were the sons of the father of
Etam: Jezreel, Ishma, and Idbash. The
name of their sister was Hazzelelponi.
4 Penuel was the father of Gedor and
Ezer the father of Hushah. These are the
sons of Hur, the firstborn of Ephrathah,
the father of Bethlehem.
5 Ashhur the father of Tekoa had two
wives, Helah and Naarah.
6 Naarah bore him Ahuzzam, Hepher,
Temeni, and Haahashtari. These were the
sons of Naarah.
7 The sons of Helah were Zereth, Izhar,
and Ethnan.
8 Hakkoz became the father of Anub,
Zobebah, and the families of Aharhel the
son of Harum.
9 Jabez was more honorable than his
brothers. His mother named him Jabez,†
saying, “Because I bore him with sorrow.”
10 Jabez called on the God‡ of Israel,
saying, “Oh that you would bless me
indeed, and enlarge my border! May your
hand be with me, and may you keep me
from evil, that I may not cause pain!”

God granted him that which he
requested.

11 Chelub the brother of Shuhah became
the father of Mehir, who was the father of
Eshton.
12 Eshton became the father of Beth
Rapha, Paseah, and Tehinnah the father
of Ir Nahash. These are the men of Recah.
13 The sons of Kenaz: Othniel and
Seraiah. The sons of Othniel: Hathath.§
14 Meonothai became the father of
Ophrah: and Seraiah became the father of
Joab the father of Ge Harashim, for they
were craftsmen.
15 The sons of Caleb the son of
Jephunneh: Iru, Elah, and Naam. The son
of Elah: Kenaz.
16 The sons of Jehallelel: Ziph, Ziphah,
Tiria, and Asarel.
17 The sons of Ezrah: Jether, Mered,
Epher, and Jalon; and Mered’s wife bore
Miriam, Shammai, and Ishbah the father
of Eshtemoa.
18 His wife the Jewess bore Jered the
father of Gedor, Heber the father of Soco,
and Jekuthiel the father of Zanoah. These
are the sons of Bithiah the daughter of
Pharaoh, whom Mered took.
19 The sons of the wife of Hodiah, the
sister of Naham, were the fathers of
Keilah the Garmite and Eshtemoa the
Maacathite.
20 The sons of Shimon: Amnon, Rinnah,
Ben Hanan, and Tilon. The sons of Ishi:
Zoheth, and Ben Zoheth.
21 The sons of Shelah the son of Judah:
Er the father of Lecah, Laadah the father
of Mareshah, and the families of the
house of those who worked fine linen, of
the house of Ashbea;
22 and Jokim, and the men of Cozeba,
and Joash, and Saraph, who had

† **4:9** “Jabez” sounds similar to the Hebrew word for “pain”. ‡ **4:10** The Hebrew word rendered “God” is “אֱלֹהִים” (Elohim). § **4:13** Greek and Vulgate add “and Meonothai”

dominion in Moab, and Jashubilehem. These records are ancient.
23 These were the potters, and the inhabitants of Netaim and Gederah; they lived there with the king for his work.
24 The sons of Simeon: Nemuel, Jamin, Jarib, Zerah, Shaul;
25 Shallum his son, Mibsam his son, and Mishma his son.
26 The sons of Mishma: Hammuel his son, Zaccur his son, Shimei his son.
27 Shimei had sixteen sons and six daughters; but his brothers didn't have many children, and all their family didn't multiply like the children of Judah.
28 They lived at Beersheba, Moladah, Hazarshual,
29 at Bilhah, at Ezem, at Tolad,
30 at Bethuel, at Hormah, at Ziklag,
31 at Beth Marcaboth, Hazar Susim, at Beth Biri, and at Shaaraim. These were their cities until David's reign.
32 Their villages were Etam, Ain, Rimmon, Tochen, and Ashan, five cities;
33 and all their villages that were around the same cities, as far as Baal. These were their settlements, and they kept their genealogy.
34 Meshobab, Jamlech, Joshah the son of Amaziah,
35 Joel, Jehu the son of Joshibiah, the son of Seraiah, the son of Asiel,
36 Elioenai, Jaakobah, Jeshohaiah, Asaiah, Adiel, Jesimiel, Benaiah,
37 and Ziza the son of Shiphi, the son of Allon, the son of Jedaiah, the son of Shimri, the son of Shemaiah—
38 these mentioned by name were princes in their families. Their fathers' houses increased greatly.
39 They went to the entrance of Gedor, even to the east side of the valley, to seek pasture for their flocks.
40 They found rich, good pasture, and the land was wide, and quiet, and peaceful, for those who lived there before were descended from Ham.
41 These written by name came in the days of Hezekiah king of Judah, and struck their tents and the Meunim who were found there; and they destroyed them utterly to this day, and lived in their place, because there was pasture there for their flocks.
42 Some of them, even of the sons of Simeon, five hundred men, went to Mount Seir, having for their captains Pelatiah, Neariah, Rephaiah, and Uzziel, the sons of Ishi.
43 They struck the remnant of the Amalekites who escaped, and have lived there to this day.

5

1 The sons of Reuben the firstborn of Israel (for he was the firstborn, but because he defiled his father's couch, his birthright was given to the sons of Joseph the son of Israel; and the genealogy is not to be listed according to the birthright.
2 For Judah prevailed above his brothers, and from him came the prince; but the birthright was Joseph's)—
3 the sons of Reuben the firstborn of Israel: Hanoch, Pallu, Hezron, and Carmi.
4 The sons of Joel: Shemaiah his son, Gog his son, Shimei his son,
5 Micah his son, Reaiah his son, Baal his son,
6 and Beerah his son, whom Tilgath Pilneser king of Assyria carried away captive. He was prince of the Reubenites.
7 His brothers by their families, when the genealogy of their generations was listed: the chief, Jeiel, and Zechariah,
8 and Bela the son of Azaz, the son of Shema, the son of Joel, who lived in Aroer, even to Nebo and Baal Meon;
9 and he lived eastward even to the entrance of the wilderness from the river Euphrates, because their livestock were multiplied in the land of Gilead.
10 In the days of Saul, they made war with the Hagrites, who fell by their hand; and they lived in their tents throughout all the land east of Gilead.
11 The sons of Gad lived beside them in the land of Bashan to Salecah:
12 Joel the chief, Shapham the second, Janai, and Shaphat in Bashan.
13 Their brothers of their fathers' houses: Michael, Meshullam, Sheba, Jorai, Jacan, Zia, and Eber, seven.
14 These were the sons of Abihail, the son of Huri, the son of Jaroah, the son of

Gilead, the son of Michael, the son of Jeshishai, the son of Jahdo, the son of Buz;
15 Ahi the son of Abdiel, the son of Guni, chief of their fathers' houses.
16 They lived in Gilead in Bashan and in its towns, and in all the pasture lands of Sharon as far as their borders.
17 All these were listed by genealogies in the days of Jotham king of Judah, and in the days of Jeroboam king of Israel.

18 The sons of Reuben, the Gadites, and the half-tribe of Manasseh, of valiant men, men able to bear buckler and sword, able to shoot with bow, and skillful in war, were forty-four thousand seven hundred sixty that were able to go out to war.
19 They made war with the Hagrites, with Jetur, and Naphish, and Nodab.
20 They were helped against them, and the Hagrites were delivered into their hand, and all who were with them; for they cried to God in the battle, and he answered them because they put their trust in him.
21 They took away their livestock: of their camels fifty thousand, and of sheep two hundred fifty thousand, and of donkeys two thousand, and of men one hundred thousand.
22 For many fell slain, because the war was of God. They lived in their place until the captivity.

23 The children of the half-tribe of Manasseh lived in the land. They increased from Bashan to Baal Hermon, Senir, and Mount Hermon.
24 These were the heads of their fathers' houses: Epher, Ishi, Eliel, Azriel, Jeremiah, Hodaviah, and Jahdiel—mighty men of valor, famous men, heads of their fathers' houses.
25 They trespassed against the God of their fathers, and played the prostitute after the gods of the peoples of the land whom God destroyed before them.
26 So the God of Israel stirred up the spirit of Pul king of Assyria, and the spirit of Tilgath Pilneser king of Assyria, and he carried away the Reubenites, the Gadites, and the half-tribe of Manasseh, and brought them to Halah, Habor, Hara, and to the river of Gozan, to this day.

6

1 The sons of Levi: Gershon, Kohath, and Merari.
2 The sons of Kohath: Amram, Izhar, Hebron, and Uzziel.
3 The children of Amram: Aaron, Moses, and Miriam. The sons of Aaron: Nadab, Abihu, Eleazar, and Ithamar.
4 Eleazar became the father of Phinehas, Phinehas became the father of Abishua,
5 Abishua became the father of Bukki. Bukki became the father of Uzzi.
6 Uzzi became the father of Zerahiah. Zerahiah became the father of Meraioth.
7 Meraioth became the father of Amariah. Amariah became the father of Ahitub.
8 Ahitub became the father of Zadok. Zadok became the father of Ahimaaz.
9 Ahimaaz became the father of Azariah. Azariah became the father of Johanan.
10 Johanan became the father of Azariah, who executed the priest's office in the house that Solomon built in Jerusalem.
11 Azariah became the father of Amariah. Amariah became the father of Ahitub.
12 Ahitub became the father of Zadok. Zadok became the father of Shallum.
13 Shallum became the father of Hilkiah. Hilkiah became the father of Azariah.
14 Azariah became the father of Seraiah. Seraiah became the father of Jehozadak.
15 Jehozadak went into captivity when the LORD carried Judah and Jerusalem away by the hand of Nebuchadnezzar.

16 The sons of Levi: Gershom, Kohath, and Merari.
17 These are the names of the sons of Gershom: Libni and Shimei.
18 The sons of Kohath were Amram, Izhar, Hebron, and Uzziel.
19 The sons of Merari: Mahli and Mushi. These are the families of the Levites according to their fathers' households.
20 Of Gershom: Libni his son, Jahath his son, Zimmah his son,
21 Joah his son, Iddo his son, Zerah his son, and Jeatherai his son.
22 The sons of Kohath: Amminadab his son, Korah his son, Assir his son,
23 Elkanah his son, Ebiasaph his son, Assir his son,

24 Tahath his son, Uriel his son, Uzziah his son, and Shaul his son.
25 The sons of Elkanah: Amasai and Ahimoth.
26 As for Elkanah, the sons of Elkanah: Zophai his son, Nahath his son,
27 Eliab his son, Jeroham his son, and Elkanah his son.
28 The sons of Samuel: the firstborn, Joel, and the second, Abijah.
29 The sons of Merari: Mahli, Libni his son, Shimei his son, Uzzah his son,
30 Shimea his son, Haggiah his son, Asaiah his son.
31 These are they whom David set over the service of song in the LORD's house after the ark came to rest there.
32 They ministered with song before the tabernacle of the Tent of Meeting until Solomon had built the LORD's house in Jerusalem. They performed the duties of their office according to their order.
33 These are those who served, and their sons. Of the sons of the Kohathites: Heman the singer, the son of Joel, the son of Samuel,
34 the son of Elkanah, the son of Jeroham, the son of Eliel, the son of Toah,
35 the son of Zuph, the son of Elkanah, the son of Mahath, the son of Amasai,
36 the son of Elkanah, the son of Joel, the son of Azariah, the son of Zephaniah,
37 the son of Tahath, the son of Assir, the son of Ebiasaph, the son of Korah,
38 the son of Izhar, the son of Kohath, the son of Levi, the son of Israel.
39 His brother Asaph, who stood on his right hand, even Asaph the son of Berechiah, the son of Shimea,
40 the son of Michael, the son of Baaseiah, the son of Malchijah,
41 the son of Ethni, the son of Zerah, the son of Adaiah,
42 the son of Ethan, the son of Zimmah, the son of Shimei,
43 the son of Jahath, the son of Gershom, the son of Levi.
44 On the left hand their brothers the sons of Merari: Ethan the son of Kishi, the son of Abdi, the son of Malluch,
45 the son of Hashabiah, the son of Amaziah, the son of Hilkiah,
46 the son of Amzi, the son of Bani, the son of Shemer,
47 the son of Mahli, the son of Mushi, the son of Merari, the son of Levi.
48 Their brothers the Levites were appointed for all the service of the tabernacle of God's house.
49 But Aaron and his sons offered on the altar of burnt offering, and on the altar of incense, for all the work of the most holy place, and to make atonement for Israel, according to all that Moses the servant of God had commanded.
50 These are the sons of Aaron: Eleazar his son, Phinehas his son, Abishua his son,
51 Bukki his son, Uzzi his son, Zerahiah his son,
52 Meraioth his son, Amariah his son, Ahitub his son,
53 Zadok his son, and Ahimaaz his son.
54 Now these are their dwelling places according to their encampments in their borders: to the sons of Aaron, of the families of the Kohathites (for theirs was the first lot),
55 to them they gave Hebron in the land of Judah, and its pasture lands around it;
56 but the fields of the city and its villages, they gave to Caleb the son of Jephunneh.
57 To the sons of Aaron they gave the cities of refuge, Hebron, Libnah also with its pasture lands, Jattir, Eshtemoa with its pasture lands,
58 Hilen with its pasture lands, Debir with its pasture lands,
59 Ashan with its pasture lands, and Beth Shemesh with its pasture lands;
60 and out of the tribe of Benjamin, Geba with its pasture lands, Allemeth with its pasture lands, and Anathoth with its pasture lands. All their cities throughout their families were thirteen cities.
61 To the rest of the sons of Kohath were given by lot, out of the family of the tribe, out of the half-tribe, the half of Manasseh, ten cities.
62 To the sons of Gershom, according to their families, out of the tribe of Issachar, and out of the tribe of Asher, and out of the tribe of Naphtali, and out of the tribe of Manasseh in Bashan, thirteen cities.

63 To the sons of Merari were given by
lot, according to their families, out of the
tribe of Reuben, and out of the tribe of
Gad, and out of the tribe of Zebulun,
twelve cities.
64 The children of Israel gave to the
Levites the cities with their pasture lands.
65 They gave by lot out of the tribe of the
children of Judah, and out of the tribe of
the children of Simeon, and out of the
tribe of the children of Benjamin, these
cities which are mentioned by name.

66 Some of the families of the sons of
Kohath had cities of their borders out of
the tribe of Ephraim.
67 They gave to them the cities of refuge,
Shechem in the hill country of Ephraim
with its pasture lands and Gezer with its
pasture lands,
68 Jokmeam with its pasture lands, Beth
Horon with its pasture lands,
69 Aijalon with its pasture lands, Gath
Rimmon with its pasture lands;
70 and out of the half-tribe of Manasseh,
Aner with its pasture lands, and Bileam
with its pasture lands, for the rest of the
family of the sons of Kohath.

71 To the sons of Gershom were given,
out of the family of the half-tribe of
Manasseh, Golan in Bashan with its
pasture lands, and Ashtaroth with its
pasture lands;
72 and out of the tribe of Issachar,
Kedesh with its pasture lands, Daberath
with its pasture lands,
73 Ramoth with its pasture lands, and
Anem with its pasture lands;
74 and out of the tribe of Asher, Mashal
with its pasture lands, Abdon with its
pasture lands,
75 Hukok with its pasture lands, and
Rehob with its pasture lands;
76 and out of the tribe of Naphtali,
Kedesh in Galilee with its pasture lands,
Hammon with its pasture lands, and
Kiriathaim with its pasture lands.

77 To the rest of the Levites, the sons of
Merari, were given, out of the tribe of
Zebulun, Rimmono with its pasture lands,
and Tabor with its pasture lands;

78 and beyond the Jordan at Jericho, on
the east side of the Jordan, were given
them out of the tribe of Reuben: Bezer in
the wilderness with its pasture lands,
Jahzah with its pasture lands,
79 Kedemoth with its pasture lands, and
Mephaath with its pasture lands;
80 and out of the tribe of Gad, Ramoth in
Gilead with its pasture lands, Mahanaim
with its pasture lands,
81 Heshbon with its pasture lands, and
Jazer with its pasture lands.

7

1 Of the sons of Issachar: Tola, Puah,
Jashub, and Shimron, four.
2 The sons of Tola: Uzzi, Rephaiah,
Jeriel, Jahmai, Ibsam, and Shemuel, heads
of their fathers' houses, of Tola; mighty
men of valor in their generations. Their
number in the days of David was
twenty-two thousand six hundred.
3 The son of Uzzi: Izrahiah. The sons of
Izrahiah: Michael, Obadiah, Joel, and
Isshiah, five; all of them chief men.
4 With them, by their generations, after
their fathers' houses, were bands of the
army for war, thirty-six thousand; for
they had many wives and sons.
5 Their brothers among all the families
of Issachar, mighty men of valor, listed in
all by genealogy, were eighty-seven
thousand.
6 The sons of Benjamin: Bela, Becher,
and Jediael, three.
7 The sons of Bela: Ezbon, Uzzi, Uzziel,
Jerimoth, and Iri, five; heads of fathers'
houses, mighty men of valor; and they
were listed by genealogy twenty-two
thousand thirty-four.
8 The sons of Becher: Zemirah, Joash,
Eliezer, Elioenai, Omri, Jeremoth, Abijah,
Anathoth, and Alemeth. All these were
the sons of Becher.
9 They were listed by genealogy, after
their generations, heads of their fathers'
houses, mighty men of valor, twenty
thousand two hundred.
10 The son of Jediael: Bilhan. The sons of
Bilhan: Jeush, Benjamin, Ehud,
Chenaanah, Zethan, Tarshish, and
Ahishahar.

11 All these were sons of Jediael,
according to the heads of their fathers'
households, mighty men of valor,
seventeen thousand two hundred, who
were able to go out in the army for war.
12 So were Shuppim, Huppim, the sons
of Ir, Hushim, and the sons of Aher.

13 The sons of Naphtali: Jahziel, Guni,
Jezer, Shallum, and the sons of Bilhah.

14 The sons of Manasseh: Asriel, whom
his concubine the Aramitess bore. She
bore Machir the father of Gilead.
15 Machir took a wife of Huppim and
Shuppim, whose sister's name was
Maacah. The name of the second was
Zelophehad; and Zelophehad had
daughters.
16 Maacah the wife of Machir bore a son,
and she named him Peresh. The name of
his brother was Sheresh; and his sons
were Ulam and Rakem.
17 The sons of Ulam: Bedan. These were
the sons of Gilead the son of Machir, the
son of Manasseh.
18 His sister Hammolecheth bore
Ishhod, Abiezer, and Mahlah.
19 The sons of Shemida were Ahian,
Shechem, Likhi, and Aniam.

20 The sons of Ephraim: Shuthelah,
Bered his son, Tahath his son, Eleadah his
son, Tahath his son,
21 Zabad his son, Shuthelah his son,
Ezer, and Elead, whom the men of Gath
who were born in the land killed, because
they came down to take away their
livestock.
22 Ephraim their father mourned many
days, and his brothers came to comfort
him.
23 He went in to his wife, and she
conceived and bore a son, and he named
him Beriah,† because there was trouble
with his house.
24 His daughter was Sheerah, who built
Beth Horon the lower and the upper, and
Uzzen Sheerah.
25 Rephah was his son, Resheph his son,
Telah his son, Tahan his son,
26 Ladan his son, Ammihud his son,
Elishama his son,
27 Nun his son, and Joshua his son.

28 Their possessions and settlements
were Bethel and its towns, and eastward
Naaran, and westward Gezer with its
towns; Shechem also and its towns, to
Azzah and its towns;
29 and by the borders of the children of
Manasseh, Beth Shean and its towns,
Taanach and its towns, Megiddo and its
towns, and Dor and its towns. The
children of Joseph the son of Israel lived
in these.
30 The sons of Asher: Imnah, Ishvah,
Ishvi, and Beriah. Serah was their sister.
31 The sons of Beriah: Heber and
Malchiel, who was the father of Birzaith.
32 Heber became the father of Japhlet,
Shomer, Hotham, and Shua their sister.
33 The sons of Japhlet: Pasach, Bimhal,
and Ashvath. These are the children of
Japhlet.
34 The sons of Shemer: Ahi, Rohgah,
Jehubbah, and Aram.
35 The sons of Helem his brother:
Zophah, Imna, Shelesh, and Amal.
36 The sons of Zophah: Suah,
Harnepher, Shual, Beri, Imrah,
37 Bezer, Hod, Shamma, Shilshah,
Ithran, and Beera.
38 The sons of Jether: Jephunneh, Pispa,
and Ara.
39 The sons of Ulla: Arah, Hanniel, and
Rizia.
40 All these were the children of Asher,
heads of the fathers' houses, choice and
mighty men of valor, chief of the princes.
The number of them listed by genealogy
for service in war was twenty-six
thousand men.

8

1 Benjamin became the father of Bela
his firstborn, Ashbel the second, Aharah
the third,
2 Nohah the fourth, and Rapha the fifth.
3 Bela had sons: Addar, Gera, Abihud,
4 Abishua, Naaman, Ahoah,
5 Gera, Shephuphan, and Huram.
6 These are the sons of Ehud. These are
the heads of fathers' households of the
inhabitants of Geba, who were carried
captive to Manahath:

† **7:23** "Beriah" is similar to the Hebrew word for "misfortune".

7 Naaman, Ahijah, and Gera, who
carried them captive; and he became the
father of Uzza and Ahihud.
8 Shaharaim became the father of
children in the field of Moab, after he had
sent them away. Hushim and Baara were
his wives.
9 By Hodesh his wife, he became the
father of Jobab, Zibia, Mesha, Malcam,
10 Jeuz, Shachia, and Mirmah. These
were his sons, heads of fathers'
households.
11 By Hushim, he became the father of
Abitub and Elpaal.
12 The sons of Elpaal: Eber, Misham, and
Shemed, who built Ono and Lod, with its
towns;
13 and Beriah and Shema, who were
heads of fathers' households of the
inhabitants of Aijalon, who put to flight
the inhabitants of Gath;
14 and Ahio, Shashak, Jeremoth,
15 Zebadiah, Arad, Eder,
16 Michael, Ishpah, Joha, the sons of
Beriah,
17 Zebadiah, Meshullam, Hizki, Heber,
18 Ishmerai, Izliah, Jobab, the sons of
Elpaal,
19 Jakim, Zichri, Zabdi,
20 Elienai, Zillethai, Eliel,
21 Adaiah, Beraiah, Shimrath, the sons
of Shimei,
22 Ishpan, Eber, Eliel,
23 Abdon, Zichri, Hanan,
24 Hananiah, Elam, Anthothijah,
25 Iphdeiah, Penuel, the sons of Shashak,
26 Shamsherai, Shehariah, Athaliah,
27 Jaareshiah, Elijah, Zichri, and the
sons of Jeroham.
28 These were heads of fathers'
households throughout their generations,
chief men. These lived in Jerusalem.
29 The father of Gibeon, whose wife's
name was Maacah, lived in Gibeon
30 with his firstborn son Abdon, Zur,
Kish, Baal, Nadab,
31 Gedor, Ahio, Zecher,
32 and Mikloth, who became the father
of Shimeah. They also lived with their
families in Jerusalem, near their relatives.
33 Ner became the father of Kish. Kish
became the father of Saul. Saul became
the father of Jonathan, Malchishua,
Abinadab, and Eshbaal.
34 The son of Jonathan was Merib-baal.
Merib-baal became the father of Micah.
35 The sons of Micah: Pithon, Melech,
Tarea, and Ahaz.
36 Ahaz became the father of Jehoaddah.
Jehoaddah became the father of Alemeth,
Azmaveth, and Zimri. Zimri became the
father of Moza.
37 Moza became the father of Binea.
Raphah was his son, Eleasah his son, and
Azel his son.
38 Azel had six sons, whose names are
these: Azrikam, Bocheru, Ishmael,
Sheariah, Obadiah, and Hanan. All these
were the sons of Azel.
39 The sons of Eshek his brother: Ulam
his firstborn, Jeush the second, and
Eliphelet the third.
40 The sons of Ulam were mighty men of
valor, archers, and had many sons, and
grandsons, one hundred fifty. All these
were of the sons of Benjamin.

9

1 So all Israel were listed by genealogies;
and behold,† they are written in the book
of the kings of Israel. Judah was carried
away captive to Babylon for their
disobedience.
2 Now the first inhabitants who lived in
their possessions in their cities were
Israel, the priests, the Levites, and the
temple servants.
3 In Jerusalem, there lived of the
children of Judah, of the children of
Benjamin, and of the children of Ephraim
and Manasseh:
4 Uthai the son of Ammihud, the son of
Omri, the son of Imri, the son of Bani, of
the children of Perez the son of Judah.
5 Of the Shilonites: Asaiah the firstborn
and his sons.
6 Of the sons of Zerah: Jeuel and their
brothers, six hundred ninety.
7 Of the sons of Benjamin: Sallu the son
of Meshullam, the son of Hodaviah, the
son of Hassenuah;

† **9:1** "Behold", from "הִנֵּה", means look at, take notice, observe, see, or gaze at. It is often used as an interjection.

8 and Ibneiah the son of Jeroham, and
Elah the son of Uzzi, the son of Michri;
and Meshullam the son of Shephatiah, the
son of Reuel, the son of Ibnijah;
9 and their brothers, according to their
generations, nine hundred fifty-six. All
these men were heads of fathers'
households by their fathers' houses.
10 Of the priests: Jedaiah, Jehoiarib,
Jachin,
11 and Azariah the son of Hilkiah, the
son of Meshullam, the son of Zadok, the
son of Meraioth, the son of Ahitub, the
ruler of God's house;
12 and Adaiah the son of Jeroham, the
son of Pashhur, the son of Malchijah; and
Maasai the son of Adiel, the son of
Jahzerah, the son of Meshullam, the son of
Meshillemith, the son of Immer;
13 and their brothers, heads of their
fathers' houses, one thousand seven
hundred sixty; they were very able men
for the work of the service of God's house.
14 Of the Levites: Shemaiah the son of
Hasshub, the son of Azrikam, the son of
Hashabiah, of the sons of Merari;
15 and Bakbakkar, Heresh, Galal, and
Mattaniah the son of Mica, the son of
Zichri, the son of Asaph,
16 and Obadiah the son of Shemaiah, the
son of Galal, the son of Jeduthun; and
Berechiah the son of Asa, the son of
Elkanah, who lived in the villages of the
Netophathites.
17 The gatekeepers: Shallum, Akkub,
Talmon, Ahiman, and their brothers
(Shallum was the chief),
18 who previously served in the king's
gate eastward. They were the gatekeepers
for the camp of the children of Levi.
19 Shallum was the son of Kore, the son
of Ebiasaph, the son of Korah, and his
brothers, of his father's house, the
Korahites, were over the work of the
service, keepers of the thresholds of the
tent. Their fathers had been over the
LORD's camp, keepers of the entry.
20 Phinehas the son of Eleazar was ruler
over them in time past, and the LORD was
with him.
21 Zechariah the son of Meshelemiah
was gatekeeper of the door of the Tent of
Meeting.
22 All these who were chosen to be
gatekeepers in the thresholds were two
hundred twelve. These were listed by
genealogy in their villages, whom David
and Samuel the seer ordained in their
office of trust.
23 So they and their children had the
oversight of the gates of the LORD's house,
even the house of the tent, as guards.
24 On the four sides were the
gatekeepers, toward the east, west, north,
and south.
25 Their brothers, in their villages, were
to come in every seven days from time to
time to be with them,
26 for the four chief gatekeepers, who
were Levites, were in an office of trust,
and were over the rooms and over the
treasuries in God's house.
27 They stayed around God's house,
because that was their duty; and it was
their duty to open it morning by morning.
28 Certain of them were in charge of the
vessels of service, for these were brought
in by count, and these were taken out by
count.
29 Some of them also were appointed
over the furniture, and over all the vessels
of the sanctuary, over the fine flour, the
wine, the oil, the frankincense, and the
spices.
30 Some of the sons of the priests
prepared the mixing of the spices.
31 Mattithiah, one of the Levites, who
was the firstborn of Shallum the Korahite,
had the office of trust over the things that
were baked in pans.
32 Some of their brothers, of the sons of
the Kohathites, were over the show bread,
to prepare it every Sabbath.
33 These are the singers, heads of
fathers' households of the Levites, who
lived in the rooms and were free from
other service, for they were employed in
their work day and night.
34 These were heads of fathers'
households of the Levites, throughout
their generations, chief men. They lived
at Jerusalem.
35 Jeiel the father of Gibeon, whose
wife's name was Maacah, lived in Gibeon.
36 His firstborn son was Abdon, then
Zur, Kish, Baal, Ner, Nadab,

37 Gedor, Ahio, Zechariah, and Mikloth.
38 Mikloth became the father of
Shimeam. They also lived with their
relatives in Jerusalem, near their
relatives.
39 Ner became the father of Kish. Kish
became the father of Saul. Saul became
the father of Jonathan, Malchishua,
Abinadab, and Eshbaal.
40 The son of Jonathan was Merib-baal.
Merib-baal became the father of Micah.
41 The sons of Micah: Pithon, Melech,
Tahrea, and Ahaz.
42 Ahaz became the father of Jarah.
Jarah became the father of Alemeth,
Azmaveth, and Zimri. Zimri became the
father of Moza.
43 Moza became the father of Binea,
Rephaiah his son, Eleasah his son, and
Azel his son.
44 Azel had six sons, whose names are
Azrikam, Bocheru, Ishmael, Sheariah,
Obadiah, and Hanan. These were the sons
of Azel.

10

1 Now the Philistines fought against
Israel; and the men of Israel fled from
before the Philistines, and fell down slain
on Mount Gilboa.
2 The Philistines followed hard after
Saul and after his sons; and the Philistines
killed Jonathan, Abinadab, and
Malchishua, the sons of Saul.
3 The battle went hard against Saul, and
the archers overtook him; and he was
distressed by reason of the archers.
4 Then Saul said to his armor bearer,
"Draw your sword, and thrust me through
with it, lest these uncircumcised come
and abuse me."
But his armor bearer would not, for he
was terrified. Therefore Saul took his
sword and fell on it.
5 When his armor bearer saw that Saul
was dead, he likewise fell on his sword
and died.
6 So Saul died with his three sons; and
all his house died together.
7 When all the men of Israel who were
in the valley saw that they fled, and that
Saul and his sons were dead, they
abandoned their cities, and fled; and the
Philistines came and lived in them.
8 On the next day, when the Philistines
came to strip the slain, they found Saul
and his sons fallen on Mount Gilboa.
9 They stripped him and took his head
and his armor, then sent into the land of
the Philistines all around to carry the
news to their idols and to the people.
10 They put his armor in the house of
their gods, and fastened his head in the
house of Dagon.
11 When all Jabesh Gilead heard all that
the Philistines had done to Saul,
12 all the valiant men arose and took
away the body of Saul and the bodies of
his sons, and brought them to Jabesh, and
buried their bones under the oak in
Jabesh, and fasted seven days.
13 So Saul died for his trespass which he
committed against the LORD, because of
the LORD's word, which he didn't keep,
and also because he asked counsel of one
who had a familiar spirit, to inquire,
14 and didn't inquire of the LORD.
Therefore he killed him, and turned the
kingdom over to David the son of Jesse.

11

1 Then all Israel gathered themselves to
David to Hebron, saying, "Behold, we are
your bone and your flesh.
2 In times past, even when Saul was
king, it was you who led out and brought
in Israel. The LORD your God said to you,
'You shall be shepherd of my people
Israel, and you shall be prince over my
people Israel.' "
3 So all the elders of Israel came to the
king to Hebron; and David made a
covenant with them in Hebron before the
LORD. They anointed David king over
Israel, according to the LORD's word by
Samuel.
4 David and all Israel went to Jerusalem
(also called Jebus); and the Jebusites, the
inhabitants of the land, were there.
5 The inhabitants of Jebus said to David,
"You will not come in here!" Nevertheless
David took the stronghold of Zion. The
same is David's city.
6 David had said, "Whoever strikes the
Jebusites first shall be chief and captain."

Joab the son of Zeruiah went up first, and was made chief.
7 David lived in the stronghold;
therefore they called it David's city.
8 He built the city all around, from Millo
even around; and Joab repaired the rest
of the city.
9 David grew greater and greater, for
the LORD of Armies was with him.
10 Now these are the chief of the mighty
men whom David had, who showed
themselves strong with him in his
kingdom, together with all Israel, to make
him king, according to the LORD's word
concerning Israel.
11 This is the number of the mighty men
whom David had: Jashobeam, the son of a
Hachmonite, the chief of the thirty; he
lifted up his spear against three hundred
and killed them at one time.
12 After him was Eleazar the son of
Dodo, the Ahohite, who was one of the
three mighty men.
13 He was with David at Pasdammim,
and there the Philistines were gathered
together to battle, where there was a plot
of ground full of barley; and the people
fled from before the Philistines.
14 They stood in the middle of the plot,
defended it, and killed the Philistines; and
the LORD saved them by a great victory.
15 Three of the thirty chief men went
down to the rock to David, into the cave of
Adullam; and the army of the Philistines
were encamped in the valley of Rephaim.
16 David was then in the stronghold, and
the garrison of the Philistines was in
Bethlehem at that time.
17 David longed, and said, "Oh, that
someone would give me water to drink
from the well of Bethlehem, which is by
the gate!"
18 The three broke through the army of
the Philistines, and drew water out of the
well of Bethlehem that was by the gate,
took it, and brought it to David; but David
would not drink any of it, but poured it
out to the LORD,
19 and said, "My God forbid me, that I
should do this! Shall I drink the blood of
these men who have put their lives in
jeopardy?" For they risked their lives to
bring it. Therefore he would not drink it.
The three mighty men did these things.
20 Abishai, the brother of Joab, was chief
of the three; for he lifted up his spear
against three hundred and killed them,
and had a name among the three.
21 Of the three, he was more honorable
than the two, and was made their captain;
however he wasn't included in the three.
22 Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, the son
of a valiant man of Kabzeel, who had done
mighty deeds, killed the two sons of Ariel
of Moab. He also went down and killed a
lion in the middle of a pit on a snowy day.
23 He killed an Egyptian, a man of great
stature, five cubits† high. In the Egyptian's
hand was a spear like a weaver's beam;
and he went down to him with a staff,
plucked the spear out of the Egyptian's
hand, and killed him with his own spear.
24 Benaiah the son of Jehoiada did these
things and had a name among the three
mighty men.
25 Behold, he was more honorable than
the thirty, but he didn't attain to the three;
and David set him over his guard.
26 The mighty men of the armies also
include Asahel the brother of Joab,
Elhanan the son of Dodo of Bethlehem,
27 Shammoth the Harorite, Helez the
Pelonite,
28 Ira the son of Ikkesh the Tekoite,
Abiezer the Anathothite,
29 Sibbecai the Hushathite, Ilai the
Ahohite,
30 Maharai the Netophathite, Heled the
son of Baanah the Netophathite,
31 Ithai the son of Ribai of Gibeah of the
children of Benjamin, Benaiah the
Pirathonite,
32 Hurai of the brooks of Gaash, Abiel
the Arbathite,
33 Azmaveth the Baharumite, Eliahba
the Shaalbonite,
34 the sons of Hashem the Gizonite,
Jonathan the son of Shagee the Hararite,

† **11:23** A cubit is the length from the tip of the middle finger to the elbow on a man's arm, or about 18 inches or 46 centimeters. Therefore this Egyptian was about 7 feet and 6 inches or 2.28 meters tall.

35 Ahiam the son of Sacar the Hararite,
Eliphal the son of Ur,
36 Hepher the Mecherathite, Ahijah the
Pelonite,
37 Hezro the Carmelite, Naarai the son
of Ezbai,
38 Joel the brother of Nathan, Mibhar
the son of Hagri,
39 Zelek the Ammonite, Naharai the
Berothite (the armor bearer of Joab the
son of Zeruiah),
40 Ira the Ithrite, Gareb the Ithrite,
41 Uriah the Hittite, Zabad the son of
Ahlai,
42 Adina the son of Shiza the Reubenite
(a chief of the Reubenites), and thirty with
him,
43 Hanan the son of Maacah, Joshaphat
the Mithnite,
44 Uzzia the Ashterathite, Shama and
Jeiel the sons of Hotham the Aroerite,
45 Jediael the son of Shimri, and Joha his
brother, the Tizite,
46 Eliel the Mahavite, and Jeribai, and
Joshaviah, the sons of Elnaam, and
Ithmah the Moabite,
47 Eliel, Obed, and Jaasiel the Mezobaite.

12

1 Now these are those who came to
David to Ziklag while he was a fugitive
from Saul the son of Kish. They were
among the mighty men, his helpers in
war.
2 They were armed with bows, and
could use both the right hand and the left
in slinging stones and in shooting arrows
from the bow. They were of Saul's
relatives of the tribe of Benjamin.
3 The chief was Ahiezer, then Joash, the
sons of Shemaah the Gibeathite; Jeziel
and Pelet, the sons of Azmaveth; Beracah;
Jehu the Anathothite;
4 Ishmaiah the Gibeonite, a mighty man
among the thirty and a leader of the
thirty; Jeremiah; Jahaziel; Johanan;
Jozabad the Gederathite;
5 Eluzai; Jerimoth; Bealiah; Shemariah;
Shephatiah the Haruphite;
6 Elkanah, Isshiah, Azarel, Joezer, and
Jashobeam, the Korahites;
7 and Joelah and Zebadiah, the sons of
Jeroham of Gedor.
8 Some Gadites joined David in the
stronghold in the wilderness, mighty men
of valor, men trained for war, who could
handle shield and spear; whose faces
were like the faces of lions, and they were
as swift as the gazelles on the mountains:
9 Ezer the chief, Obadiah the second,
Eliab the third,
10 Mishmannah the fourth, Jeremiah the
fifth,
11 Attai the sixth, Eliel the seventh,
12 Johanan the eighth, Elzabad the
ninth,
13 Jeremiah the tenth, and Machbannai
the eleventh.
14 These of the sons of Gad were
captains of the army. He who was least
was equal to one hundred, and the
greatest to one thousand.
15 These are those who went over the
Jordan in the first month, when it had
overflowed all its banks; and they put to
flight all who lived in the valleys, both
toward the east and toward the west.
16 Some of the children of Benjamin and
Judah came to the stronghold to David.
17 David went out to meet them, and
answered them, "If you have come
peaceably to me to help me, my heart will
be united with you; but if you have come
to betray me to my adversaries, since
there is no wrong in my hands, may the
God of our fathers see this and rebuke it."
18 Then the Spirit came on Amasai, who
was chief of the thirty, and he said, "We
are yours, David, and on your side, you
son of Jesse. Peace, peace be to you, and
peace be to your helpers; for your God
helps you." Then David received them
and made them captains of the band.
19 Some of Manasseh also joined David
when he came with the Philistines against
Saul to battle, but they didn't help them,
for the lords of the Philistines sent him
away after consultation, saying, "He will
desert to his master Saul to the jeopardy
of our heads."
20 As he went to Ziklag, some from
Manasseh joined him: Adnah, Jozabad,
Jediael, Michael, Jozabad, Elihu, and

Zillethai, captains of thousands who were of Manasseh.
21 They helped David against the band of raiders, for they were all mighty men of valor and were captains in the army.
22 For from day to day men came to David to help him, until there was a great army, like God's army.
23 These are the numbers of the heads of those who were armed for war, who came to David to Hebron to turn the kingdom of Saul to him, according to the LORD's word.
24 The children of Judah who bore shield and spear were six thousand eight hundred, armed for war.
25 Of the children of Simeon, mighty men of valor for the war: seven thousand one hundred.
26 Of the children of Levi: four thousand six hundred.
27 Jehoiada was the leader of the household of Aaron; and with him were three thousand seven hundred,
28 and Zadok, a young man mighty of valor, and of his father's house twenty-two captains.
29 Of the children of Benjamin, Saul's relatives: three thousand, for until then, the greatest part of them had kept their allegiance to Saul's house.
30 Of the children of Ephraim: twenty thousand eight hundred, mighty men of valor, famous men in their fathers' houses.
31 Of the half-tribe of Manasseh: eighteen thousand, who were mentioned by name, to come and make David king.
32 Of the children of Issachar, men who had understanding of the times, to know what Israel ought to do, their heads were two hundred; and all their brothers were at their command.
33 Of Zebulun, such as were able to go out in the army, who could set the battle in array with all kinds of instruments of war: fifty thousand who could command and were not of double heart.
34 Of Naphtali: one thousand captains, and with them with shield and spear thirty-seven thousand.
35 Of the Danites who could set the battle in array: twenty-eight thousand six hundred.
36 Of Asher, such as were able to go out in the army, who could set the battle in array: forty thousand.
37 On the other side of the Jordan, of the Reubenites, the Gadites, and of the half-tribe of Manasseh, with all kinds of instruments of war for the battle: one hundred twenty thousand.
38 All these were men of war who could order the battle array, and came with a perfect heart to Hebron to make David king over all Israel; and all the rest also of Israel were of one heart to make David king.
39 They were there with David three days, eating and drinking; for their brothers had supplied provisions for them.
40 Moreover those who were near to them, as far as Issachar, Zebulun, and Naphtali, brought bread on donkeys, on camels, on mules, and on oxen: supplies of flour, cakes of figs, clusters of raisins, wine, oil, cattle, and sheep in abundance; for there was joy in Israel.

13

1 David consulted with the captains of thousands and of hundreds, even with every leader.
2 David said to all the assembly of Israel, "If it seems good to you, and if it is of the LORD our God, let's send word everywhere to our brothers who are left in all the land of Israel, with whom the priests and Levites are in their cities that have pasture lands, that they may gather themselves to us.
3 Also, let's bring the ark of our God back to us again, for we didn't seek it in the days of Saul."
4 All the assembly said that they would do so, for the thing was right in the eyes of all the people.
5 So David assembled all Israel together, from the Shihor River of Egypt even to the entrance of Hamath, to bring God's ark from Kiriath Jearim.
6 David went up with all Israel to Baalah, that is, to Kiriath Jearim, which belonged to Judah, to bring up from there

God the LORD's ark that sits above the cherubim, that is called by the Name.
7 They carried God's ark on a new cart, and brought it out of Abinadab's house; and Uzza and Ahio drove the cart.
8 David and all Israel played before God with all their might, even with songs, with harps, with stringed instruments, with tambourines, with cymbals, and with trumpets.
9 When they came to Chidon's threshing floor, Uzza put out his hand to hold the ark, for the oxen stumbled.
10 The LORD's anger burned against Uzza, and he struck him because he put his hand on the ark; and he died there before God.
11 David was displeased, because the LORD had broken out against Uzza. He called that place Perez Uzza, to this day.
12 David was afraid of God that day, saying, "How can I bring God's ark home to me?"
13 So David didn't move the ark with him into David's city, but carried it aside into Obed-Edom the Gittite's house.
14 God's ark remained with the family of Obed-Edom in his house three months; and the LORD blessed Obed-Edom's house and all that he had.

14

1 Hiram king of Tyre sent messengers to David with cedar trees, masons, and carpenters, to build him a house.
2 David perceived that the LORD had established him king over Israel, for his kingdom was highly exalted, for his people Israel's sake.
3 David took more wives in Jerusalem, and David became the father of more sons and daughters.
4 These are the names of the children whom he had in Jerusalem: Shammua, Shobab, Nathan, Solomon,
5 Ibhar, Elishua, Elpelet,
6 Nogah, Nepheg, Japhia,
7 Elishama, Beeliada, and Eliphelet.
8 When the Philistines heard that David was anointed king over all Israel, all the Philistines went up to seek David; and David heard of it, and went out against them.
9 Now the Philistines had come and made a raid in the valley of Rephaim.
10 David inquired of God, saying, "Shall I go up against the Philistines? Will you deliver them into my hand?"

The LORD said to him, "Go up; for I will deliver them into your hand."
11 So they came up to Baal Perazim, and David defeated them there. David said, God has broken my enemies by my hand, like waters breaking out. Therefore they called the name of that place Baal Perazim.†
12 They left their gods there; and David gave a command, and they were burned with fire.
13 The Philistines made another raid in the valley.
14 David inquired again of God; and God said to him, "You shall not go up after them. Turn away from them, and come on them opposite the mulberry trees.
15 When you hear the sound of marching in the tops of the mulberry trees, then go out to battle; for God has gone out before you to strike the army of the Philistines."
16 David did as God commanded him; and they attacked the army of the Philistines from Gibeon even to Gezer.
17 The fame of David went out into all lands; and the LORD brought the fear of him on all nations.

15

1 David made himself houses in David's city; and he prepared a place for God's ark, and pitched a tent for it.
2 Then David said, "No one ought to carry God's ark but the Levites. For the LORD has chosen them to carry God's ark, and to minister to him forever."
3 David assembled all Israel at Jerusalem, to bring up the LORD's ark to its place, which he had prepared for it.
4 David gathered together the sons of Aaron and the Levites:
5 of the sons of Kohath, Uriel the chief, and his brothers one hundred twenty;

† **14:11** "Baal Perazim" means "The Lord who breaks out".

6 of the sons of Merari, Asaiah the chief,
and his brothers two hundred twenty;
7 of the sons of Gershom, Joel the chief,
and his brothers one hundred thirty;
8 of the sons of Elizaphan, Shemaiah the
chief, and his brothers two hundred;
9 of the sons of Hebron, Eliel the chief,
and his brothers eighty;
10 of the sons of Uzziel, Amminadab the
chief, and his brothers one hundred
twelve.
11 David called for Zadok and Abiathar
the priests, and for the Levites: for Uriel,
Asaiah, Joel, Shemaiah, Eliel, and
Amminadab,
12 and said to them, "You are the heads
of the fathers' households of the Levites.
Sanctify yourselves, both you and your
brothers, that you may bring the ark of
the LORD, the God of Israel, up to the
place that I have prepared for it.
13 For because you didn't carry it at first,
the LORD our God broke out in anger
against us, because we didn't seek him
according to the ordinance."
14 So the priests and the Levites
sanctified themselves to bring up the ark
of the LORD, the God of Israel.
15 The children of the Levites bore God's
ark on their shoulders with its poles, as
Moses commanded according to the
LORD's word.
16 David spoke to the chief of the Levites
to appoint their brothers as singers with
instruments of music, stringed
instruments, harps, and cymbals,
sounding aloud and lifting up their voices
with joy.
17 So the Levites appointed Heman the
son of Joel; and of his brothers, Asaph the
son of Berechiah; and of the sons of
Merari their brothers, Ethan the son of
Kushaiah;
18 and with them their brothers of the
second rank: Zechariah, Ben, Jaaziel,
Shemiramoth, Jehiel, Unni, Eliab,
Benaiah, Maaseiah, Mattithiah,
Eliphelehu, Mikneiah, Obed-Edom, and
Jeiel, the doorkeepers.
19 So the singers, Heman, Asaph, and
Ethan, were given cymbals of bronze to
sound aloud;
20 and Zechariah, Aziel, Shemiramoth,
Jehiel, Unni, Eliab, Maaseiah, and
Benaiah, with stringed instruments set to
Alamoth;
21 and Mattithiah, Eliphelehu,
Mikneiah, Obed-Edom, Jeiel, and Azaziah,
with harps tuned to the eight-stringed
lyre, to lead.
22 Chenaniah, chief of the Levites, was
over the singing. He taught the singers,
because he was skillful.
23 Berechiah and Elkanah were
doorkeepers for the ark.
24 Shebaniah, Joshaphat, Nethanel,
Amasai, Zechariah, Benaiah, and Eliezer,
the priests, blew the trumpets before
God's ark; and Obed-Edom and Jehiah
were doorkeepers for the ark.
25 So David, the elders of Israel, and the
captains over thousands went to bring the
ark of the LORD's covenant up out of the
house of Obed-Edom with joy.
26 When God helped the Levites who
bore the ark of the LORD's covenant, they
sacrificed seven bulls and seven rams.
27 David was clothed with a robe of fine
linen, as were all the Levites who bore the
ark, the singers, and Chenaniah the choir
master with the singers; and David had an
ephod of linen on him.
28 Thus all Israel brought the ark of the
LORD's covenant up with shouting, with
sound of the cornet, with trumpets, and
with cymbals, sounding aloud with
stringed instruments and harps.
29 As the ark of the LORD's covenant
came to David's city, Michal the daughter
of Saul looked out at the window, and saw
king David dancing and playing; and she
despised him in her heart.

16

1 They brought in God's ark, and set it in
the middle of the tent that David had
pitched for it; and they offered burnt
offerings and peace offerings before God.
2 When David had finished offering the
burnt offering and the peace offerings, he
blessed the people in the LORD's name.
3 He gave to everyone of Israel, both
man and woman, to everyone a loaf of

bread, a portion of meat, and a cake of raisins.
4 He appointed some of the Levites to minister before the LORD's ark, and to commemorate, to thank, and to praise the LORD, the God of Israel:
5 Asaph the chief, and second to him Zechariah, then Jeiel, Shemiramoth, Jehiel, Mattithiah, Eliab, Benaiah, Obed-Edom, and Jeiel, with stringed instruments and with harps; and Asaph with cymbals, sounding aloud;
6 with Benaiah and Jahaziel the priests with trumpets continually, before the ark of the covenant of God.
7 Then on that day David first ordained giving of thanks to the LORD by the hand of Asaph and his brothers.
8 Oh give thanks to the LORD.
Call on his name.
Make what he has done known among the peoples.
9 Sing to him.
Sing praises to him.
Tell of all his marvelous works.
10 Glory in his holy name.
Let the heart of those who seek the LORD rejoice.
11 Seek the LORD and his strength.
Seek his face forever more.
12 Remember his marvelous works that he has done,
his wonders, and the judgments of his mouth,
13 you offspring† of Israel his servant,
you children of Jacob, his chosen ones.

14 He is the LORD our God.
His judgments are in all the earth.
15 Remember his covenant forever,
the word which he commanded to a thousand generations,
16 the covenant which he made with Abraham,
his oath to Isaac.
17 He confirmed it to Jacob for a statute,
and to Israel for an everlasting covenant,
18 saying, "I will give you the land of Canaan,
The lot of your inheritance,"
19 when you were but a few men in number,
yes, very few, and foreigners in it.
20 They went about from nation to nation,
from one kingdom to another people.
21 He allowed no man to do them wrong.
Yes, he reproved kings for their sakes,
22 "Don't touch my anointed ones!
Do my prophets no harm!"

23 Sing to the LORD, all the earth!
Display his salvation from day to day.
24 Declare his glory among the nations,
and his marvelous works among all the peoples.
25 For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised.
He also is to be feared above all gods.
26 For all the gods of the peoples are idols,
but the LORD made the heavens.
27 Honor and majesty are before him.
Strength and gladness are in his place.

28 Ascribe to the LORD, you families of the peoples,
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength!
29 Ascribe to the LORD the glory due to his name.
Bring an offering, and come before him.
Worship the LORD in holy array.
30 Tremble before him, all the earth.
The world also is established that it can't be moved.
31 Let the heavens be glad,
and let the earth rejoice!
Let them say among the nations, "The LORD reigns!"
32 Let the sea roar, and its fullness!
Let the field exult, and all that is in it!
33 Then the trees of the forest will sing for joy before the LORD,
for he comes to judge the earth.
34 Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,
for his loving kindness endures forever.
35 Say, "Save us, God of our salvation!

† **16:13** or, seed

Gather us together and deliver us
from the nations,
to give thanks to your holy name,
to triumph in your praise.”
36 Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel,
from everlasting even to everlasting.
All the people said, “Amen,” and praised the LORD.
37 So he left Asaph and his brothers there before the ark of the LORD’s covenant, to minister before the ark continually, as every day’s work required;
38 and Obed-Edom with their sixty-eight relatives; Obed-Edom also the son of Jeduthun and Hosah to be doorkeepers;
39 and Zadok the priest and his brothers the priests, before the LORD’s tabernacle in the high place that was at Gibeon,
40 to offer burnt offerings to the LORD on the altar of burnt offering continually morning and evening, even according to all that is written in the LORD’s law, which he commanded to Israel;
41 and with them Heman and Jeduthun and the rest who were chosen, who were mentioned by name, to give thanks to the LORD, because his loving kindness endures forever;
42 and with them Heman and Jeduthun with trumpets and cymbals for those that should sound aloud, and with instruments for the songs of God, and the sons of Jeduthun to be at the gate.
43 All the people departed, each man to his house; and David returned to bless his house.

17

1 When David was living in his house, David said to Nathan the prophet, “Behold, I live in a cedar house, but the ark of the LORD’s covenant is in a tent.”
2 Nathan said to David, “Do all that is in your heart; for God is with you.”
3 That same night, the word of God came to Nathan, saying,
4 “Go and tell David my servant, ‘The LORD says, “You shall not build me a house to dwell in;
5 for I have not lived in a house since the day that I brought up Israel to this day, but have gone from tent to tent, and from one tent to another.
6 In all places in which I have walked with all Israel, did I speak a word with any of the judges of Israel, whom I commanded to be shepherd of my people, saying, ‘Why have you not built me a house of cedar?’ ” ’
7 “Now therefore, you shall tell my servant David, ‘The LORD of Armies says, “I took you from the sheep pen, from following the sheep, to be prince over my people Israel.
8 I have been with you wherever you have gone, and have cut off all your enemies from before you. I will make you a name like the name of the great ones who are on the earth.
9 I will appoint a place for my people Israel, and will plant them, that they may dwell in their own place, and be moved no more. The children of wickedness will not waste them any more, as at the first,
10 and from the day that I commanded judges to be over my people Israel. I will subdue all your enemies. Moreover I tell you that the LORD will build you a house.
11 It will happen, when your days are fulfilled that you must go to be with your fathers, that I will set up your offspring after you, who will be of your sons; and I will establish his kingdom.
12 He will build me a house, and I will establish his throne forever.
13 I will be his father, and he will be my son. I will not take my loving kindness away from him, as I took it from him who was before you;
14 but I will settle him in my house and in my kingdom forever. His throne will be established forever.” ’ ”
15 According to all these words, and according to all this vision, so Nathan spoke to David.
16 Then David the king went in and sat before the LORD; and he said, “Who am I, LORD God, and what is my house, that you have brought me this far?
17 This was a small thing in your eyes, O God, but you have spoken of your servant’s house for a great while to come,

and have respected me according to the standard of a man of high degree, LORD God.
18 What can David say yet more to you concerning the honor which is done to your servant? For you know your servant.
19 LORD, for your servant's sake, and according to your own heart, you have done all this greatness, to make known all these great things.
20 LORD, there is no one like you, neither is there any God besides you, according to all that we have heard with our ears.
21 What one nation on the earth is like your people Israel, whom God went to redeem to himself for a people, to make you a name by great and awesome things, in driving out nations from before your people whom you redeemed out of Egypt?
22 For you made your people Israel your own people forever; and you, LORD, became their God.
23 Now, LORD, let the word that you have spoken concerning your servant, and concerning his house, be established forever, and do as you have spoken.
24 Let your name be established and magnified forever, saying, 'The LORD of Armies is the God of Israel, even a God to Israel. The house of David your servant is established before you.'
25 For you, my God, have revealed to your servant that you will build him a house. Therefore your servant has found courage to pray before you.
26 Now, LORD, you are God, and have promised this good thing to your servant.
27 Now it has pleased you to bless the house of your servant, that it may continue forever before you; for you, LORD, have blessed, and it is blessed forever."

18

1 After this, David defeated the Philistines and subdued them, and took Gath and its towns out of the hand of the Philistines.
2 He defeated Moab; and the Moabites became servants to David and brought tribute.
3 David defeated Hadadezer king of Zobah, toward Hamath, as he went to establish his dominion by the river Euphrates.
4 David took from him one thousand chariots, seven thousand horsemen, and twenty thousand footmen; and David hamstrung all the chariot horses, but reserved of them enough for one hundred chariots.
5 When the Syrians of Damascus came to help Hadadezer king of Zobah, David struck twenty-two thousand men of the Syrians.
6 Then David put garrisons in Syria of Damascus; and the Syrians became servants to David and brought tribute. The LORD gave victory to David wherever he went.
7 David took the shields of gold that were on the servants of Hadadezer, and brought them to Jerusalem.
8 From Tibhath and from Cun, cities of Hadadezer, David took very much bronze, with which Solomon made the bronze sea, the pillars, and the vessels of bronze.
9 When Tou king of Hamath heard that David had struck all the army of Hadadezer king of Zobah,
10 he sent Hadoram his son to King David to greet him and to bless him, because he had fought against Hadadezer and struck him (for Hadadezer had wars with Tou); and he had with him all kinds of vessels of gold and silver and bronze.
11 King David also dedicated these to the LORD, with the silver and the gold that he carried away from all the nations: from Edom, from Moab, from the children of Ammon, from the Philistines, and from Amalek.
12 Moreover Abishai the son of Zeruiah struck eighteen thousand of the Edomites in the Valley of Salt.
13 He put garrisons in Edom; and all the Edomites became servants to David. The LORD gave victory to David wherever he went.
14 David reigned over all Israel; and he executed justice and righteousness for all his people.

15 Joab the son of Zeruiah was over the army; Jehoshaphat the son of Ahilud was recorder;
16 Zadok the son of Ahitub and Abimelech the son of Abiathar were priests; Shavsha was scribe;
17 and Benaiah the son of Jehoiada was over the Cherethites and the Pelethites; and the sons of David were chief officials serving the king.

19

1 After this, Nahash the king of the children of Ammon died, and his son reigned in his place.
2 David said, "I will show kindness to Hanun the son of Nahash, because his father showed kindness to me."

So David sent messengers to comfort him concerning his father. David's servants came into the land of the children of Ammon to Hanun to comfort him.
3 But the princes of the children of Ammon said to Hanun, "Do you think that David honors your father, in that he has sent comforters to you? Haven't his servants come to you to search, to overthrow, and to spy out the land?"
4 So Hanun took David's servants, shaved them, and cut off their garments in the middle at their buttocks, and sent them away.
5 Then some people went and told David how the men were treated. He sent to meet them; for the men were greatly humiliated. The king said, "Stay at Jericho until your beards have grown, and then return."
6 When the children of Ammon saw that they had made themselves odious to David, Hanun and the children of Ammon sent one thousand talents† of silver to hire chariots and horsemen out of Mesopotamia, out of Aram-maacah, and out of Zobah.
7 So they hired for themselves thirty-two thousand chariots, and the king of Maacah with his people, who came and encamped near Medeba. The children of Ammon gathered themselves together from their cities, and came to battle.
8 When David heard of it, he sent Joab with all the army of the mighty men.
9 The children of Ammon came out, and put the battle in array at the gate of the city; and the kings who had come were by themselves in the field.
10 Now when Joab saw that the battle was set against him before and behind, he chose some of all the choice men of Israel, and put them in array against the Syrians.
11 The rest of the people he committed into the hand of Abishai his brother; and they put themselves in array against the children of Ammon.
12 He said, "If the Syrians are too strong for me, then you are to help me; but if the children of Ammon are too strong for you, then I will help you.
13 Be courageous, and let's be strong for our people and for the cities of our God. May the LORD do that which seems good to him."
14 So Joab and the people who were with him came near to the front of the Syrians to the battle; and they fled before him.
15 When the children of Ammon saw that the Syrians had fled, they likewise fled before Abishai his brother, and entered into the city. Then Joab came to Jerusalem.

16 When the Syrians saw that they were defeated by Israel, they sent messengers and called out the Syrians who were beyond the River,‡ with Shophach the captain of the army of Hadadezer leading them.
17 David was told that, so he gathered all Israel together, passed over the Jordan, came to them, and set the battle in array against them. So when David had put the battle in array against the Syrians, they fought with him.
18 The Syrians fled before Israel; and David killed of the Syrian men seven thousand charioteers and forty thousand footmen, and also killed Shophach the captain of the army.

† **19:6** A talent is about 30 kilograms or 66 pounds, so 1000 talents is about 30 metric tons ‡ **19:16** or, the Euphrates River

19 When the servants of Hadadezer saw
that they were defeated by Israel, they
made peace with David and served him.
The Syrians would not help the children
of Ammon any more.

20

1 At the time of the return of the year, at
the time when kings go out, Joab led out
the army and wasted the country of the
children of Ammon, and came and
besieged Rabbah. But David stayed at
Jerusalem. Joab struck Rabbah, and
overthrew it.
2 David took the crown of their king
from off his head, and found it to weigh a
talent of gold,† and there were precious
stones in it. It was set on David's head,
and he brought very much plunder out of
the city.
3 He brought out the people who were
in it, and had them cut with saws, with
iron picks, and with axes. David did so to
all the cities of the children of Ammon.
Then David and all the people returned to
Jerusalem.
4 After this, war arose at Gezer with the
Philistines. Then Sibbecai the Hushathite
killed Sippai, of the sons of the giant; and
they were subdued.
5 Again there was war with the
Philistines; and Elhanan the son of Jair
killed Lahmi the brother of Goliath the
Gittite, the staff of whose spear was like a
weaver's beam.
6 There was again war at Gath, where
there was a man of great stature, who had
twenty-four fingers and toes, six on each
hand and six on each foot; and he also
was born to the giant.
7 When he defied Israel, Jonathan the
son of Shimea, David's brother, killed him.
8 These were born to the giant in Gath;
and they fell by the hand of David and by
the hand of his servants.

21

1 Satan stood up against Israel, and
moved David to take a census of Israel.
2 David said to Joab and to the princes of
the people, "Go, count Israel from
Beersheba even to Dan; and bring me
word, that I may know how many there
are."
3 Joab said, "May the LORD make his
people a hundred times as many as they
are. But, my lord the king, aren't they all
my lord's servants? Why does my lord
require this thing? Why will he be a cause
of guilt to Israel?"
4 Nevertheless the king's word
prevailed against Joab. Therefore Joab
departed and went throughout all Israel,
then came to Jerusalem.
5 Joab gave the sum of the census of the
people to David. All those of Israel were
one million one hundred thousand men
who drew a sword; and in Judah were
four hundred seventy thousand men who
drew a sword.
6 But he didn't count Levi and Benjamin
among them, for the king's word was
abominable to Joab.
7 God was displeased with this thing;
therefore he struck Israel.
8 David said to God, "I have sinned
greatly, in that I have done this thing. But
now put away, I beg you, the iniquity of
your servant, for I have done very
foolishly."
9 The LORD spoke to Gad, David's seer,
saying,
10 "Go and speak to David, saying, 'The
LORD says, "I offer you three things.
Choose one of them, that I may do it to
you." ' "
11 So Gad came to David and said to him,
"The LORD says, 'Take your choice:
12 either three years of famine; or three
months to be consumed before your foes,
while the sword of your enemies
overtakes you; or else three days of the
sword of the LORD, even pestilence in the
land, and the LORD's angel destroying
throughout all the borders of Israel. Now
therefore consider what answer I shall
return to him who sent me.' "
13 David said to Gad, "I am in distress.
Let me fall, I pray, into the LORD's hand,
for his mercies are very great. Don't let
me fall into man's hand."

† **20:2** A talent is about 30 kilograms or 66 pounds or 965 Troy ounces

14 So the LORD sent a pestilence on
Israel, and seventy thousand men of
Israel fell.
15 God sent an angel to Jerusalem to
destroy it. As he was about to destroy, the
LORD saw, and he relented of the disaster,
and said to the destroying angel, "It is
enough. Now withdraw your hand." the
LORD's angel was standing by the
threshing floor of Ornan the Jebusite.
16 David lifted up his eyes, and saw the
LORD's angel standing between earth and
the sky, having a drawn sword in his hand
stretched out over Jerusalem.
Then David and the elders, clothed in
sackcloth, fell on their faces.
17 David said to God, "Isn't it I who
commanded the people to be counted? It
is even I who have sinned and done very
wickedly; but these sheep, what have they
done? Please let your hand, O LORD my
God, be against me and against my
father's house; but not against your
people, that they should be plagued."
18 Then the LORD's angel commanded
Gad to tell David that David should go up
and raise an altar to the LORD on the
threshing floor of Ornan the Jebusite.
19 David went up at the saying of Gad,
which he spoke in the LORD's name.
20 Ornan turned back and saw the
angel; and his four sons who were with
him hid themselves. Now Ornan was
threshing wheat.
21 As David came to Ornan, Ornan
looked and saw David, and went out of the
threshing floor, and bowed himself to
David with his face to the ground.
22 Then David said to Ornan, "Sell me
the place of this threshing floor, that I may
build an altar to the LORD on it. You shall
sell it to me for the full price, that the
plague may be stopped from afflicting the
people."
23 Ornan said to David, "Take it for
yourself, and let my lord the king do that
which is good in his eyes. Behold, I give
the oxen for burnt offerings, and the
threshing instruments for wood, and the
wheat for the meal offering. I give it all."
24 King David said to Ornan, "No, but I
will most certainly buy it for the full price.
For I will not take that which is yours for
the LORD, nor offer a burnt offering that
costs me nothing."
25 So David gave to Ornan six hundred
shekels† of gold by weight for the place.
26 David built an altar to the LORD
there, and offered burnt offerings and
peace offerings, and called on the LORD;
and he answered him from the sky by fire
on the altar of burnt offering.
27 Then the LORD commanded the
angel, and he put his sword back into its
sheath.
28 At that time, when David saw that the
LORD had answered him in the threshing
floor of Ornan the Jebusite, then he
sacrificed there.
29 For the LORD's tabernacle, which
Moses made in the wilderness, and the
altar of burnt offering, were at that time
in the high place at Gibeon.
30 But David couldn't go before it to
inquire of God, for he was afraid because
of the sword of the LORD's angel.

22

1 Then David said, "This is the house of
the LORD God, and this is the altar of
burnt offering for Israel."
2 David gave orders to gather together
the foreigners who were in the land of
Israel; and he set masons to cut dressed
stones to build God's house.
3 David prepared iron in abundance for
the nails for the doors of the gates and for
the couplings, and bronze in abundance
without weight,
4 and cedar trees without number, for
the Sidonians and the people of Tyre
brought cedar trees in abundance to
David.
5 David said, "Solomon my son is young
and tender, and the house that is to be
built for the LORD must be exceedingly
magnificent, of fame and of glory
throughout all countries. I will therefore
make preparation for it." So David
prepared abundantly before his death.

† **21:25** A shekel is about 10 grams or about 0.32 Troy ounces, so 600 shekels was about 6 kilograms or about 192 Troy ounces.

6 Then he called for Solomon his son,
and commanded him to build a house for
the LORD, the God of Israel.
7 David said to Solomon his son, "As for
me, it was in my heart to build a house to
the name of the LORD my God.
8 But the LORD's word came to me,
saying, 'You have shed blood abundantly
and have made great wars. You shall not
build a house to my name, because you
have shed much blood on the earth in my
sight.
9 Behold, a son shall be born to you, who
shall be a man of peace. I will give him
rest from all his enemies all around; for
his name shall be Solomon, and I will give
peace and quietness to Israel in his days.
10 He shall build a house for my name;
and he will be my son, and I will be his
father; and I will establish the throne of
his kingdom over Israel forever.'
11 Now, my son, may the LORD be with
you and prosper you, and build the house
of the LORD your God, as he has spoken
concerning you.
12 May the LORD give you discretion
and understanding, and put you in charge
of Israel, so that you may keep the law of
the LORD your God.
13 Then you will prosper, if you observe
to do the statutes and the ordinances
which the LORD gave Moses concerning
Israel. Be strong and courageous. Don't be
afraid and don't be dismayed.
14 Now, behold, in my affliction I have
prepared for the LORD's house one
hundred thousand talents† of gold, one
million talents‡ of silver, and bronze and
iron without weight; for it is in
abundance. I have also prepared timber
and stone; and you may add to them.
15 There are also workmen with you in
abundance—cutters and workers of stone
and timber, and all kinds of men who are
skillful in every kind of work;
16 of the gold, the silver, the bronze, and
the iron, there is no number. Arise and be
doing, and may the LORD be with you."
17 David also commanded all the princes
of Israel to help Solomon his son, saying,
18 "Isn't the LORD your God with you?
Hasn't he given you rest on every side?
For he has delivered the inhabitants of the
land into my hand; and the land is
subdued before the LORD and before his
people.
19 Now set your heart and your soul to
follow the LORD your God. Arise
therefore, and build the sanctuary of the
LORD God, to bring the ark of the LORD's
covenant and the holy vessels of God into
the house that is to be built for the LORD's
name."

23

1 Now David was old and full of days;
and he made Solomon his son king over
Israel.
2 He gathered together all the princes of
Israel, with the priests and the Levites.
3 The Levites were counted from thirty
years old and upward; and their number
by their polls, man by man, was
thirty-eight thousand.
4 David said, "Of these, twenty-four
thousand were to oversee the work of the
LORD's house, six thousand were officers
and judges,
5 four thousand were doorkeepers, and
four thousand praised the LORD with the
instruments which I made for giving
praise."
6 David divided them into divisions
according to the sons of Levi: Gershon,
Kohath, and Merari.
7 Of the Gershonites: Ladan and Shimei.
8 The sons of Ladan: Jehiel the chief,
Zetham, and Joel, three.
9 The sons of Shimei: Shelomoth, Haziel,
and Haran, three. These were the heads of
the fathers' households of Ladan.
10 The sons of Shimei: Jahath, Zina,
Jeush, and Beriah. These four were the
sons of Shimei.
11 Jahath was the chief, and Zizah the
second; but Jeush and Beriah didn't have
many sons; therefore they became a
fathers' house in one reckoning.

† **22:14** A talent is about 30 kilograms or 66 pounds or 965 Troy ounces, so 100,000 talents is about 3 metric tons
‡ **22:14** about 30,000 metric tons

12 The sons of Kohath: Amram, Izhar, Hebron, and Uzziel, four.
13 The sons of Amram: Aaron and Moses; and Aaron was separated that he should sanctify the most holy things, he and his sons forever, to burn incense before the LORD, to minister to him, and to bless in his name forever.
14 But as for Moses the man of God, his sons were named among the tribe of Levi.
15 The sons of Moses: Gershom and Eliezer.
16 The sons of Gershom: Shebuel the chief.
17 The son of Eliezer was Rehabiah the chief; and Eliezer had no other sons, but the sons of Rehabiah were very many.
18 The son of Izhar: Shelomith the chief.
19 The sons of Hebron: Jeriah the chief, Amariah the second, Jahaziel the third, and Jekameam the fourth.
20 The sons of Uzziel: Micah the chief, and Isshiah the second.
21 The sons of Merari: Mahli and Mushi. The sons of Mahli: Eleazar and Kish.
22 Eleazar died, and had no sons, but daughters only; and their relatives, the sons of Kish, took them as wives.
23 The sons of Mushi: Mahli, Eder, and Jeremoth, three.
24 These were the sons of Levi after their fathers' houses, even the heads of the fathers' houses of those who were counted individually, in the number of names by their polls, who did the work for the service of the LORD's house, from twenty years old and upward.
25 For David said, "The LORD, the God of Israel, has given rest to his people; and he dwells in Jerusalem forever.
26 Also the Levites will no longer need to carry the tabernacle and all its vessels for its service."
27 For by the last words of David the sons of Levi were counted, from twenty years old and upward.
28 For their duty was to wait on the sons of Aaron for the service of the LORD's house—in the courts, in the rooms, and in the purifying of all holy things, even the work of the service of God's house;
29 for the show bread also, and for the fine flour for a meal offering, whether of unleavened wafers, or of that which is baked in the pan, or of that which is soaked, and for all measurements of quantity and size;
30 and to stand every morning to thank and praise the LORD, and likewise in the evening;
31 and to offer all burnt offerings to the LORD on the Sabbaths, on the new moons, and on the set feasts, in number according to the ordinance concerning them, continually before the LORD;
32 and that they should keep the duty of the Tent of Meeting, the duty of the holy place, and the duty of the sons of Aaron their brothers for the service of the LORD's house.

24

1 These were the divisions of the sons of Aaron. The sons of Aaron: Nadab, Abihu, Eleazar, and Ithamar.
2 But Nadab and Abihu died before their father, and had no children; therefore Eleazar and Ithamar served as priests.
3 David, with Zadok of the sons of Eleazar and Ahimelech of the sons of Ithamar, divided them according to their ordering in their service.
4 There were more chief men found of the sons of Eleazar than of the sons of Ithamar; and they were divided like this: of the sons of Eleazar there were sixteen, heads of fathers' houses; and of the sons of Ithamar, according to their fathers' houses, eight.
5 Thus they were divided impartially by drawing lots; for there were princes of the sanctuary and princes of God, both of the sons of Eleazar, and of the sons of Ithamar.
6 Shemaiah the son of Nethanel the scribe, who was of the Levites, wrote them in the presence of the king, the princes, Zadok the priest, Ahimelech the son of Abiathar, and the heads of the fathers' households of the priests and of the Levites; one fathers' house being taken for Eleazar, and one taken for Ithamar.
7 Now the first lot came out to Jehoiarib, the second to Jedaiah,
8 the third to Harim, the fourth to Seorim,

9 the fifth to Malchijah, the sixth to Mijamin,
10 the seventh to Hakkoz, the eighth to Abijah,
11 the ninth to Jeshua, the tenth to Shecaniah,
12 the eleventh to Eliashib, the twelfth to Jakim,
13 the thirteenth to Huppah, the fourteenth to Jeshebeab,
14 the fifteenth to Bilgah, the sixteenth to Immer,
15 the seventeenth to Hezir, the eighteenth to Happizzez,
16 the nineteenth to Pethahiah, the twentieth to Jehezkel,
17 the twenty-first to Jachin, the twenty-second to Gamul,
18 the twenty-third to Delaiah, and the twenty-fourth to Maaziah.
19 This was their ordering in their service, to come into the LORD's house according to the ordinance given to them by Aaron their father, as the LORD, the God of Israel, had commanded him.
20 Of the rest of the sons of Levi: of the sons of Amram, Shubael; of the sons of Shubael, Jehdeiah.
21 Of Rehabiah: of the sons of Rehabiah, Isshiah the chief.
22 Of the Izharites, Shelomoth; of the sons of Shelomoth, Jahath.
23 The sons of Hebron: Jeriah, Amariah the second, Jahaziel the third, and Jekameam the fourth.
24 The sons of Uzziel: Micah; of the sons of Micah, Shamir.
25 The brother of Micah: Isshiah; of the sons of Isshiah, Zechariah.
26 The sons of Merari: Mahli and Mushi. The son of Jaaziah: Beno.
27 The sons of Merari by Jaaziah: Beno, Shoham, Zaccur, and Ibri.
28 Of Mahli: Eleazar, who had no sons.
29 Of Kish, the son of Kish: Jerahmeel.
30 The sons of Mushi: Mahli, Eder, and Jerimoth. These were the sons of the Levites after their fathers' houses.
31 These likewise cast lots even as their brothers the sons of Aaron in the presence of David the king, Zadok, Ahimelech, and the heads of the fathers' households of the priests and of the Levites, the fathers' households of the chief even as those of his younger brother.

25

1 Moreover, David and the captains of the army set apart for the service certain of the sons of Asaph, of Heman, and of Jeduthun, who were to prophesy with harps, with stringed instruments, and with cymbals. The number of those who did the work according to their service was:
2 of the sons of Asaph: Zaccur, Joseph, Nethaniah, and Asharelah. The sons of Asaph were under the hand of Asaph, who prophesied at the order of the king.
3 Of Jeduthun, the sons of Jeduthun: Gedaliah, Zeri, Jeshaiah, Shimei, Hashabiah, and Mattithiah, six, under the hands of their father Jeduthun, who prophesied in giving thanks and praising the LORD with the harp.
4 Of Heman, the sons of Heman: Bukkiah, Mattaniah, Uzziel, Shebuel, Jerimoth, Hananiah, Hanani, Eliathah, Giddalti, Romamti-Ezer, Joshbekashah, Mallothi, Hothir, and Mahazioth.
5 All these were the sons of Heman the king's seer in the words of God, to lift up the horn. God gave to Heman fourteen sons and three daughters.
6 All these were under the hands of their father for song in the LORD's house, with cymbals, stringed instruments, and harps, for the service of God's house: Asaph, Jeduthun, and Heman being under the order of the king.
7 The number of them, with their brothers who were instructed in singing to the LORD, even all who were skillful, was two hundred eighty-eight.
8 They cast lots for their offices, all alike, the small as well as the great, the teacher as well as the student.
9 Now the first lot came out for Asaph to Joseph; the second to Gedaliah, he and his brothers and sons were twelve;
10 the third to Zaccur, his sons and his brothers, twelve;
11 the fourth to Izri, his sons and his brothers, twelve;

12 the fifth to Nethaniah, his sons and
his brothers, twelve;
13 the sixth to Bukkiah, his sons and his
brothers, twelve;
14 the seventh to Jesharelah, his sons
and his brothers, twelve;
15 the eighth to Jeshaiah, his sons and
his brothers, twelve;
16 the ninth to Mattaniah, his sons and
his brothers, twelve;
17 the tenth to Shimei, his sons and his
brothers, twelve;
18 the eleventh to Azarel, his sons and
his brothers, twelve;
19 the twelfth to Hashabiah, his sons and
his brothers, twelve;
20 for the thirteenth, Shubael, his sons
and his brothers, twelve;
21 for the fourteenth, Mattithiah, his
sons and his brothers, twelve;
22 for the fifteenth to Jeremoth, his sons
and his brothers, twelve;
23 for the sixteenth to Hananiah, his
sons and his brothers, twelve;
24 for the seventeenth to Joshbekashah,
his sons and his brothers, twelve;
25 for the eighteenth to Hanani, his sons
and his brothers, twelve;
26 for the nineteenth to Mallothi, his
sons and his brothers, twelve;
27 for the twentieth to Eliathah, his sons
and his brothers, twelve;
28 for the twenty-first to Hothir, his sons
and his brothers, twelve;
29 for the twenty-second to Giddalti, his
sons and his brothers, twelve;
30 for the twenty-third to Mahazioth, his
sons and his brothers, twelve;
31 for the twenty-fourth to
Romamti-Ezer, his sons and his brothers,
twelve.

26

1 For the divisions of the doorkeepers:
of the Korahites, Meshelemiah the son of
Kore, of the sons of Asaph.
2 Meshelemiah had sons: Zechariah the
firstborn, Jediael the second, Zebadiah the
third, Jathniel the fourth,
3 Elam the fifth, Jehohanan the sixth,
and Eliehoenai the seventh.
4 Obed-Edom had sons: Shemaiah the
firstborn, Jehozabad the second, Joah the
third, Sacar the fourth, Nethanel the fifth,
5 Ammiel the sixth, Issachar the
seventh, and Peullethai the eighth; for
God blessed him.
6 Sons were also born to Shemaiah his
son, who ruled over the house of their
father; for they were mighty men of valor.
7 The sons of Shemaiah: Othni, Rephael,
Obed, and Elzabad, whose relatives were
valiant men, Elihu, and Semachiah.
8 All these were of the sons of
Obed-Edom with their sons and their
brothers, able men in strength for the
service: sixty-two of Obed-Edom.
9 Meshelemiah had sons and brothers,
eighteen valiant men.
10 Also Hosah, of the children of Merari,
had sons: Shimri the chief (for though he
was not the firstborn, yet his father made
him chief),
11 Hilkiah the second, Tebaliah the
third, and Zechariah the fourth. All the
sons and brothers of Hosah were thirteen.
12 Of these were the divisions of the
doorkeepers, even of the chief men,
having offices like their brothers, to
minister in the LORD's house.
13 They cast lots, the small as well as the
great, according to their fathers' houses,
for every gate.
14 The lot eastward fell to Shelemiah.
Then for Zechariah his son, a wise
counselor, they cast lots; and his lot came
out northward.
15 To Obed-Edom southward; and to his
sons the storehouse.
16 To Shuppim and Hosah westward, by
the gate of Shallecheth, at the causeway
that goes up, watchman opposite
watchman.
17 Eastward were six Levites,
northward four a day, southward four a
day, and for the storehouse two and two.
18 For Parbar westward, four at the
causeway, and two at Parbar.
19 These were the divisions of the
doorkeepers; of the sons of the Korahites,
and of the sons of Merari.
20 Of the Levites, Ahijah was over the
treasures of God's house and over the
treasures of the dedicated things.

21 The sons of Ladan, the sons of the Gershonites belonging to Ladan, the heads of the fathers' households belonging to Ladan the Gershonite: Jehieli.
22 The sons of Jehieli: Zetham, and Joel his brother, over the treasures of the LORD's house.
23 Of the Amramites, of the Izharites, of the Hebronites, of the Uzzielites:
24 Shebuel the son of Gershom, the son of Moses, was ruler over the treasuries.
25 His brothers: of Eliezer, Rehabiah his son, and Jeshaiah his son, and Joram his son, and Zichri his son, and Shelomoth his son.
26 This Shelomoth and his brothers were over all the treasuries of the dedicated things, which David the king, and the heads of the fathers' households, the captains over thousands and hundreds, and the captains of the army, had dedicated.
27 They dedicated some of the plunder won in battles to repair the LORD's house.
28 All that Samuel the seer, Saul the son of Kish, Abner the son of Ner, and Joab the son of Zeruiah had dedicated, whoever had dedicated anything, it was under the hand of Shelomoth and of his brothers.
29 Of the Izharites, Chenaniah and his sons were appointed to the outward business over Israel, for officers and judges.
30 Of the Hebronites, Hashabiah and his brothers, one thousand seven hundred men of valor, had the oversight of Israel beyond the Jordan westward, for all the business of the LORD and for the service of the king.
31 Of the Hebronites, Jerijah was the chief of the Hebronites, according to their generations by fathers' households. They were sought for in the fortieth year of the reign of David, and mighty men of valor were found among them at Jazer of Gilead.
32 His relatives, men of valor, were two thousand seven hundred, heads of fathers' households, whom King David made overseers over the Reubenites, the Gadites, and the half-tribe of the Manassites, for every matter pertaining to God and for the affairs of the king.

27

1 Now the children of Israel after their number, the heads of fathers' households and the captains of thousands and of hundreds, and their officers who served the king in any matter of the divisions which came in and went out month by month throughout all the months of the year—of every division were twenty-four thousand.
2 Over the first division for the first month was Jashobeam the son of Zabdiel. In his division were twenty-four thousand.
3 He was of the children of Perez, the chief of all the captains of the army for the first month.
4 Over the division of the second month was Dodai the Ahohite and his division, and Mikloth the ruler; and in his division were twenty-four thousand.
5 The third captain of the army for the third month was Benaiah, the son of Jehoiada the chief priest. In his division were twenty-four thousand.
6 This is that Benaiah who was the mighty man of the thirty and over the thirty. Of his division was Ammizabad his son.
7 The fourth captain for the fourth month was Asahel the brother of Joab, and Zebadiah his son after him. In his division were twenty-four thousand.
8 The fifth captain for the fifth month was Shamhuth the Izrahite. In his division were twenty-four thousand.
9 The sixth captain for the sixth month was Ira the son of Ikkesh the Tekoite. In his division were twenty-four thousand.
10 The seventh captain for the seventh month was Helez the Pelonite, of the children of Ephraim. In his division were twenty-four thousand.
11 The eighth captain for the eighth month was Sibbecai the Hushathite, of the Zerahites. In his division were twenty-four thousand.
12 The ninth captain for the ninth month was Abiezer the Anathothite, of the Benjamites. In his division were twenty-four thousand.

13 The tenth captain for the tenth month
was Maharai the Netophathite, of the
Zerahites. In his division were
twenty-four thousand.
14 The eleventh captain for the eleventh
month was Benaiah the Pirathonite, of the
children of Ephraim. In his division were
twenty-four thousand.
15 The twelfth captain for the twelfth
month was Heldai the Netophathite, of
Othniel. In his division were twenty-four
thousand.
16 Furthermore over the tribes of Israel:
of the Reubenites, Eliezer the son of Zichri
was the ruler; of the Simeonites,
Shephatiah the son of Maacah;
17 of Levi, Hashabiah the son of Kemuel;
of Aaron, Zadok;
18 of Judah, Elihu, one of the brothers of
David; of Issachar, Omri the son of
Michael;
19 of Zebulun, Ishmaiah the son of
Obadiah; of Naphtali, Jeremoth the son of
Azriel;
20 of the children of Ephraim, Hoshea
the son of Azaziah; of the half-tribe of
Manasseh, Joel the son of Pedaiah;
21 of the half-tribe of Manasseh in
Gilead, Iddo the son of Zechariah; of
Benjamin, Jaasiel the son of Abner;
22 of Dan, Azarel the son of Jeroham.
These were the captains of the tribes of
Israel.
23 But David didn't take the number of
them from twenty years old and under,
because the LORD had said he would
increase Israel like the stars of the sky.
24 Joab the son of Zeruiah began to take
a census, but didn't finish; and wrath
came on Israel for this. The number
wasn't put into the account in the
chronicles of King David.

25 Over the king's treasures was
Azmaveth the son of Adiel. Over the
treasures in the fields, in the cities, in the
villages, and in the towers was Jonathan
the son of Uzziah;
26 Over those who did the work of the
field for tillage of the ground was Ezri the
son of Chelub.
27 Over the vineyards was Shimei the
Ramathite. Over the increase of the
vineyards for the wine cellars was Zabdi
the Shiphmite.
28 Over the olive trees and the sycamore
trees that were in the lowland was Baal
Hanan the Gederite. Over the cellars of oil
was Joash.
29 Over the herds that fed in Sharon was
Shitrai the Sharonite. Over the herds that
were in the valleys was Shaphat the son of
Adlai.
30 Over the camels was Obil the
Ishmaelite. Over the donkeys was
Jehdeiah the Meronothite. Over the flocks
was Jaziz the Hagrite.
31 All these were the rulers of the
property which was King David's.
32 Also Jonathan, David's uncle, was a
counselor, a man of understanding, and a
scribe. Jehiel the son of Hachmoni was
with the king's sons.
33 Ahithophel was the king's counselor.
Hushai the Archite was the king's friend.
34 After Ahithophel was Jehoiada the
son of Benaiah, and Abiathar. Joab was
the captain of the king's army.

28

1 David assembled all the princes of
Israel, the princes of the tribes, the
captains of the companies who served the
king by division, the captains of
thousands, the captains of hundreds, and
the rulers over all the substance and
possessions of the king and of his sons,
with the officers and the mighty men,
even all the mighty men of valor, to
Jerusalem.
2 Then David the king stood up on his
feet and said, "Hear me, my brothers and
my people! As for me, it was in my heart
to build a house of rest for the ark of the
LORD's covenant, and for the footstool of
our God; and I had prepared for the
building.
3 But God said to me, 'You shall not build
a house for my name, because you are a
man of war and have shed blood.'
4 However the LORD, the God of Israel,
chose me out of all the house of my father
to be king over Israel forever. For he has
chosen Judah to be prince; and in the
house of Judah, the house of my father;

and among the sons of my father he took pleasure in me to make me king over all Israel.
5 Of all my sons (for the LORD has given me many sons), he has chosen Solomon my son to sit on the throne of the LORD's kingdom over Israel.
6 He said to me, 'Solomon, your son, shall build my house and my courts; for I have chosen him to be my son, and I will be his father.
7 I will establish his kingdom forever if he continues to do my commandments and my ordinances, as it is today.'

8 Now therefore, in the sight of all Israel, the LORD's assembly, and in the audience of our God, observe and seek out all the commandments of the LORD your God, that you may possess this good land, and leave it for an inheritance to your children after you forever.

9 You, Solomon my son, know the God of your father, and serve him with a perfect heart and with a willing mind; for the LORD searches all hearts, and understands all the imaginations of the thoughts. If you seek him, he will be found by you; but if you forsake him, he will cast you off forever.
10 Take heed now, for the LORD has chosen you to build a house for the sanctuary. Be strong, and do it."

11 Then David gave to Solomon his son the plans for the porch of the temple, for its houses, for its treasuries, for its upper rooms, for its inner rooms, for the place of the mercy seat;
12 and the plans of all that he had by the Spirit, for the courts of the LORD's house, for all the surrounding rooms, for the treasuries of God's house, and for the treasuries of the dedicated things;
13 also for the divisions of the priests and the Levites, for all the work of the service of the LORD's house, and for all the vessels of service in the LORD's house—
14 of gold by weight for the gold for all vessels of every kind of service, for all the vessels of silver by weight, for all vessels of every kind of service;
15 by weight also for the lamp stands of gold, and for its lamps, of gold, by weight for every lamp stand and for its lamps; and for the lamp stands of silver, by weight for every lamp stand and for its lamps, according to the use of every lamp stand;
16 and the gold by weight for the tables of show bread, for every table; and silver for the tables of silver;
17 and the forks, the basins, and the cups, of pure gold; and for the golden bowls by weight for every bowl; and for the silver bowls by weight for every bowl;
18 and for the altar of incense, refined gold by weight; and gold for the plans for the chariot, and the cherubim that spread out and cover the ark of the LORD's covenant.
19 "All this", David said, "I have been made to understand in writing from the LORD's hand, even all the works of this pattern."

20 David said to Solomon his son, "Be strong and courageous, and do it. Don't be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the LORD God, even my God, is with you. He will not fail you nor forsake you, until all the work for the service of the LORD's house is finished.
21 Behold, there are the divisions of the priests and the Levites for all the service of God's house. Every willing man who has skill for any kind of service shall be with you in all kinds of work. Also the captains and all the people will be entirely at your command."

29

1 David the king said to all the assembly, "Solomon my son, whom alone God has chosen, is yet young and tender, and the work is great; for the palace is not for man, but for the LORD God.
2 Now I have prepared with all my might for the house of my God the gold for the things of gold, the silver for the things of silver, the bronze for the things of bronze, iron for the things of iron, and wood for the things of wood, also onyx stones, stones to be set, stones for inlaid work of

various colors, all kinds of precious stones, and marble stones in abundance.
3 In addition, because I have set my affection on the house of my God, since I have a treasure of my own of gold and silver, I give it to the house of my God, over and above all that I have prepared for the holy house:
4 even three thousand talents of gold,† of the gold of Ophir, and seven thousand talents‡ of refined silver, with which to overlay the walls of the houses;
5 of gold for the things of gold, and of silver for the things of silver, and for all kinds of work to be made by the hands of artisans. Who then offers willingly to consecrate himself today to the LORD?"
6 Then the princes of the fathers' households, and the princes of the tribes of Israel, and the captains of thousands and of hundreds, with the rulers over the king's work, offered willingly;
7 and they gave for the service of God's house of gold five thousand talents§ and ten thousand darics,† of silver ten thousand talents, of bronze eighteen thousand talents, and of iron one hundred thousand talents.
8 People with whom precious stones were found gave them to the treasure of the LORD's house, under the hand of Jehiel the Gershonite.
9 Then the people rejoiced, because they offered willingly, because with a perfect heart they offered willingly to the LORD; and David the king also rejoiced with great joy.
10 Therefore David blessed the LORD before all the assembly; and David said, "You are blessed, LORD, the God of Israel our father, forever and ever.
11 Yours, LORD, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the victory, and the majesty! For all that is in the heavens and on the earth is yours. Yours is the kingdom, LORD, and you are exalted as head above all.
12 Both riches and honor come from you, and you rule over all! In your hand is power and might! It is in your hand to make great, and to give strength to all!
13 Now therefore, our God, we thank you and praise your glorious name.
14 But who am I, and what is my people, that we should be able to offer so willingly as this? For all things come from you, and we have given you of your own.
15 For we are strangers before you and foreigners, as all our fathers were. Our days on the earth are as a shadow, and there is no remaining.
16 LORD our God, all this store that we have prepared to build you a house for your holy name comes from your hand, and is all your own.
17 I know also, my God, that you try the heart and have pleasure in uprightness. As for me, in the uprightness of my heart I have willingly offered all these things. Now I have seen with joy your people, who are present here, offer willingly to you.
18 LORD, the God of Abraham, of Isaac, and of Israel, our fathers, keep this desire forever in the thoughts of the heart of your people, and prepare their heart for you;
19 and give to Solomon my son a perfect heart, to keep your commandments, your testimonies, and your statutes, and to do all these things, and to build the palace, for which I have made provision."

20 Then David said to all the assembly, "Now bless the LORD your God!"

All the assembly blessed the LORD, the God of their fathers, and bowed down their heads and prostrated themselves before the LORD and the king.
21 They sacrificed sacrifices to the LORD and offered burnt offerings to the LORD on the next day after that day, even one thousand bulls, one thousand rams, and one thousand lambs, with their drink

† **29:4** A talent is about 30 kilograms or 66 pounds or 965 Troy ounces, so 3000 talents is about 90 metric tons ‡ **29:4** about 210 metric tons § **29:7** A talent is about 30 kilograms or 66 pounds or 965 Troy ounces, so 5000 talents is about 150 metric tons † **29:7** a daric was a gold coin issued by a Persian king, weighing about 8.4 grams or about 0.27 troy ounces each.

offerings and sacrifices in abundance for
all Israel,
22 and ate and drank before the LORD
on that day with great gladness. They
made Solomon the son of David king the
second time, and anointed him before the
LORD to be prince, and Zadok to be priest.
23 Then Solomon sat on the throne of the
LORD as king instead of David his father,
and prospered; and all Israel obeyed him.
24 All the princes, the mighty men, and
also all of the sons of King David
submitted themselves to Solomon the
king.
25 The LORD magnified Solomon
exceedingly in the sight of all Israel, and
gave to him such royal majesty as had not
been on any king before him in Israel.
26 Now David the son of Jesse reigned
over all Israel.
27 The time that he reigned over Israel
was forty years; he reigned seven years in
Hebron, and he reigned thirty-three years
in Jerusalem.
28 He died at a good old age, full of days,
riches, and honor; and Solomon his son
reigned in his place.
29 Now the acts of David the king, first
and last, behold, they are written in the
history of Samuel the seer, and in the
history of Nathan the prophet, and in the
history of Gad the seer,
30 with all his reign and his might, and
the events that involved him, Israel, and
all the kingdoms of the lands.

The Second Book of Chronicles

1 Solomon the son of David was firmly established in his kingdom, and the LORD† his God‡ was with him, and made him exceedingly great.
2 Solomon spoke to all Israel, to the captains of thousands and of hundreds, to the judges, and to every prince in all Israel, the heads of the fathers' households.
3 Then Solomon, and all the assembly with him, went to the high place that was at Gibeon; for God's Tent of Meeting was there, which the LORD's servant Moses had made in the wilderness.
4 But David had brought God's ark up from Kiriath Jearim to the place that David had prepared for it; for he had pitched a tent for it at Jerusalem.
5 Moreover the bronze altar that Bezalel the son of Uri, the son of Hur, had made was there before the LORD's tabernacle; and Solomon and the assembly were seeking counsel there.
6 Solomon went up there to the bronze altar before the LORD, which was at the Tent of Meeting, and offered one thousand burnt offerings on it.
7 That night, God appeared to Solomon and said to him, "Ask for what you want me to give you."
8 Solomon said to God, "You have shown great loving kindness to David my father, and have made me king in his place.
9 Now, LORD God, let your promise to David my father be established; for you have made me king over a people like the dust of the earth in multitude.
10 Now give me wisdom and knowledge, that I may go out and come in before this people; for who can judge this great people of yours?"
11 God said to Solomon, "Because this was in your heart, and you have not asked riches, wealth, honor, or the life of those who hate you, nor yet have you asked for long life; but have asked for wisdom and knowledge for yourself, that you may judge my people, over whom I have made you king,
12 therefore wisdom and knowledge is granted to you. I will give you riches, wealth, and honor, such as none of the kings have had who have been before you, and none after you will have."
13 So Solomon came from the high place that was at Gibeon, from before the Tent of Meeting, to Jerusalem; and he reigned over Israel.
14 Solomon gathered chariots and horsemen. He had one thousand four hundred chariots and twelve thousand horsemen that he placed in the chariot cities, and with the king at Jerusalem.
15 The king made silver and gold to be as common as stones in Jerusalem, and he made cedars to be as common as the sycamore trees that are in the lowland.
16 The horses which Solomon had were brought out of Egypt and from Kue. The king's merchants purchased them from Kue.
17 They imported from Egypt then exported a chariot for six hundred pieces of silver and a horse for one hundred fifty.§ They also exported them to the Hittite kings and the Syrian† kings.

2

1 Now Solomon decided to build a house for the LORD's name, and a house for his kingdom.
2 Solomon counted out seventy thousand men to bear burdens, eighty thousand men who were stone cutters in the mountains, and three thousand six hundred to oversee them.
3 Solomon sent to Huram the king of Tyre, saying, "As you dealt with David my father, and sent him cedars to build him a house in which to dwell, so deal with me.

† **1:1** When rendered in ALL CAPITAL LETTERS, "LORD" or "GOD" is the translation of God's Proper Name (Hebrew "יהוה", usually pronounced Yahweh). ‡ **1:1** The Hebrew word rendered "God" is "אֱלֹהִים" (Elohim). § **1:17** The pieces of silver were probably shekels, so 600 pieces would be about 13.2 pounds or 6 kilograms of silver, and 150 would be about 3.3 pounds or 1.5 kilograms of silver. † **1:17** or, Aramean

4 Behold,† I am about to build a house
for the name of the LORD my God, to
dedicate it to him, to burn before him
incense of sweet spices, for the continual
show bread, and for the burnt offerings
morning and evening, on the Sabbaths, on
the new moons, and on the set feasts of
the LORD our God. This is an ordinance
forever to Israel.
5 "The house which I am building will be
great, for our God is greater than all gods.
6 But who is able to build him a house,
since heaven and the heaven of heavens
can't contain him? Who am I then, that I
should build him a house, except just to
burn incense before him?
7 "Now therefore send me a man skillful
to work in gold, in silver, in bronze, in
iron, and in purple, crimson, and blue,
and who knows how to engrave
engravings, to be with the skillful men
who are with me in Judah and in
Jerusalem, whom David my father
provided.
8 "Send me also cedar trees, cypress
trees, and algum trees out of Lebanon, for
I know that your servants know how to
cut timber in Lebanon. Behold, my
servants will be with your servants,
9 even to prepare timber in abundance
for me; for the house which I am about to
build will be great and wonderful.
10 Behold, I will give to your servants,
the cutters who cut timber, twenty
thousand cors‡ of beaten wheat, twenty
thousand baths§ of barley, twenty
thousand baths of wine, and twenty
thousand baths of oil."
11 Then Huram the king of Tyre
answered in writing, which he sent to
Solomon, "Because the LORD loves his
people, he has made you king over them."
12 Huram continued, "Blessed be the
LORD, the God of Israel, who made
heaven and earth, who has given to David
the king a wise son, endowed with
discretion and understanding, who would
build a house for the LORD and a house
for his kingdom.
13 Now I have sent a skillful man,
endowed with understanding,
Huram-abi,†
14 the son of a woman of the daughters
of Dan; and his father was a man of Tyre.
He is skillful to work in gold, in silver, in
bronze, in iron, in stone, in timber, in
purple, in blue, in fine linen, and in
crimson, also to engrave any kind of
engraving and to devise any device, that
there may be a place appointed to him
with your skillful men, and with the
skillful men of my lord David your father.
15 "Now therefore, the wheat, the
barley, the oil, and the wine which my
lord has spoken of, let him send to his
servants;
16 and we will cut wood out of Lebanon,
as much as you need. We will bring it to
you in rafts by sea to Joppa; then you shall
carry it up to Jerusalem."
17 Solomon counted all the foreigners
who were in the land of Israel, after the
census with which David his father had
counted them; and they found one
hundred fifty-three thousand six
hundred.
18 He set seventy thousand of them to
bear burdens, eighty thousand who were
stone cutters in the mountains, and three
thousand six hundred overseers to assign
the people their work.

3

1 Then Solomon began to build the
LORD's house at Jerusalem on Mount
Moriah, where the LORD appeared to
David his father, which he prepared in the
place that David had appointed, on the
threshing floor of Ornan the Jebusite.
2 He began to build in the second day of
the second month, in the fourth year of
his reign.

† **2:4** "Behold", from "הִנֵּה", means look at, take notice, observe, see, or gaze at. It is often used as an interjection.
‡ **2:10** 1 cor is the same as a homer, or about 55.9 U. S. gallons (liquid) or 211 liters or 6 bushels, so 20,000 cors of wheat would weigh about 545 metric tons § **2:10** 1 bath is one tenth of a cor, or about 5.6 U. S. gallons or 21 liters or 2.4 pecks. 20,000 baths of barley would weigh about 262 metric tons. † **2:13** or, Huram, my father † **3:3** A cubit is the length from the tip of the middle finger to the elbow on a man's arm, or about 18 inches or 46 centimeters.

3 Now these are the foundations which
Solomon laid for the building of God's
house: the length by cubits† after the first
measure was sixty cubits, and the width
twenty cubits.
4 The porch that was in front, its length,
across the width of the house, was twenty
cubits, and the height one hundred
twenty; and he overlaid it within with
pure gold.
5 He made the larger room with a
ceiling of cypress wood, which he
overlaid with fine gold, and ornamented
it with palm trees and chains.
6 He decorated the house with precious
stones for beauty. The gold was gold from
Parvaim.
7 He also overlaid the house, the beams,
the thresholds, its walls, and its doors
with gold, and engraved cherubim on the
walls.
8 He made the most holy place. Its
length, according to the width of the
house, was twenty cubits, and its width
twenty cubits; and he overlaid it with fine
gold, amounting to six hundred talents.‡
9 The weight of the nails was fifty
shekels§ of gold. He overlaid the upper
rooms with gold.
10 In the most holy place he made two
cherubim by carving, and they overlaid
them with gold.
11 The wings of the cherubim were
twenty cubits long: the wing of the one
was five cubits, reaching to the wall of the
house; and the other wing was five cubits,
reaching to the wing of the other cherub.
12 The wing of the other cherub was five
cubits, reaching to the wall of the house;
and the other wing was five cubits, joining
to the wing of the other cherub.
13 The wings of these cherubim spread
themselves out twenty cubits. They stood
on their feet, and their faces were toward
the house.
14 He made the veil of blue, purple,
crimson, and fine linen, and ornamented
it with cherubim.
15 Also he made before the house two
pillars thirty-five cubits high, and the
capital that was on the top of each of them
was five cubits.
16 He made chains in the inner
sanctuary, and put them on the tops of the
pillars; and he made one hundred
pomegranates, and put them on the
chains.
17 He set up the pillars before the
temple, one on the right hand and the
other on the left; and called the name of
that on the right hand Jachin, and the
name of that on the left Boaz.

4

1 Then he made an altar of bronze,
twenty cubits† long, twenty cubits wide,
and ten cubits high.
2 Also he made the molten sea‡ of ten
cubits from brim to brim. It was round,
five cubits high, and thirty cubits in
circumference.
3 Under it was the likeness of oxen,
which encircled it, for ten cubits,
encircling the sea. The oxen were in two
rows, cast when it was cast.
4 It stood on twelve oxen, three looking
toward the north, three looking toward
the west, three looking toward the south,
and three looking toward the east; and the
sea was set on them above, and all their
hindquarters were inward.
5 It was a handbreadth thick. Its brim
was made like the brim of a cup, like the
flower of a lily. It received and held three
thousand baths.§
6 He also made ten basins, and put five
on the right hand and five on the left, to
wash in them. The things that belonged to
the burnt offering were washed in them,
but the sea was for the priests to wash in.
7 He made the ten lamp stands of gold
according to the ordinance concerning

‡ **3:8** A talent is about 30 kilograms or 66 pounds or 965 Troy ounces, so 600 talents is about 18 metric tons § **3:9** A shekel is about 10 grams or about 0.32 Troy ounces, so 50 shekels was about 0.5 kilograms or about 16 Troy ounces.
† **4:1** A cubit is the length from the tip of the middle finger to the elbow on a man's arm, or about 18 inches or 46 centimeters. ‡ **4:2** or, pool, or, reservoir § **4:5** A bath is about 5.6 U. S. gallons or 21.1 liters, so 3,000 baths is about 16,800 gallons or 63.3 kiloliters.

them; and he set them in the temple, five on the right hand and five on the left.
8 He made also ten tables, and placed them in the temple, five on the right side and five on the left. He made one hundred basins of gold.
9 Furthermore he made the court of the priests, the great court, and doors for the court, and overlaid their doors with bronze.
10 He set the sea on the right side of the house eastward, toward the south.
11 Huram made the pots, the shovels, and the basins.

So Huram finished doing the work that he did for King Solomon in God's house:
12 the two pillars, the bowls, the two capitals which were on the top of the pillars, the two networks to cover the two bowls of the capitals that were on the top of the pillars,
13 and the four hundred pomegranates for the two networks—two rows of pomegranates for each network, to cover the two bowls of the capitals that were on the pillars.
14 He also made the bases, and he made the basins on the bases—
15 one sea, and the twelve oxen under it.
16 Huram-abi† also made the pots, the shovels, the forks, and all its vessels for King Solomon, for the LORD's house, of bright bronze.
17 The king cast them in the plain of the Jordan, in the clay ground between Succoth and Zeredah.
18 Thus Solomon made all these vessels in great abundance, so that the weight of the bronze could not be determined.
19 Solomon made all the vessels that were in God's house: the golden altar, the tables with the show bread on them,
20 and the lamp stands with their lamps to burn according to the ordinance before the inner sanctuary, of pure gold;
21 and the flowers, the lamps, and the tongs of gold that was purest gold;
22 and the snuffers, the basins, the spoons, and the fire pans of pure gold. As for the entry of the house, its inner doors for the most holy place and the doors of the main hall of the temple were of gold.

5

1 Thus all the work that Solomon did for the LORD's house was finished. Solomon brought in the things that David his father had dedicated, even the silver, the gold, and all the vessels, and put them in the treasuries of God's house.
2 Then Solomon assembled the elders of Israel and all the heads of the tribes, the princes of the fathers' households of the children of Israel, to Jerusalem, to bring up the ark of the LORD's covenant out of David's city, which is Zion.
3 So all the men of Israel assembled themselves to the king at the feast, which was in the seventh month.
4 All the elders of Israel came. The Levites took up the ark.
5 They brought up the ark, the Tent of Meeting, and all the holy vessels that were in the Tent. The Levitical priests brought these up.
6 King Solomon and all the congregation of Israel who were assembled to him were before the ark, sacrificing sheep and cattle that could not be counted or numbered for multitude.
7 The priests brought in the ark of the LORD's covenant to its place, into the inner sanctuary of the house, to the most holy place, even under the wings of the cherubim.
8 For the cherubim spread out their wings over the place of the ark, and the cherubim covered the ark and its poles above.
9 The poles were so long that the ends of the poles were seen from the ark in front of the inner sanctuary, but they were not seen outside; and it is there to this day.
10 There was nothing in the ark except the two tablets which Moses put there at Horeb, when the LORD made a covenant with the children of Israel, when they came out of Egypt.
11 When the priests had come out of the holy place (for all the priests who were present had sanctified themselves, and didn't keep their divisions;

† **4:16** "abi" means "his father"

12 also the Levites who were the singers,
all of them, even Asaph, Heman,
Jeduthun, and their sons and their
brothers, arrayed in fine linen, with
cymbals and stringed instruments and
harps, stood at the east end of the altar,
and with them one hundred twenty
priests sounding with trumpets);
13 when the trumpeters and singers
were as one, to make one sound to be
heard in praising and thanking the LORD;
and when they lifted up their voice with
the trumpets and cymbals and
instruments of music, and praised the
LORD, saying,
"For he is good,
for his loving kindness endures
forever!"
then the house was filled with a cloud,
even the LORD's house,
14 so that the priests could not stand to
minister by reason of the cloud; for the
LORD's glory filled God's house.

6

1 Then Solomon said, "The LORD has
said that he would dwell in the thick
darkness.
2 But I have built you a house and home,
a place for you to dwell in forever."
3 The king turned his face, and blessed
all the assembly of Israel; and all the
assembly of Israel stood.
4 He said, "Blessed be the LORD, the God
of Israel, who spoke with his mouth to
David my father, and has with his hands
fulfilled it, saying,
5 'Since the day that I brought my people
out of the land of Egypt, I chose no city out
of all the tribes of Israel to build a house
in, that my name might be there, and I
chose no man to be prince over my people
Israel;
6 but now I have chosen Jerusalem, that
my name might be there; and I have
chosen David to be over my people Israel.'
7 Now it was in the heart of David my
father to build a house for the name of the
LORD, the God of Israel.
8 But the LORD said to David my father,
'Whereas it was in your heart to build a
house for my name, you did well that it
was in your heart;
9 nevertheless you shall not build the
house, but your son who will come out of
your body, he shall build the house for my
name.'
10 "The LORD has performed his word
that he spoke; for I have risen up in the
place of David my father, and sit on the
throne of Israel, as the LORD promised,
and have built the house for the name of
the LORD, the God of Israel.
11 There I have set the ark, in which is
the LORD's covenant, which he made with
the children of Israel."
12 He stood before the LORD's altar in
the presence of all the assembly of Israel,
and spread out his hands
13 (for Solomon had made a bronze
platform, five cubits† long, five cubits
wide, and three cubits high, and had set it
in the middle of the court; and he stood on
it, and knelt down on his knees before all
the assembly of Israel, and spread out his
hands toward heaven).
14 Then he said, "LORD, the God of
Israel, there is no God like you in heaven
or on earth—you who keep covenant and
loving kindness with your servants who
walk before you with all their heart;
15 who have kept with your servant
David my father that which you promised
him. Yes, you spoke with your mouth, and
have fulfilled it with your hand, as it is
today.
16 "Now therefore, LORD, the God of
Israel, keep with your servant David my
father that which you have promised him,
saying, 'There shall not fail you a man in
my sight to sit on the throne of Israel, if
only your children take heed to their way,
to walk in my law as you have walked
before me.'
17 Now therefore, LORD, the God of
Israel, let your word be verified, which
you spoke to your servant David.
18 "But will God indeed dwell with men
on the earth? Behold, heaven and the

† **6:13** A cubit is the length from the tip of the middle finger to the elbow on a man's arm, or about 18 inches or 46 centimeters.

heaven of heavens can't contain you; how
much less this house which I have built!
19 Yet have respect for the prayer of your
servant and to his supplication, LORD my
God, to listen to the cry and to the prayer
which your servant prays before you;
20 that your eyes may be open toward
this house day and night, even toward the
place where you have said that you would
put your name, to listen to the prayer
which your servant will pray toward this
place.
21 Listen to the petitions of your servant
and of your people Israel, when they pray
toward this place. Yes, hear from your
dwelling place, even from heaven; and
when you hear, forgive.
22 "If a man sins against his neighbor,
and an oath is laid on him to cause him to
swear, and he comes and swears before
your altar in this house,
23 then hear from heaven, act, and judge
your servants, bringing retribution to the
wicked, to bring his way on his own head;
and justifying the righteous, to give him
according to his righteousness.
24 "If your people Israel are struck down
before the enemy because they have
sinned against you, and they turn again
and confess your name, and pray and
make supplication before you in this
house,
25 then hear from heaven, and forgive
the sin of your people Israel, and bring
them again to the land which you gave to
them and to their fathers.
26 "When the sky is shut up and there is
no rain because they have sinned against
you, if they pray toward this place and
confess your name, and turn from their
sin when you afflict them,
27 then hear in heaven, and forgive the
sin of your servants, your people Israel,
when you teach them the good way in
which they should walk, and send rain on
your land, which you have given to your
people for an inheritance.
28 "If there is famine in the land, if there
is pestilence, if there is blight or mildew,
locust or caterpillar; if their enemies
besiege them in the land of their cities;
whatever plague or whatever sickness
there is—
29 whatever prayer and supplication is
made by any man, or by all your people
Israel, who will each know his own plague
and his own sorrow, and shall spread out
his hands toward this house,
30 then hear from heaven your dwelling
place and forgive, and give to every man
according to all his ways, whose heart you
know (for you, even you only, know the
hearts of the children of men),
31 that they may fear you, to walk in
your ways as long as they live in the land
which you gave to our fathers.
32 "Moreover, concerning the foreigner,
who is not of your people Israel, when he
comes from a far country for your great
name's sake and your mighty hand and
your outstretched arm, when they come
and pray toward this house,
33 then hear from heaven, even from
your dwelling place, and do according to
all that the foreigner calls to you for; that
all the peoples of the earth may know
your name and fear you, as do your
people Israel, and that they may know
that this house which I have built is called
by your name.
34 "If your people go out to battle against
their enemies, by whatever way you send
them, and they pray to you toward this
city which you have chosen, and the
house which I have built for your name;
35 then hear from heaven their prayer
and their supplication, and maintain their
cause.
36 "If they sin against you (for there is no
man who doesn't sin), and you are angry
with them and deliver them to the enemy,
so that they carry them away captive to a
land far off or near;
37 yet if they come to their senses in the
land where they are carried captive, and
turn again, and make supplication to you
in the land of their captivity, saying, 'We
have sinned, we have done perversely,
and have dealt wickedly;'
38 if they return to you with all their
heart and with all their soul in the land of
their captivity, where they have been

taken captive, and pray toward their land which you gave to their fathers, and the city which you have chosen, and toward the house which I have built for your name;
39 then hear from heaven, even from your dwelling place, their prayer and their petitions, and maintain their cause, and forgive your people who have sinned against you.
40 "Now, my God, let, I beg you, your eyes be open, and let your ears be attentive to the prayer that is made in this place.
41 "Now therefore arise, LORD God, into your resting place, you, and the ark of your strength. Let your priests, LORD God, be clothed with salvation, and let your saints rejoice in goodness.
42 "LORD God, don't turn away the face of your anointed. Remember your loving kindnesses to David your servant."

7

1 Now when Solomon had finished praying, fire came down from heaven and consumed the burnt offering and the sacrifices; and the LORD's glory filled the house.
2 The priests could not enter into the LORD's house, because the LORD's glory filled the LORD's house.
3 All the children of Israel looked on, when the fire came down, and the LORD's glory was on the house. They bowed themselves with their faces to the ground on the pavement, worshiped, and gave thanks to the LORD, saying,
"For he is good,
for his loving kindness endures forever!"
4 Then the king and all the people offered sacrifices before the LORD.
5 King Solomon offered a sacrifice of twenty-two thousand head of cattle and a hundred twenty thousand sheep. So the king and all the people dedicated God's house.
6 The priests stood, according to their positions; the Levites also with instruments of music of the LORD, which David the king had made to give thanks to the LORD, when David praised by their ministry, saying "For his loving kindness endures forever." The priests sounded trumpets before them; and all Israel stood.
7 Moreover Solomon made the middle of the court that was before the LORD's house holy; for there he offered the burnt offerings and the fat of the peace offerings, because the bronze altar which Solomon had made was not able to receive the burnt offering, the meal offering, and the fat.
8 So Solomon held the feast at that time for seven days, and all Israel with him, a very great assembly, from the entrance of Hamath to the brook of Egypt.
9 On the eighth day, they held a solemn assembly; for they kept the dedication of the altar seven days, and the feast seven days.
10 On the twenty-third day of the seventh month, he sent the people away to their tents, joyful and glad of heart for the goodness that the LORD had shown to David, to Solomon, and to Israel his people.
11 Thus Solomon finished the LORD's house and the king's house; and he successfully completed all that came into Solomon's heart to make in the LORD's house and in his own house.
12 Then the LORD appeared to Solomon by night, and said to him, "I have heard your prayer, and have chosen this place for myself for a house of sacrifice.
13 "If I shut up the sky so that there is no rain, or if I command the locust to devour the land, or if I send pestilence among my people,
14 if my people who are called by my name will humble themselves, pray, seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.
15 Now my eyes will be open and my ears attentive to prayer that is made in this place.
16 For now I have chosen and made this house holy, that my name may be there forever; and my eyes and my heart will be there perpetually.

17 "As for you, if you will walk before me
as David your father walked, and do
according to all that I have commanded
you, and will keep my statutes and my
ordinances,
18 then I will establish the throne of your
kingdom, according as I covenanted with
David your father, saying, 'There shall not
fail you a man to be ruler in Israel.'
19 But if you turn away and forsake my
statutes and my commandments which I
have set before you, and go and serve
other gods and worship them,
20 then I will pluck them up by the roots
out of my land which I have given them;
and this house, which I have made holy
for my name, I will cast out of my sight,
and I will make it a proverb and a byword
among all peoples.
21 This house, which is so high,
everyone who passes by it will be
astonished and say, 'Why has the LORD
done this to this land and to this house?'
22 They shall answer, 'Because they
abandoned the LORD, the God of their
fathers, who brought them out of the land
of Egypt, and took other gods, worshiped
them, and served them. Therefore he has
brought all this evil on them.' "

8

1 At the end of twenty years, in which
Solomon had built the LORD's house and
his own house,
2 Solomon built the cities which Huram
had given to Solomon, and caused the
children of Israel to dwell there.
3 Solomon went to Hamath Zobah, and
prevailed against it.
4 He built Tadmor in the wilderness,
and all the storage cities, which he built in
Hamath.
5 Also he built Beth Horon the upper
and Beth Horon the lower, fortified cities
with walls, gates, and bars;
6 and Baalath, and all the storage cities
that Solomon had, and all the cities for his
chariots, the cities for his horsemen, and
all that Solomon desired to build for his
pleasure in Jerusalem, in Lebanon, and in
all the land of his dominion.
7 As for all the people who were left of
the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites,
the Hivites, and the Jebusites, who were
not of Israel—
8 of their children who were left after
them in the land, whom the children of
Israel didn't consume—of them Solomon
conscripted forced labor to this day.
9 But of the children of Israel, Solomon
made no servants for his work, but they
were men of war, chief of his captains,
and rulers of his chariots and of his
horsemen.
10 These were the chief officers of King
Solomon, even two-hundred fifty, who
ruled over the people.

11 Solomon brought up Pharaoh's
daughter out of David's city to the house
that he had built for her; for he said, "My
wife shall not dwell in the house of David
king of Israel, because the places where
the LORD's ark has come are holy."

12 Then Solomon offered burnt
offerings to the LORD on the LORD's altar
which he had built before the porch,
13 even as the duty of every day
required, offering according to the
commandment of Moses on the Sabbaths,
on the new moons, and on the set feasts,
three times per year, during the feast of
unleavened bread, during the feast of
weeks, and during the feast of booths.†

14 He appointed, according to the
ordinance of David his father, the
divisions of the priests to their service,
and the Levites to their offices, to praise
and to minister before the priests, as the
duty of every day required, the
doorkeepers also by their divisions at
every gate, for David the man of God had
so commanded.
15 They didn't depart from the
commandment of the king to the priests
and Levites concerning any matter or
concerning the treasures.

16 Now all the work of Solomon was
accomplished from the day of the
foundation of the LORD's house until it
was finished. So the LORD's house was
completed.

† **8:13** or, feast of tents (Sukkot)

17 Then Solomon went to Ezion Geber
and to Eloth, on the seashore in the land
of Edom.
18 Huram sent him ships and servants
who had knowledge of the sea by the
hands of his servants; and they came with
the servants of Solomon to Ophir, and
brought from there four hundred fifty
talents‡ of gold, and brought them to King
Solomon.

9

1 When the queen of Sheba heard of the
fame of Solomon, she came to test
Solomon with hard questions at
Jerusalem, with a very great caravan,
including camels that bore spices, gold in
abundance, and precious stones. When
she had come to Solomon, she talked with
him about all that was in her heart.
2 Solomon answered all her questions.
There wasn't anything hidden from
Solomon which he didn't tell her.
3 When the queen of Sheba had seen the
wisdom of Solomon, the house that he had
built,
4 the food of his table, the seating of his
servants, the attendance of his ministers,
their clothing, his cup bearers and their
clothing, and his ascent by which he went
up to the LORD's house, there was no
more spirit in her.†
5 She said to the king, "It was a true
report that I heard in my own land of your
acts and of your wisdom.
6 However I didn't believe their words
until I came, and my eyes had seen it; and
behold half of the greatness of your
wisdom wasn't told me. You exceed the
fame that I heard!
7 Happy are your men, and happy are
these your servants, who stand
continually before you and hear your
wisdom.
8 Blessed be the LORD your God, who
delighted in you and set you on his throne
to be king for the LORD your God, because
your God loved Israel, to establish them
forever. Therefore he made you king over
them, to do justice and righteousness."
9 She gave the king one hundred and
twenty talents‡ of gold, spices in great
abundance, and precious stones. There
was never before such spice as the queen
of Sheba gave to King Solomon.
10 The servants of Huram and the
servants of Solomon, who brought gold
from Ophir, also brought algum trees§
and precious stones.
11 The king used algum tree wood to
make terraces for the LORD's house and
for the king's house, and harps and
stringed instruments for the singers.
There were none like these seen before in
the land of Judah.
12 King Solomon gave to the queen of
Sheba all her desire, whatever she asked,
more than that which she had brought to
the king. So she turned and went to her
own land, she and her servants.
13 Now the weight of gold that came to
Solomon in one year was six hundred
sixty-six talents† of gold,
14 in addition to that which the traders
and merchants brought. All the kings of
Arabia and the governors of the country
brought gold and silver to Solomon.
15 King Solomon made two hundred
large shields of beaten gold. Six hundred
shekels‡ of beaten gold went to one large
shield.
16 He made three hundred shields of
beaten gold. Three hundred shekels§ of
gold went to one shield. The king put them
in the House of the Forest of Lebanon.
17 Moreover the king made a great
throne of ivory, and overlaid it with pure
gold.
18 There were six steps to the throne,
with a footstool of gold, which were
fastened to the throne, and armrests on

‡ **8:18** A talent is about 30 kilograms or 66 pounds or 965 Troy ounces, so 450 talents is about 13.5 metric tons † **9:4** or, she was breathless. ‡ **9:9** A talent is about 30 kilograms or 66 pounds or 965 Troy ounces, so 120 talents is about 3.6 metric tons § **9:10** possibly Indian sandalwood, which has nice grain and a pleasant scent and is good for woodworking † **9:13** A talent is about 30 kilograms or 66 pounds or 965 Troy ounces, so 666 talents is about 20 metric tons ‡ **9:15** A shekel is about 10 grams or about 0.32 Troy ounces, so 600 shekels was about 6 kilograms or about 192 Troy ounces. § **9:16** A shekel is about 10 grams or about 0.32 Troy ounces, so 300 shekels was about 3 kilograms or about 96 Troy ounces.

either side by the place of the seat, and two lions standing beside the armrests.
19 Twelve lions stood there on the one side and on the other on the six steps. There was nothing like it made in any other kingdom.
20 All King Solomon's drinking vessels were of gold, and all the vessels of the House of the Forest of Lebanon were of pure gold. Silver was not considered valuable in the days of Solomon.
21 For the king had ships that went to Tarshish with Huram's servants. Once every three years, the ships of Tarshish came bringing gold, silver, ivory, apes, and peacocks.
22 So King Solomon exceeded all the kings of the earth in riches and wisdom.
23 All the kings of the earth sought the presence of Solomon to hear his wisdom, which God had put in his heart.
24 They each brought tribute: vessels of silver, vessels of gold, clothing, armor, spices, horses, and mules every year.
25 Solomon had four thousand stalls for horses and chariots, and twelve thousand horsemen that he stationed in the chariot cities and with the king at Jerusalem.
26 He ruled over all the kings from the River even to the land of the Philistines, and to the border of Egypt.
27 The king made silver as common in Jerusalem as stones, and he made cedars to be as abundant as the sycamore trees that are in the lowland.
28 They brought horses for Solomon out of Egypt and out of all lands.
29 Now the rest of the acts of Solomon, first and last, aren't they written in the history of Nathan the prophet, and in the prophecy of Ahijah the Shilonite, and in the visions of Iddo the seer concerning Jeroboam the son of Nebat?
30 Solomon reigned in Jerusalem over all Israel forty years.
31 Solomon slept with his fathers, and he was buried in his father David's city; and Rehoboam his son reigned in his place.

10

1 Rehoboam went to Shechem, for all Israel had come to Shechem to make him king.
2 When Jeroboam the son of Nebat heard of it (for he was in Egypt, where he had fled from the presence of King Solomon), Jeroboam returned out of Egypt.
3 They sent and called him; and Jeroboam and all Israel came, and they spoke to Rehoboam, saying,
4 "Your father made our yoke grievous. Now therefore make the grievous service of your father and his heavy yoke which he put on us, lighter, and we will serve you."
5 He said to them, "Come again to me after three days."
So the people departed.
6 King Rehoboam took counsel with the old men, who had stood before Solomon his father while he yet lived, saying, "What counsel do you give me about how to answer these people?"
7 They spoke to him, saying, "If you are kind to these people, please them, and speak good words to them, then they will be your servants forever."
8 But he abandoned the counsel of the old men which they had given him, and took counsel with the young men who had grown up with him, who stood before him.
9 He said to them, "What counsel do you give, that we may give an answer to these people, who have spoken to me, saying, 'Make the yoke that your father put on us lighter'?"
10 The young men who had grown up with him spoke to him, saying, "Thus you shall tell the people who spoke to you, saying, 'Your father made our yoke heavy, but make it lighter on us;' thus you shall say to them, 'My little finger is thicker than my father's waist.
11 Now whereas my father burdened you with a heavy yoke, I will add to your yoke. My father chastised you with whips, but I will chastise you with scorpions.' "
12 So Jeroboam and all the people came to Rehoboam the third day, as the king asked, saying, "Come to me again the third day."

13 The king answered them roughly;
and King Rehoboam abandoned the
counsel of the old men,
14 and spoke to them after the counsel of
the young men, saying, “My father made
your yoke heavy, but I will add to it. My
father chastised you with whips, but I will
chastise you with scorpions.”
15 So the king didn’t listen to the people;
for it was brought about by God, that the
LORD might establish his word, which he
spoke by Ahijah the Shilonite to Jeroboam
the son of Nebat.
16 When all Israel saw that the king
didn’t listen to them, the people answered
the king, saying, “What portion do we
have in David? We don’t have an
inheritance in the son of Jesse! Every man
to your tents, Israel! Now see to your own
house, David.” So all Israel departed to
their tents.
17 But as for the children of Israel who
lived in the cities of Judah, Rehoboam
reigned over them.
18 Then King Rehoboam sent Hadoram,
who was over the men subject to forced
labor; and the children of Israel stoned
him to death with stones. King Rehoboam
hurried to get himself up to his chariot, to
flee to Jerusalem.
19 So Israel rebelled against David’s
house to this day.

11

1 When Rehoboam had come to
Jerusalem, he assembled the house of
Judah and Benjamin, one hundred eighty
thousand chosen men who were
warriors, to fight against Israel, to bring
the kingdom again to Rehoboam.
2 But the LORD’s word came to
Shemaiah the man of God, saying,
3 “Speak to Rehoboam the son of
Solomon, king of Judah, and to all Israel in
Judah and Benjamin, saying,
4 ‘The LORD says, “You shall not go up,
nor fight against your brothers! Every
man return to his house; for this thing is
of me.” ’ ” So they listened to the LORD’s
words, and returned from going against
Jeroboam.
5 Rehoboam lived in Jerusalem, and
built cities for defense in Judah.
6 He built Bethlehem, Etam, Tekoa,
7 Beth Zur, Soco, Adullam,
8 Gath, Mareshah, Ziph,
9 Adoraim, Lachish, Azekah,
10 Zorah, Aijalon, and Hebron, which
are fortified cities in Judah and in
Benjamin.
11 He fortified the strongholds and put
captains in them with stores of food, oil
and wine.
12 He put shields and spears in every
city, and made them exceedingly strong.
Judah and Benjamin belonged to him.
13 The priests and the Levites who were
in all Israel stood with him out of all their
territory.
14 For the Levites left their pasture lands
and their possessions, and came to Judah
and Jerusalem; for Jeroboam and his sons
cast them off, that they should not execute
the priest’s office to the LORD.
15 He himself appointed priests for the
high places, for the male goat and calf
idols which he had made.
16 After them, out of all the tribes of
Israel, those who set their hearts to seek
the LORD, the God of Israel, came to
Jerusalem to sacrifice to the LORD, the
God of their fathers.
17 So they strengthened the kingdom of
Judah and made Rehoboam the son of
Solomon strong for three years, for they
walked three years in the way of David
and Solomon.
18 Rehoboam took a wife for himself,
Mahalath the daughter of Jerimoth the
son of David and of Abihail the daughter
of Eliab the son of Jesse.
19 She bore him sons: Jeush, Shemariah,
and Zaham.
20 After her, he took Maacah the
granddaughter of Absalom; and she bore
him Abijah, Attai, Ziza, and Shelomith.
21 Rehoboam loved Maacah the
granddaughter of Absalom above all his
wives and his concubines; for he took
eighteen wives and sixty concubines, and
became the father of twenty-eight sons
and sixty daughters.

22 Rehoboam appointed Abijah the son
of Maacah to be chief, the prince among
his brothers, for he intended to make him
king.
23 He dealt wisely, and dispersed some
of his sons throughout all the lands of
Judah and Benjamin, to every fortified
city. He gave them food in abundance;
and he sought many wives for them.

12

1 When the kingdom of Rehoboam was
established and he was strong, he
abandoned the LORD's law, and all Israel
with him.
2 In the fifth year of King Rehoboam,
Shishak king of Egypt came up against
Jerusalem, because they had trespassed
against the LORD,
3 with twelve hundred chariots and
sixty thousand horsemen. The people
were without number who came with
him out of Egypt: the Lubim, the Sukkiim,
and the Ethiopians.
4 He took the fortified cities which
belonged to Judah, and came to Jerusalem.
5 Now Shemaiah the prophet came to
Rehoboam and to the princes of Judah,
who were gathered together to Jerusalem
because of Shishak, and said to them, "The
LORD says, 'You have forsaken me,
therefore I have also left you in the hand
of Shishak.' "
6 Then the princes of Israel and the king
humbled themselves; and they said, "The
LORD is righteous."
7 When the LORD saw that they
humbled themselves, the LORD's word
came to Shemaiah, saying, "They have
humbled themselves. I will not destroy
them, but I will grant them some
deliverance, and my wrath won't be
poured out on Jerusalem by the hand of
Shishak.
8 Nevertheless they will be his servants,
that they may know my service, and the
service of the kingdoms of the countries."
9 So Shishak king of Egypt came up
against Jerusalem and took away the
treasures of the LORD's house and the
treasures of the king's house. He took it all
away. He also took away the shields of
gold which Solomon had made.
10 King Rehoboam made shields of
bronze in their place, and committed
them to the hands of the captains of the
guard, who kept the door of the king's
house.
11 As often as the king entered into the
LORD's house, the guard came and bore
them, then brought them back into the
guard room.
12 When he humbled himself, the
LORD's wrath turned from him, so as not
to destroy him altogether. Moreover,
there were good things found in Judah.
13 So King Rehoboam strengthened
himself in Jerusalem and reigned; for
Rehoboam was forty-one years old when
he began to reign, and he reigned
seventeen years in Jerusalem, the city
which the LORD had chosen out of all the
tribes of Israel to put his name there. His
mother's name was Naamah the
Ammonitess.
14 He did that which was evil, because
he didn't set his heart to seek the LORD.
15 Now the acts of Rehoboam, first and
last, aren't they written in the histories of
Shemaiah the prophet and of Iddo the
seer, in the genealogies? There were wars
between Rehoboam and Jeroboam
continually.
16 Rehoboam slept with his fathers, and
was buried in David's city; and Abijah his
son reigned in his place.

13

1 In the eighteenth year of King
Jeroboam, Abijah began to reign over
Judah.
2 He reigned three years in Jerusalem.
His mother's name was Micaiah the
daughter of Uriel of Gibeah. There was
war between Abijah and Jeroboam.
3 Abijah joined battle with an army of
valiant men of war, even four hundred
thousand chosen men; and Jeroboam set
the battle in array against him with eight
hundred thousand chosen men, who were
mighty men of valor.
4 Abijah stood up on Mount Zemaraim,
which is in the hill country of Ephraim,

and said, “Hear me, Jeroboam and all Israel:
5 Ought you not to know that the LORD, the God of Israel, gave the kingdom over Israel to David forever, even to him and to his sons by a covenant of salt?
6 Yet Jeroboam the son of Nebat, the servant of Solomon the son of David, rose up, and rebelled against his lord.
7 Worthless men were gathered to him, wicked fellows who strengthened themselves against Rehoboam the son of Solomon, when Rehoboam was young and tender hearted, and could not withstand them.
8 “Now you intend to withstand the kingdom of the LORD in the hand of the sons of David. You are a great multitude, and the golden calves which Jeroboam made you for gods are with you.
9 Haven’t you driven out the priests of the LORD, the sons of Aaron, and the Levites, and made priests for yourselves according to the ways of the peoples of other lands? Whoever comes to consecrate himself with a young bull and seven rams may be a priest of those who are no gods.
10 “But as for us, the LORD is our God, and we have not forsaken him. We have priests serving the LORD, the sons of Aaron, and the Levites in their work.
11 They burn to the LORD every morning and every evening burnt offerings and sweet incense. They also set the show bread in order on the pure table, and care for the gold lamp stand with its lamps, to burn every evening; for we keep the instruction of the LORD our God, but you have forsaken him.
12 Behold, God is with us at our head, and his priests with the trumpets of alarm to sound an alarm against you. Children of Israel, don’t fight against the LORD, the God of your fathers; for you will not prosper.”
13 But Jeroboam caused an ambush to come about behind them; so they were before Judah, and the ambush was behind them.
14 When Judah looked back, behold, the battle was before and behind them; and they cried to the LORD, and the priests sounded with the trumpets.
15 Then the men of Judah gave a shout. As the men of Judah shouted, God struck Jeroboam and all Israel before Abijah and Judah.
16 The children of Israel fled before Judah, and God delivered them into their hand.
17 Abijah and his people killed them with a great slaughter, so five hundred thousand chosen men of Israel fell down slain.
18 Thus the children of Israel were brought under at that time, and the children of Judah prevailed, because they relied on the LORD, the God of their fathers.
19 Abijah pursued Jeroboam, and took cities from him: Bethel with its villages, Jeshanah with its villages, and Ephron with its villages.
20 Jeroboam didn’t recover strength again in the days of Abijah. The LORD struck him, and he died.
21 But Abijah grew mighty and took for himself fourteen wives, and became the father of twenty-two sons and sixteen daughters.
22 The rest of the acts of Abijah, his ways, and his sayings are written in the commentary of the prophet Iddo.

14

1 So Abijah slept with his fathers, and they buried him in David’s city; and Asa his son reigned in his place. In his days, the land was quiet ten years.
2 Asa did that which was good and right in the LORD his God’s eyes,
3 for he took away the foreign altars and the high places, broke down the pillars, cut down the Asherah poles,
4 and commanded Judah to seek the LORD, the God of their fathers, and to obey his law and command.
5 Also he took away out of all the cities of Judah the high places and the sun images; and the kingdom was quiet before him.
6 He built fortified cities in Judah; for the land was quiet, and he had no war in

those years, because the LORD had given him rest.
7 For he said to Judah, “Let’s build these cities and make walls around them, with towers, gates, and bars. The land is yet before us, because we have sought the LORD our God. We have sought him, and he has given us rest on every side.” So they built and prospered.
8 Asa had an army of three hundred thousand out of Judah who bore bucklers and spears, and two hundred eighty thousand out of Benjamin who bore shields and drew bows. All these were mighty men of valor.
9 Zerah the Ethiopian came out against them with an army of a million troops and three hundred chariots, and he came to Mareshah.
10 Then Asa went out to meet him, and they set the battle in array in the valley of Zephathah at Mareshah.
11 Asa cried to the LORD his God, and said, “LORD, there is no one besides you to help, between the mighty and him who has no strength. Help us, LORD our God; for we rely on you, and in your name we have come against this multitude. LORD, you are our God. Don’t let man prevail against you.”
12 So the LORD struck the Ethiopians before Asa and before Judah; and the Ethiopians fled.
13 Asa and the people who were with him pursued them to Gerar. So many of the Ethiopians fell that they could not recover themselves, for they were destroyed before the LORD and before his army. Judah’s army carried away very much booty.
14 They struck all the cities around Gerar, for the fear of the LORD came on them. They plundered all the cities, for there was much plunder in them.
15 They also struck the tents of those who had livestock, and carried away sheep and camels in abundance, then returned to Jerusalem.

15

1 The Spirit of God came on Azariah the son of Oded.
2 He went out to meet Asa, and said to him, “Hear me, Asa, and all Judah and Benjamin! The LORD is with you while you are with him; and if you seek him, he will be found by you; but if you forsake him, he will forsake you.
3 Now for a long time Israel was without the true God, without a teaching priest, and without law.
4 But when in their distress they turned to the LORD, the God of Israel, and sought him, he was found by them.
5 In those times there was no peace to him who went out, nor to him who came in; but great troubles were on all the inhabitants of the lands.
6 They were broken in pieces, nation against nation, and city against city; for God troubled them with all adversity.
7 But you be strong! Don’t let your hands be slack, for your work will be rewarded.”
8 When Asa heard these words and the prophecy of Oded the prophet, he took courage, and put away the abominations out of all the land of Judah and Benjamin, and out of the cities which he had taken from the hill country of Ephraim; and he renewed the LORD’s altar that was before the LORD’s porch.
9 He gathered all Judah and Benjamin, and those who lived with them out of Ephraim, Manasseh, and Simeon; for they came to him out of Israel in abundance when they saw that the LORD his God was with him.
10 So they gathered themselves together at Jerusalem in the third month, in the fifteenth year of Asa’s reign.
11 They sacrificed to the LORD in that day, from the plunder which they had brought, seven hundred head of cattle and seven thousand sheep.
12 They entered into the covenant to seek the LORD, the God of their fathers, with all their heart and with all their soul;
13 and that whoever would not seek the LORD, the God of Israel, should be put to death, whether small or great, whether man or woman.
14 They swore to the LORD with a loud voice, with shouting, with trumpets, and

with cornets.
15 All Judah rejoiced at the oath, for they had sworn with all their heart and sought him with their whole desire; and he was found by them. Then the LORD gave them rest all around.
16 Also Maacah, the mother of Asa the king, he removed from being queen mother, because she had made an abominable image for an Asherah; so Asa cut down her image, ground it into dust, and burned it at the brook Kidron.
17 But the high places were not taken away out of Israel; nevertheless the heart of Asa was perfect all his days.
18 He brought the things that his father had dedicated and that he himself had dedicated, silver, gold, and vessels into God's house.
19 There was no more war to the thirty-fifth year of Asa's reign.

16

1 In the thirty-sixth year of Asa's reign, Baasha king of Israel went up against Judah, and built Ramah, that he might not allow anyone to go out or come in to Asa king of Judah.
2 Then Asa brought out silver and gold out of the treasures of the LORD's house and of the king's house, and sent to Ben Hadad king of Syria, who lived at Damascus, saying,
3 "Let there be a treaty between me and you, as there was between my father and your father. Behold, I have sent you silver and gold. Go, break your treaty with Baasha king of Israel, that he may depart from me."
4 Ben Hadad listened to King Asa, and sent the captains of his armies against the cities of Israel; and they struck Ijon, Dan, Abel Maim, and all the storage cities of Naphtali.
5 When Baasha heard of it, he stopped building Ramah, and let his work cease.
6 Then Asa the king took all Judah, and they carried away the stones and timber of Ramah, with which Baasha had built; and he built Geba and Mizpah with them.
7 At that time Hanani the seer came to Asa king of Judah, and said to him, "Because you have relied on the king of Syria, and have not relied on the LORD your God, therefore the army of the king of Syria has escaped out of your hand.
8 Weren't the Ethiopians and the Lubim a huge army, with chariots and exceedingly many horsemen? Yet, because you relied on the LORD, he delivered them into your hand.
9 For the LORD's eyes run back and forth throughout the whole earth, to show himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward him. You have done foolishly in this; for from now on you will have wars."
10 Then Asa was angry with the seer, and put him in the prison; for he was in a rage with him because of this thing. Asa oppressed some of the people at the same time.
11 Behold, the acts of Asa, first and last, behold, they are written in the book of the kings of Judah and Israel.
12 In the thirty-ninth year of his reign, Asa was diseased in his feet. His disease was exceedingly great; yet in his disease he didn't seek the LORD, but just the physicians.
13 Asa slept with his fathers, and died in the forty-first year of his reign.
14 They buried him in his own tomb, which he had dug out for himself in David's city, and laid him in the bed which was filled with sweet odors and various kinds of spices prepared by the perfumers' art; and they made a very great fire for him.

17

1 Jehoshaphat his son reigned in his place, and strengthened himself against Israel.
2 He placed forces in all the fortified cities of Judah, and set garrisons in the land of Judah and in the cities of Ephraim, which Asa his father had taken.
3 The LORD was with Jehoshaphat, because he walked in the first ways of his father David, and didn't seek the Baals,

4 but sought the God of his father, and
walked in his commandments, and not in
the ways of Israel.
5 Therefore the LORD established the
kingdom in his hand. All Judah brought
tribute to Jehoshaphat, and he had riches
and honor in abundance.
6 His heart was lifted up in the ways of
the LORD. Furthermore, he took away the
high places and the Asherah poles out of
Judah.

7 Also in the third year of his reign he
sent his princes, even Ben Hail, Obadiah,
Zechariah, Nethanel, and Micaiah, to
teach in the cities of Judah;
8 and with them Levites, even
Shemaiah, Nethaniah, Zebadiah, Asahel,
Shemiramoth, Jehonathan, Adonijah,
Tobijah, and Tobadonijah, the Levites;
and with them Elishama and Jehoram, the
priests.
9 They taught in Judah, having the book
of the LORD's law with them. They went
about throughout all the cities of Judah
and taught among the people.

10 The fear of the LORD fell on all the
kingdoms of the lands that were around
Judah, so that they made no war against
Jehoshaphat.
11 Some of the Philistines brought
Jehoshaphat presents and silver for
tribute. The Arabians also brought him
flocks: seven thousand seven hundred
rams and seven thousand seven hundred
male goats.
12 Jehoshaphat grew great exceedingly;
and he built fortresses and store cities in
Judah.
13 He had many works in the cities of
Judah; and men of war, mighty men of
valor, in Jerusalem.
14 This was the numbering of them
according to their fathers' houses: From
Judah, the captains of thousands: Adnah
the captain, and with him three hundred
thousand mighty men of valor;
15 and next to him Jehohanan the
captain, and with him two hundred eighty
thousand;
16 and next to him Amasiah the son of
Zichri, who willingly offered himself to
the LORD, and with him two hundred
thousand mighty men of valor.
17 From Benjamin: Eliada, a mighty
man of valor, and with him two hundred
thousand armed with bow and shield;
18 and next to him Jehozabad, and with
him one hundred eighty thousand ready
and prepared for war.
19 These were those who waited on the
king, in addition to those whom the king
put in the fortified cities throughout all
Judah.

18

1 Now Jehoshaphat had riches and
honor in abundance; and he allied
himself with Ahab.
2 After some years, he went down to
Ahab to Samaria. Ahab killed sheep and
cattle for him in abundance, and for the
people who were with him, and moved
him to go up with him to Ramoth Gilead.
3 Ahab king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat
king of Judah, "Will you go with me to
Ramoth Gilead?"
He answered him, "I am as you are, and
my people as your people. We will be with
you in the war."
4 Jehoshaphat said to the king of Israel,
"Please inquire first for the LORD's word."
5 Then the king of Israel gathered the
prophets together, four hundred men,
and said to them, "Shall we go to Ramoth
Gilead to battle, or shall I forbear?"
They said, "Go up, for God will deliver it
into the hand of the king."
6 But Jehoshaphat said, "Isn't there here
a prophet of the LORD besides, that we
may inquire of him?"
7 The king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat,
"There is yet one man by whom we may
inquire of the LORD; but I hate him, for he
never prophesies good concerning me,
but always evil. He is Micaiah the son of
Imla."
Jehoshaphat said, "Don't let the king say
so."
8 Then the king of Israel called an
officer, and said, "Get Micaiah the son of
Imla quickly."
9 Now the king of Israel and
Jehoshaphat the king of Judah each sat on

his throne, arrayed in their robes, and they were sitting in an open place at the entrance of the gate of Samaria; and all the prophets were prophesying before them.
10 Zedekiah the son of Chenaanah made himself horns of iron and said, “The LORD says, ‘With these you shall push the Syrians, until they are consumed.’ ”
11 All the prophets prophesied so, saying, “Go up to Ramoth Gilead, and prosper; for the LORD will deliver it into the hand of the king.”
12 The messenger who went to call Micaiah spoke to him, saying, “Behold, the words of the prophets declare good to the king with one mouth. Let your word therefore, please be like one of theirs, and speak good.”
13 Micaiah said, “As the LORD lives, I will say what my God says.”
14 When he had come to the king, the king said to him, “Micaiah, shall we go to Ramoth Gilead to battle, or shall I forbear?”
He said, “Go up, and prosper. They shall be delivered into your hand.”
15 The king said to him, “How many times shall I adjure you that you speak to me nothing but the truth in the LORD’s name?”
16 He said, “I saw all Israel scattered on the mountains, as sheep that have no shepherd. The LORD said, ‘These have no master. Let them each return to his house in peace.’ ”
17 The king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat, “Didn’t I tell you that he would not prophesy good concerning me, but evil?”
18 Micaiah said, “Therefore hear the LORD’s word: I saw the LORD sitting on his throne, and all the army of heaven standing on his right hand and on his left.
19 The LORD said, ‘Who will entice Ahab king of Israel, that he may go up and fall at Ramoth Gilead?’ One spoke saying in this way, and another saying in that way.
20 A spirit came out, stood before the LORD, and said, ‘I will entice him.’
“The LORD said to him, ‘How?’
21 “He said, ‘I will go, and will be a lying spirit in the mouth of all his prophets.’
“He said, ‘You will entice him, and will prevail also. Go and do so.’
22 “Now therefore, behold, the LORD has put a lying spirit in the mouth of these your prophets; and the LORD has spoken evil concerning you.”
23 Then Zedekiah the son of Chenaanah came near, and struck Micaiah on the cheek, and said, “Which way did the LORD’s Spirit go from me to speak to you?”
24 Micaiah said, “Behold, you shall see on that day, when you go into an inner room to hide yourself.”
25 The king of Israel said, “Take Micaiah, and carry him back to Amon the governor of the city, and to Joash the king’s son;
26 and say, ‘The king says, “Put this fellow in the prison, and feed him with bread of affliction and with water of affliction, until I return in peace.” ’ ”
27 Micaiah said, “If you return at all in peace, the LORD has not spoken by me.” He said, “Listen, you people, all of you!”
28 So the king of Israel and Jehoshaphat the king of Judah went up to Ramoth Gilead.
29 The king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat, “I will disguise myself, and go into the battle; but you put on your robes.” So the king of Israel disguised himself; and they went into the battle.
30 Now the king of Syria had commanded the captains of his chariots, saying, “Don’t fight with small nor great, except only with the king of Israel.”
31 When the captains of the chariots saw Jehoshaphat, they said, “It is the king of Israel!” Therefore they turned around to fight against him. But Jehoshaphat cried out, and the LORD helped him; and God moved them to depart from him.
32 When the captains of the chariots saw that it was not the king of Israel, they turned back from pursuing him.
33 A certain man drew his bow at random, and struck the king of Israel between the joints of the armor. Therefore he said to the driver of the chariot, “Turn around and carry me out of the battle, for I am severely wounded.”

34 The battle increased that day. However, the king of Israel propped himself up in his chariot against the Syrians until the evening; and at about sunset, he died.

19

1 Jehoshaphat the king of Judah returned to his house in peace to Jerusalem.
2 Jehu the son of Hanani the seer went out to meet him, and said to King Jehoshaphat, "Should you help the wicked, and love those who hate the LORD? Because of this, wrath is on you from before the LORD.
3 Nevertheless there are good things found in you, in that you have put away the Asheroth out of the land, and have set your heart to seek God."
4 Jehoshaphat lived at Jerusalem; and he went out again among the people from Beersheba to the hill country of Ephraim, and brought them back to the LORD, the God of their fathers.
5 He set judges in the land throughout all the fortified cities of Judah, city by city,
6 and said to the judges, "Consider what you do, for you don't judge for man, but for the LORD; and he is with you in the judgment.
7 Now therefore let the fear of the LORD be on you. Take heed and do it; for there is no iniquity with the LORD our God, nor respect of persons, nor taking of bribes."
8 Moreover in Jerusalem Jehoshaphat appointed certain Levites, priests, and heads of the fathers' households of Israel to give judgment for the LORD and for controversies. They returned to Jerusalem.
9 He commanded them, saying, "You shall do this in the fear of the LORD, faithfully, and with a perfect heart.
10 Whenever any controversy comes to you from your brothers who dwell in their cities, between blood and blood, between law and commandment, statutes and ordinances, you must warn them, that they not be guilty toward the LORD, and so wrath come on you and on your brothers. Do this, and you will not be guilty.
11 Behold, Amariah the chief priest is over you in all matters of the LORD; and Zebadiah the son of Ishmael, the ruler of the house of Judah, in all the king's matters. Also the Levites shall be officers before you. Deal courageously, and may the LORD be with the good."

20

1 After this, the children of Moab, the children of Ammon, and with them some of the Meunites†, came against Jehoshaphat to battle.
2 Then some came who told Jehoshaphat, saying, "A great multitude is coming against you from beyond the sea from Syria. Behold, they are in Hazazon Tamar" (that is, En Gedi).
3 Jehoshaphat was alarmed, and set himself to seek the LORD. He proclaimed a fast throughout all Judah.
4 Judah gathered themselves together to seek help from the LORD. They came out of all the cities of Judah to seek the LORD.
5 Jehoshaphat stood in the assembly of Judah and Jerusalem, in the LORD's house, before the new court;
6 and he said, "LORD, the God of our fathers, aren't you God in heaven? Aren't you ruler over all the kingdoms of the nations? Power and might are in your hand, so that no one is able to withstand you.
7 Didn't you, our God, drive out the inhabitants of this land before your people Israel, and give it to the offspring‡ of Abraham your friend forever?
8 They lived in it, and have built you a sanctuary in it for your name, saying,
9 'If evil comes on us—the sword, judgment, pestilence, or famine—we will stand before this house, and before you (for your name is in this house), and cry to you in our affliction, and you will hear and save.'
10 Now, behold, the children of Ammon and Moab and Mount Seir, whom you

† **20:1** The LXX reads *Meunites*. Heb. reads *Ammonites*.
‡ **20:7** or, seed

would not let Israel invade when they came out of the land of Egypt, but they turned away from them, and didn't destroy them;
11 behold, how they reward us, to come to cast us out of your possession, which you have given us to inherit.
12 Our God, will you not judge them? For we have no might against this great company that comes against us. We don't know what to do, but our eyes are on you."
13 All Judah stood before the LORD, with their little ones, their wives, and their children.
14 Then the LORD's Spirit came on Jahaziel the son of Zechariah, the son of Benaiah, the son of Jeiel, the son of Mattaniah, the Levite, of the sons of Asaph, in the middle of the assembly;
15 and he said, "Listen, all Judah, and you inhabitants of Jerusalem, and you, King Jehoshaphat. The LORD says to you, 'Don't be afraid, and don't be dismayed because of this great multitude; for the battle is not yours, but God's.
16 Tomorrow, go down against them. Behold, they are coming up by the ascent of Ziz. You will find them at the end of the valley, before the wilderness of Jeruel.
17 You will not need to fight this battle. Set yourselves, stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD with you, O Judah and Jerusalem. Don't be afraid, nor be dismayed. Go out against them tomorrow, for the LORD is with you.' "
18 Jehoshaphat bowed his head with his face to the ground; and all Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem fell down before the LORD, worshiping the LORD.
19 The Levites, of the children of the Kohathites and of the children of the Korahites, stood up to praise the LORD, the God of Israel, with an exceedingly loud voice.
20 They rose early in the morning and went out into the wilderness of Tekoa. As they went out, Jehoshaphat stood and said, "Listen to me, Judah and you inhabitants of Jerusalem! Believe in the LORD your God, so you will be established! Believe his prophets, so you will prosper."
21 When he had taken counsel with the people, he appointed those who were to sing to the LORD and give praise in holy array as they go out before the army, and say, "Give thanks to the LORD, for his loving kindness endures forever."
22 When they began to sing and to praise, the LORD set ambushers against the children of Ammon, Moab, and Mount Seir, who had come against Judah; and they were struck.
23 For the children of Ammon and Moab stood up against the inhabitants of Mount Seir to utterly kill and destroy them. When they had finished the inhabitants of Seir, everyone helped to destroy each other.
24 When Judah came to the place overlooking the wilderness, they looked at the multitude; and behold, they were dead bodies fallen to the earth, and there were none who escaped.
25 When Jehoshaphat and his people came to take their plunder, they found among them in abundance both riches and dead bodies with precious jewels, which they stripped off for themselves, more than they could carry away. They took plunder for three days, it was so much.
26 On the fourth day, they assembled themselves in Beracah§ Valley, for there they blessed the LORD. Therefore the name of that place was called "Beracah Valley" to this day.
27 Then they returned, every man of Judah and Jerusalem, with Jehoshaphat in front of them, to go again to Jerusalem with joy; for the LORD had made them to rejoice over their enemies.
28 They came to Jerusalem with stringed instruments, harps, and trumpets to the LORD's house.
29 The fear of God was on all the kingdoms of the countries when they heard that the LORD fought against the enemies of Israel.

§ **20:26** "Beracah" means "blessing".

30 So the realm of Jehoshaphat was
quiet, for his God gave him rest all around.
31 So Jehoshaphat reigned over Judah.
He was thirty-five years old when he
began to reign. He reigned twenty-five
years in Jerusalem. His mother's name
was Azubah the daughter of Shilhi.
32 He walked in the way of Asa his
father, and didn't turn away from it, doing
that which was right in the LORD's eyes.
33 However the high places were not
taken away, and the people had still not
set their hearts on the God of their fathers.
34 Now the rest of the acts of
Jehoshaphat, first and last, behold, they
are written in the history of Jehu the son
of Hanani, which is included in the book
of the kings of Israel.
35 After this, Jehoshaphat king of Judah
joined himself with Ahaziah king of Israel.
The same did very wickedly.
36 He joined himself with him to make
ships to go to Tarshish. They made the
ships in Ezion Geber.
37 Then Eliezer the son of Dodavahu of
Mareshah prophesied against
Jehoshaphat, saying, "Because you have
joined yourself with Ahaziah, the LORD
has destroyed your works." The ships
were wrecked, so that they were not able
to go to Tarshish.

21

1 Jehoshaphat slept with his fathers, and
was buried with his fathers in David's city;
and Jehoram his son reigned in his place.
2 He had brothers, the sons of
Jehoshaphat: Azariah, Jehiel, Zechariah,
Azariah, Michael, and Shephatiah. All
these were the sons of Jehoshaphat king
of Israel.
3 Their father gave them great gifts of
silver, of gold, and of precious things, with
fortified cities in Judah; but he gave the
kingdom to Jehoram, because he was the
firstborn.
4 Now when Jehoram had risen up over
the kingdom of his father, and had
strengthened himself, he killed all his
brothers with the sword, and also some of
the princes of Israel.
5 Jehoram was thirty-two years old
when he began to reign, and he reigned
eight years in Jerusalem.
6 He walked in the way of the kings of
Israel, as did Ahab's house, for he had
Ahab's daughter as his wife. He did that
which was evil in the LORD's sight.
7 However the LORD would not destroy
David's house, because of the covenant
that he had made with David, and as he
promised to give a lamp to him and to his
children always.
8 In his days Edom revolted from under
the hand of Judah, and made a king over
themselves.
9 Then Jehoram went there with his
captains and all his chariots with him. He
rose up by night and struck the Edomites
who surrounded him, along with the
captains of the chariots.
10 So Edom has been in revolt from
under the hand of Judah to this day. Then
Libnah revolted at the same time from
under his hand, because he had forsaken
the LORD, the God of his fathers.
11 Moreover he made high places in the
mountains of Judah, and made the
inhabitants of Jerusalem play the
prostitute, and led Judah astray.
12 A letter came to him from Elijah the
prophet, saying, "the LORD, the God of
David your father, says, 'Because you
have not walked in the ways of
Jehoshaphat your father, nor in the ways
of Asa king of Judah,
13 but have walked in the way of the
kings of Israel, and have made Judah and
the inhabitants of Jerusalem to play the
prostitute like Ahab's house did, and also
have slain your brothers of your father's
house, who were better than yourself,
14 behold, the LORD will strike your
people with a great plague, including your
children, your wives, and all your
possessions;
15 and you will have great sickness with
a disease of your bowels, until your
bowels fall out by reason of the sickness,
day by day.' "
16 The LORD stirred up against Jehoram
the spirit of the Philistines and of the

Arabians who are beside the Ethiopians;
17 and they came up against Judah,
broke into it, and carried away all the
possessions that were found in the king's
house, including his sons and his wives, so
that there was no son left to him except
Jehoahaz, the youngest of his sons.
18 After all this the LORD struck him in
his bowels with an incurable disease.
19 In process of time, at the end of two
years, his bowels fell out by reason of his
sickness, and he died of severe diseases.
His people made no burning for him, like
the burning of his fathers.
20 He was thirty-two years old when he
began to reign, and he reigned in
Jerusalem eight years. He departed with
no one's regret. They buried him in
David's city, but not in the tombs of the
kings.

22

1 The inhabitants of Jerusalem made
Ahaziah his youngest son king in his
place, because the band of men who came
with the Arabians to the camp had slain
all the oldest. So Ahaziah the son of
Jehoram king of Judah reigned.
2 Ahaziah was forty-two years old when
he began to reign, and he reigned one
year in Jerusalem. His mother's name was
Athaliah the daughter of Omri.
3 He also walked in the ways of Ahab's
house, because his mother was his
counselor in acting wickedly.
4 He did that which was evil in the
LORD's sight, as did Ahab's house, for they
were his counselors after the death of his
father, to his destruction.
5 He also followed their counsel, and
went with Jehoram the son of Ahab king
of Israel to war against Hazael king of
Syria at Ramoth Gilead; and the Syrians
wounded Joram.
6 He returned to be healed in Jezreel of
the wounds which they had given him at
Ramah, when he fought against Hazael
king of Syria. Azariah the son of Jehoram,
king of Judah, went down to see Jehoram
the son of Ahab in Jezreel, because he was
sick.
7 Now the destruction of Ahaziah was of
God, in that he went to Joram; for when he
had come, he went out with Jehoram
against Jehu the son of Nimshi, whom the
LORD had anointed to cut off Ahab's
house.
8 When Jehu was executing judgment
on Ahab's house, he found the princes of
Judah and the sons of the brothers of
Ahaziah serving Ahaziah, and killed them.
9 He sought Ahaziah, and they caught
him (now he was hiding in Samaria), and
they brought him to Jehu and killed him;
and they buried him, for they said, "He is
the son of Jehoshaphat, who sought the
LORD with all his heart." The house of
Ahaziah had no power to hold the
kingdom.
10 Now when Athaliah the mother of
Ahaziah saw that her son was dead, she
arose and destroyed all the royal offspring
of the house of Judah.
11 But Jehoshabeath, the king's
daughter, took Joash the son of Ahaziah,
and stealthily rescued him from among
the king's sons who were slain, and put
him and his nurse in the bedroom. So
Jehoshabeath, the daughter of King
Jehoram, the wife of Jehoiada the priest
(for she was the sister of Ahaziah), hid him
from Athaliah, so that she didn't kill him.
12 He was with them hidden in God's
house six years while Athaliah reigned
over the land.

23

1 In the seventh year, Jehoiada
strengthened himself, and took the
captains of hundreds—Azariah the son of
Jeroham, Ishmael the son of Jehohanan,
Azariah the son of Obed, Maaseiah the
son of Adaiah, and Elishaphat the son of
Zichri—into a covenant with him.
2 They went around in Judah and
gathered the Levites out of all the cities of
Judah, and the heads of fathers'
households of Israel, and they came to
Jerusalem.
3 All the assembly made a covenant
with the king in God's house. Jehoiada†
said to them, "Behold, the king's son must

† **23:3** Hebrew *He*

reign, as the LORD has spoken concerning the sons of David.
4 This is the thing that you must do: a third part of you, who come in on the Sabbath, of the priests and of the Levites, shall be gatekeepers of the thresholds.
5 A third part shall be at the king's house; and a third part at the gate of the foundation. All the people will be in the courts of the LORD's house.
6 But let no one come into the LORD's house except the priests and those who minister of the Levites. They shall come in, for they are holy, but all the people shall follow the LORD's instructions.
7 The Levites shall surround the king, every man with his weapons in his hand. Whoever comes into the house, let him be slain. Be with the king when he comes in and when he goes out."
8 So the Levites and all Judah did according to all that Jehoiada the priest commanded. They each took his men, those who were to come in on the Sabbath, with those who were to go out on the Sabbath, for Jehoiada the priest didn't dismiss the shift.
9 Jehoiada the priest delivered to the captains of hundreds the spears, bucklers, and shields that had been king David's, which were in God's house.
10 He set all the people, every man with his weapon in his hand, from the right side of the house to the left side of the house, near the altar and the house, around the king.
11 Then they brought out the king's son, put the crown on him, gave him the covenant, and made him king. Jehoiada and his sons anointed him, and they said, "Long live the king!"
12 When Athaliah heard the noise of the people running and praising the king, she came to the people into the LORD's house.
13 Then she looked, and behold, the king stood by his pillar at the entrance, with the captains and the trumpeters by the king. All the people of the land rejoiced and blew trumpets. The singers also played musical instruments, and led the singing of praise. Then Athaliah tore her clothes, and said, "Treason! treason!"
14 Jehoiada the priest brought out the captains of hundreds who were set over the army, and said to them, "Bring her out between the ranks; and whoever follows her, let him be slain with the sword." For the priest said, "Don't kill her in the LORD's house."
15 So they made way for her. She went to the entrance of the horse gate to the king's house; and they killed her there.
16 Jehoiada made a covenant between himself, all the people, and the king, that they should be the LORD's people.
17 All the people went to the house of Baal, broke it down, broke his altars and his images in pieces, and killed Mattan the priest of Baal before the altars.
18 Jehoiada appointed the officers of the LORD's house under the hand of the Levitical priests, whom David had distributed in the LORD's house, to offer the burnt offerings of the LORD, as it is written in the law of Moses, with rejoicing and with singing, as David had ordered.
19 He set the gatekeepers at the gates of the LORD's house, that no one who was unclean in anything should enter in.
20 He took the captains of hundreds, the nobles, the governors of the people, and all the people of the land, and brought the king down from the LORD's house. They came through the upper gate to the king's house, and set the king on the throne of the kingdom.
21 So all the people of the land rejoiced, and the city was quiet. They had slain Athaliah with the sword.

24

1 Joash was seven years old when he began to reign, and he reigned forty years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Zibiah, of Beersheba.
2 Joash did that which was right in the LORD's eyes all the days of Jehoiada the priest.
3 Jehoiada took for him two wives, and he became the father of sons and daughters.
4 After this, Joash intended to restore the LORD's house.

5 He gathered together the priests and
the Levites, and said to them, “Go out to
the cities of Judah, and gather money to
repair the house of your God from all
Israel from year to year. See that you
expedite this matter.” However the
Levites didn’t do it right away.
6 The king called for Jehoiada the chief,
and said to him, “Why haven’t you
required of the Levites to bring in the tax
of Moses the servant of the LORD, and of
the assembly of Israel, out of Judah and
out of Jerusalem, for the Tent of the
Testimony?”
7 For the sons of Athaliah, that wicked
woman, had broken up God’s house; and
they also gave all the dedicated things of
the LORD’s house to the Baals.
8 So the king commanded, and they
made a chest, and set it outside at the gate
of the LORD’s house.
9 They made a proclamation through
Judah and Jerusalem, to bring in for the
LORD the tax that Moses the servant of
God laid on Israel in the wilderness.
10 All the princes and all the people
rejoiced, and brought in, and cast into the
chest, until they had filled it.
11 Whenever the chest was brought to
the king’s officers by the hand of the
Levites, and when they saw that there
was much money, the king’s scribe and
the chief priest’s officer came and
emptied the chest, and took it, and carried
it to its place again. Thus they did day by
day, and gathered money in abundance.
12 The king and Jehoiada gave it to those
who did the work of the service of the
LORD’s house. They hired masons and
carpenters to restore the LORD’s house,
and also those who worked iron and
bronze to repair the LORD’s house.
13 So the workmen worked, and the
work of repairing went forward in their
hands. They set up God’s house as it was
designed, and strengthened it.
14 When they had finished, they brought
the rest of the money before the king and
Jehoiada, from which were made vessels
for the LORD’s house, even vessels with
which to minister and to offer, including
spoons and vessels of gold and silver.
They offered burnt offerings in the
LORD’s house continually all the days of
Jehoiada.
15 But Jehoiada grew old and was full of
days, and he died. He was one hundred
thirty years old when he died.
16 They buried him in David’s city
among the kings, because he had done
good in Israel, and toward God and his
house.
17 Now after the death of Jehoiada, the
princes of Judah came and bowed down to
the king. Then the king listened to them.
18 They abandoned the house of the
LORD, the God of their fathers, and served
the Asherah poles and the idols, so wrath
came on Judah and Jerusalem for this
their guiltiness.
19 Yet he sent prophets to them to bring
them again to the LORD, and they testified
against them; but they would not listen.
20 The Spirit of God came on Zechariah
the son of Jehoiada the priest; and he
stood above the people, and said to them,
“God says, ‘Why do you disobey the
LORD’s commandments, so that you can’t
prosper? Because you have forsaken the
LORD, he has also forsaken you.’ ”
21 They conspired against him, and
stoned him with stones at the
commandment of the king in the court of
the LORD’s house.
22 Thus Joash the king didn’t remember
the kindness which Jehoiada his father
had done to him, but killed his son. When
he died, he said, “May the LORD look at it,
and repay it.”
23 At the end of the year, the army of the
Syrians came up against him. They came
to Judah and Jerusalem, and destroyed all
the princes of the people from among the
people, and sent all their plunder to the
king of Damascus.
24 For the army of the Syrians came with
a small company of men; and the LORD
delivered a very great army into their
hand, because they had forsaken the
LORD, the God of their fathers. So they
executed judgment on Joash.
25 When they had departed from him
(for they left him seriously wounded), his

own servants conspired against him for the blood of the sons of Jehoiada the priest, and killed him on his bed, and he died. They buried him in David's city, but they didn't bury him in the tombs of the kings.
26 These are those who conspired against him: Zabad the son of Shimeath the Ammonitess and Jehozabad the son of Shimrith the Moabitess.
27 Now concerning his sons, the greatness of the burdens laid on him, and the rebuilding of God's house, behold, they are written in the commentary of the book of the kings. Amaziah his son reigned in his place.

25

1 Amaziah was twenty-five years old when he began to reign, and he reigned twenty-nine years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Jehoaddan, of Jerusalem.
2 He did that which was right in the LORD's eyes, but not with a perfect heart.
3 Now when the kingdom was established to him, he killed his servants who had killed his father the king.
4 But he didn't put their children to death, but did according to that which is written in the law in the book of Moses, as the LORD commanded, saying, "The fathers shall not die for the children, neither shall the children die for the fathers; but every man shall die for his own sin."
5 Moreover Amaziah gathered Judah together and ordered them according to their fathers' houses, under captains of thousands and captains of hundreds, even all Judah and Benjamin. He counted them from twenty years old and upward, and found that there were three hundred thousand chosen men, able to go out to war, who could handle spear and shield.
6 He also hired one hundred thousand mighty men of valor out of Israel for one hundred talents† of silver.
7 A man of God came to him, saying, "O king, don't let the army of Israel go with you, for the LORD is not with Israel, with all the children of Ephraim.
8 But if you will go, take action, and be strong for the battle. God will overthrow you before the enemy; for God has power to help, and to overthrow."
9 Amaziah said to the man of God, "But what shall we do for the hundred talents‡ which I have given to the army of Israel?"
The man of God answered, "The LORD is able to give you much more than this."
10 Then Amaziah separated them, the army that had come to him out of Ephraim, to go home again. Therefore their anger was greatly kindled against Judah, and they returned home in fierce anger.
11 Amaziah took courage, and led his people out and went to the Valley of Salt, and struck ten thousand of the children of Seir.
12 The children of Judah carried away ten thousand alive, and brought them to the top of the rock, and threw them down from the top of the rock, so that they all were broken in pieces.
13 But the men of the army whom Amaziah sent back, that they should not go with him to battle, fell on the cities of Judah from Samaria even to Beth Horon, and struck of them three thousand, and took much plunder.
14 Now after Amaziah had come from the slaughter of the Edomites, he brought the gods of the children of Seir, and set them up to be his gods, and bowed down himself before them and burned incense to them.
15 Therefore the LORD's anger burned against Amaziah, and he sent to him a prophet who said to him, "Why have you sought after the gods of the people, which have not delivered their own people out of your hand?"
16 As he talked with him, the king said to him, "Have we made you one of the king's counselors? Stop! Why should you be struck down?"
Then the prophet stopped, and said, "I know that God has determined to destroy

† **25:6** A talent is about 30 kilograms or 66 pounds ‡ **25:9** A talent is about 30 kilograms or 66 pounds

you, because you have done this and have not listened to my counsel."
17 Then Amaziah king of Judah consulted his advisers, and sent to Joash, the son of Jehoahaz, the son of Jehu, king of Israel, saying, "Come! Let's look one another in the face."
18 Joash king of Israel sent to Amaziah king of Judah, saying, "The thistle that was in Lebanon sent to the cedar that was in Lebanon, saying, 'Give your daughter to my son as his wife. Then a wild animal that was in Lebanon passed by and trampled down the thistle.
19 You say to yourself that you have struck Edom; and your heart lifts you up to boast. Now stay at home. Why should you meddle with trouble, that you should fall, even you and Judah with you?' "
20 But Amaziah would not listen; for it was of God, that he might deliver them into the hand of their enemies, because they had sought after the gods of Edom.
21 So Joash king of Israel went up, and he and Amaziah king of Judah looked one another in the face at Beth Shemesh, which belongs to Judah.
22 Judah was defeated by Israel; so every man fled to his tent.
23 Joash king of Israel took Amaziah king of Judah, the son of Joash the son of Jehoahaz, at Beth Shemesh and brought him to Jerusalem, and broke down the wall of Jerusalem from the gate of Ephraim to the corner gate, four hundred cubits.§
24 He took all the gold and silver, and all the vessels that were found in God's house with Obed-Edom, and the treasures of the king's house, and the hostages, and returned to Samaria.
25 Amaziah the son of Joash, king of Judah, lived for fifteen years after the death of Joash, son of Jehoahaz, king of Israel.
26 Now the rest of the acts of Amaziah, first and last, behold, aren't they written in the book of the kings of Judah and Israel?
27 Now from the time that Amaziah turned away from following the LORD, they made a conspiracy against him in Jerusalem. He fled to Lachish, but they sent after him to Lachish and killed him there.
28 They brought him on horses and buried him with his fathers in the City of Judah.

26

1 All the people of Judah took Uzziah, who was sixteen years old, and made him king in the place of his father Amaziah.
2 He built Eloth and restored it to Judah. After that the king slept with his fathers.
3 Uzziah was sixteen years old when he began to reign; and he reigned fifty-two years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Jechiliah, of Jerusalem.
4 He did that which was right in the LORD's eyes, according to all that his father Amaziah had done.
5 He set himself to seek God in the days of Zechariah, who had understanding in the vision of God; and as long as he sought the LORD, God made him prosper.
6 He went out and fought against the Philistines, and broke down the wall of Gath, the wall of Jabneh, and the wall of Ashdod; and he built cities in the country of Ashdod, and among the Philistines.
7 God helped him against the Philistines, and against the Arabians who lived in Gur Baal, and the Meunim.
8 The Ammonites gave tribute to Uzziah. His name spread abroad even to the entrance of Egypt, for he grew exceedingly strong.
9 Moreover Uzziah built towers in Jerusalem at the corner gate, at the valley gate, and at the turning of the wall, and fortified them.
10 He built towers in the wilderness, and dug out many cisterns, for he had much livestock, both in the lowlands and in the plains. He had farmers and vineyard keepers in the mountains and in the fruitful fields, for he loved farming.

§ **25:23** A cubit is the length from the tip of the middle finger to the elbow on a man's arm, or about 18 inches or 46 centimeters, so 400 cubits is about 200 yards or 184 meters.

11 Moreover Uzziah had an army of
fighting men who went out to war by
bands, according to the number of their
reckoning made by Jeiel the scribe and
Maaseiah the officer, under the hand of
Hananiah, one of the king's captains.
12 The whole number of the heads of
fathers' households, even the mighty men
of valor, was two thousand six hundred.
13 Under their hand was an army, three
hundred seven thousand five hundred,
who made war with mighty power, to
help the king against the enemy.
14 Uzziah prepared for them, even for all
the army, shields, spears, helmets, coats of
mail, bows, and stones for slinging.
15 In Jerusalem, he made devices,
invented by skillful men, to be on the
towers and on the battlements, with
which to shoot arrows and great stones.
His name spread far abroad, because he
was marvelously helped until he was
strong.
16 But when he was strong, his heart
was lifted up, so that he did corruptly and
he trespassed against the LORD his God,
for he went into the LORD's temple to
burn incense on the altar of incense.
17 Azariah the priest went in after him,
and with him eighty priests of the LORD,
who were valiant men.
18 They resisted Uzziah the king, and
said to him, "It isn't for you, Uzziah, to
burn incense to the LORD, but for the
priests the sons of Aaron, who are
consecrated to burn incense. Go out of the
sanctuary, for you have trespassed. It will
not be for your honor from the LORD
God."
19 Then Uzziah was angry. He had a
censer in his hand to burn incense, and
while he was angry with the priests, the
leprosy broke out on his forehead before
the priests in the LORD's house, beside the
altar of incense.
20 Azariah the chief priest and all the
priests looked at him, and behold, he was
leprous in his forehead; and they thrust
him out quickly from there. Indeed, he
himself also hurried to go out, because the
LORD had struck him.
21 Uzziah the king was a leper to the day
of his death, and lived in a separate house,
being a leper; for he was cut off from the
LORD's house. Jotham his son was over
the king's house, judging the people of the
land.
22 Now the rest of the acts of Uzziah,
first and last, Isaiah the prophet, the son
of Amoz, wrote.
23 So Uzziah slept with his fathers; and
they buried him with his fathers in the
field of burial which belonged to the
kings, for they said, "He is a leper."
Jotham his son reigned in his place.

27

1 Jotham was twenty-five years old
when he began to reign, and he reigned
sixteen years in Jerusalem. His mother's
name was Jerushah the daughter of
Zadok.
2 He did that which was right in the
LORD's eyes, according to all that his
father Uzziah had done. However he
didn't enter into the LORD's temple. The
people still acted corruptly.
3 He built the upper gate of the LORD's
house, and he built much on the wall of
Ophel.
4 Moreover he built cities in the hill
country of Judah, and in the forests he
built fortresses and towers.
5 He also fought with the king of the
children of Ammon, and prevailed against
them. The children of Ammon gave him
the same year one hundred talents† of
silver, ten thousand cors‡ of wheat, and
ten thousand cors of barley.§ The
children of Ammon also gave that much
to him in the second year, and in the third.
6 So Jotham became mighty, because he
ordered his ways before the LORD his
God.
7 Now the rest of the acts of Jotham, and
all his wars and his ways, behold, they are
written in the book of the kings of Israel
and Judah.

† **27:5** A talent is about 30 kilograms or 66 pounds ‡ **27:5** 1 cor is the same as a homer, or about 55.9 U. S. gallons (liquid) or 211 liters or 6 bushels. 10,000 cors of wheat would weigh about 1,640 metric tons. § **27:5** 10,000 cors of barley would weigh about 1,310 metric tons.

8 He was twenty-five years old when he began to reign, and reigned sixteen years in Jerusalem.
9 Jotham slept with his fathers, and they buried him in David's city; and Ahaz his son reigned in his place.

28

1 Ahaz was twenty years old when he began to reign, and he reigned sixteen years in Jerusalem. He didn't do that which was right in the LORD's eyes, like David his father,
2 but he walked in the ways of the kings of Israel, and also made molten images for the Baals.
3 Moreover he burned incense in the valley of the son of Hinnom, and burned his children in the fire, according to the abominations of the nations whom the LORD cast out before the children of Israel.
4 He sacrificed and burned incense in the high places, and on the hills, and under every green tree.
5 Therefore the LORD his God delivered him into the hand of the king of Syria. They struck him, and carried away from him a great multitude of captives, and brought them to Damascus. He was also delivered into the hand of the king of Israel, who struck him with a great slaughter.
6 For Pekah the son of Remaliah killed in Judah one hundred twenty thousand in one day, all of them valiant men, because they had forsaken the LORD, the God of their fathers.
7 Zichri, a mighty man of Ephraim, killed Maaseiah the king's son, Azrikam the ruler of the house, and Elkanah who was next to the king.
8 The children of Israel carried away captive of their brothers two hundred thousand women, sons, and daughters, and also took away much plunder from them, and brought the plunder to Samaria.
9 But a prophet of the LORD was there, whose name was Oded; and he went out to meet the army that came to Samaria, and said to them, "Behold, because the LORD, the God of your fathers, was angry with Judah, he has delivered them into your hand, and you have slain them in a rage which has reached up to heaven.
10 Now you intend to degrade the children of Judah and Jerusalem as male and female slaves for yourselves. Aren't there even with you trespasses of your own against the LORD your God?
11 Now hear me therefore, and send back the captives that you have taken captive from your brothers, for the fierce wrath of the LORD is on you."
12 Then some of the heads of the children of Ephraim, Azariah the son of Johanan, Berechiah the son of Meshillemoth, Jehizkiah the son of Shallum, and Amasa the son of Hadlai, stood up against those who came from the war,
13 and said to them, "You must not bring in the captives here, for you intend that which will bring on us a trespass against the LORD, to add to our sins and to our guilt; for our guilt is great, and there is fierce wrath against Israel."
14 So the armed men left the captives and the plunder before the princes and all the assembly.
15 The men who have been mentioned by name rose up and took the captives, and with the plunder clothed all who were naked among them, dressed them, gave them sandals, gave them something to eat and to drink, anointed them, carried all the feeble of them on donkeys, and brought them to Jericho, the city of palm trees, to their brothers. Then they returned to Samaria.
16 At that time King Ahaz sent to the kings of Assyria to help him.
17 For again the Edomites had come and struck Judah, and carried away captives.
18 The Philistines also had invaded the cities of the lowland and of the South of Judah, and had taken Beth Shemesh, Aijalon, Gederoth, Soco with its villages, Timnah with its villages, and also Gimzo and its villages; and they lived there.
19 For the LORD brought Judah low because of Ahaz king of Israel, because he

acted without restraint in Judah and trespassed severely against the LORD.
20 Tilgath-pilneser king of Assyria came to him and gave him trouble, but didn't strengthen him.
21 For Ahaz took away a portion out of the LORD's house, and out of the house of the king and of the princes, and gave it to the king of Assyria; but it didn't help him.
22 In the time of his distress, he trespassed yet more against the LORD, this same King Ahaz.
23 For he sacrificed to the gods of Damascus which had defeated him. He said, "Because the gods of the kings of Syria helped them, I will sacrifice to them, that they may help me." But they were the ruin of him and of all Israel.
24 Ahaz gathered together the vessels of God's house, cut the vessels of God's house in pieces, and shut up the doors of the LORD's house; and he made himself altars in every corner of Jerusalem.
25 In every city of Judah he made high places to burn incense to other gods, and provoked the LORD, the God of his fathers, to anger.
26 Now the rest of his acts, and all his ways, first and last, behold, they are written in the book of the kings of Judah and Israel.
27 Ahaz slept with his fathers, and they buried him in the city, even in Jerusalem, because they didn't bring him into the tombs of the kings of Israel; and Hezekiah his son reigned in his place.

29

1 Hezekiah began to reign when he was twenty-five years old, and he reigned twenty-nine years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Abijah, the daughter of Zechariah.
2 He did that which was right in the LORD's eyes, according to all that David his father had done.
3 In the first year of his reign, in the first month, he opened the doors of the LORD's house and repaired them.
4 He brought in the priests and the Levites and gathered them together into the wide place on the east,
5 and said to them, "Listen to me, you Levites! Now sanctify yourselves, and sanctify the house of the LORD, the God of your fathers, and carry the filthiness out of the holy place.
6 For our fathers were unfaithful, and have done that which was evil in the LORD our God's sight, and have forsaken him, and have turned away their faces from the habitation of the LORD, and turned their backs.
7 Also they have shut up the doors of the porch, and put out the lamps, and have not burned incense nor offered burnt offerings in the holy place to the God of Israel.
8 Therefore the LORD's wrath was on Judah and Jerusalem, and he has delivered them to be tossed back and forth, to be an astonishment and a hissing, as you see with your eyes.
9 For behold, our fathers have fallen by the sword, and our sons and our daughters and our wives are in captivity for this.
10 Now it is in my heart to make a covenant with the LORD, the God of Israel, that his fierce anger may turn away from us.
11 My sons, don't be negligent now; for the LORD has chosen you to stand before him, to minister to him, and that you should be his ministers and burn incense."
12 Then the Levites arose: Mahath, the son of Amasai, and Joel the son of Azariah, of the sons of the Kohathites; and of the sons of Merari, Kish the son of Abdi, and Azariah the son of Jehallelel; and of the Gershonites, Joah the son of Zimmah, and Eden the son of Joah;
13 and of the sons of Elizaphan, Shimri and Jeuel; and of the sons of Asaph, Zechariah and Mattaniah;
14 and of the sons of Heman, Jehuel and Shimei; and of the sons of Jeduthun, Shemaiah and Uzziel.
15 They gathered their brothers, sanctified themselves, and went in, according to the commandment of the king by the LORD's words, to cleanse the LORD's house.
16 The priests went into the inner part of

the LORD's house to cleanse it, and brought out all the uncleanness that they found in the LORD's temple into the court of the LORD's house. The Levites took it from there to carry it out to the brook Kidron.
17 Now they began on the first day of the first month to sanctify, and on the eighth day of the month they came to the LORD's porch. They sanctified the LORD's house in eight days, and on the sixteenth day of the first month they finished.
18 Then they went in to Hezekiah the king within the palace and said, "We have cleansed all the LORD's house, including the altar of burnt offering with all its vessels, and the table of show bread with all its vessels.
19 Moreover, we have prepared and sanctified all the vessels which King Ahaz threw away in his reign when he was unfaithful. Behold, they are before the LORD's altar."
20 Then Hezekiah the king arose early, gathered the princes of the city, and went up to the LORD's house.
21 They brought seven bulls, seven rams, seven lambs, and seven male goats, for a sin offering for the kingdom, for the sanctuary, and for Judah. He commanded the priests the sons of Aaron to offer them on the LORD's altar.
22 So they killed the bulls, and the priests received the blood and sprinkled it on the altar. They killed the rams and sprinkled the blood on the altar. They also killed the lambs and sprinkled the blood on the altar.
23 They brought near the male goats for the sin offering before the king and the assembly; and they laid their hands on them.
24 Then the priests killed them, and they made a sin offering with their blood on the altar, to make atonement for all Israel; for the king commanded that the burnt offering and the sin offering should be made for all Israel.
25 He set the Levites in the LORD's house with cymbals, with stringed instruments, and with harps, according to the commandment of David, of Gad the king's seer, and Nathan the prophet; for the commandment was from the LORD by his prophets.
26 The Levites stood with David's instruments, and the priests with the trumpets.
27 Hezekiah commanded them to offer the burnt offering on the altar. When the burnt offering began, the LORD's song also began, along with the trumpets and instruments of David king of Israel.
28 All the assembly worshiped, the singers sang, and the trumpeters sounded. All this continued until the burnt offering was finished.

29 When they had finished offering, the king and all who were present with him bowed themselves and worshiped.
30 Moreover Hezekiah the king and the princes commanded the Levites to sing praises to the LORD with the words of David, and of Asaph the seer. They sang praises with gladness, and they bowed their heads and worshiped.

31 Then Hezekiah answered, "Now you have consecrated yourselves to the LORD. Come near and bring sacrifices and thank offerings into the LORD's house." The assembly brought in sacrifices and thank offerings, and as many as were of a willing heart brought burnt offerings.
32 The number of the burnt offerings which the assembly brought was seventy bulls, one hundred rams, and two hundred lambs. All these were for a burnt offering to the LORD.
33 The consecrated things were six hundred head of cattle and three thousand sheep.
34 But the priests were too few, so that they could not skin all the burnt offerings. Therefore their brothers the Levites helped them until the work was ended, and until the priests had sanctified themselves, for the Levites were more upright in heart to sanctify themselves than the priests.
35 Also the burnt offerings were in abundance, with the fat of the peace offerings and with the drink offerings for

every burnt offering. So the service of the LORD's house was set in order.
36 Hezekiah and all the people rejoiced because of that which God had prepared for the people; for the thing was done suddenly.

30

1 Hezekiah sent to all Israel and Judah, and wrote letters also to Ephraim and Manasseh, that they should come to the LORD's house at Jerusalem, to keep the Passover to the LORD, the God of Israel.
2 For the king had taken counsel with his princes and all the assembly in Jerusalem to keep the Passover in the second month.
3 For they could not keep it at that time, because the priests had not sanctified themselves in sufficient number, and the people had not gathered themselves together to Jerusalem.
4 The thing was right in the eyes of the king and of all the assembly.
5 So they established a decree to make proclamation throughout all Israel, from Beersheba even to Dan, that they should come to keep the Passover to the LORD, the God of Israel, at Jerusalem, for they had not kept it in great numbers in the way it is written.
6 So the couriers went with the letters from the king and his princes throughout all Israel and Judah, according to the commandment of the king, saying, "You children of Israel, turn again to the LORD, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, that he may return to the remnant of you that have escaped out of the hand of the kings of Assyria.
7 Don't be like your fathers and like your brothers, who trespassed against the LORD, the God of their fathers, so that he gave them up to desolation, as you see.
8 Now don't be stiff-necked, as your fathers were, but yield yourselves to the LORD, and enter into his sanctuary, which he has sanctified forever, and serve the LORD your God, that his fierce anger may turn away from you.
9 For if you turn again to the LORD, your brothers and your children will find compassion with those who led them captive, and will come again into this land, because the LORD your God is gracious and merciful, and will not turn away his face from you if you return to him."
10 So the couriers passed from city to city through the country of Ephraim and Manasseh, even to Zebulun, but people ridiculed them and mocked them.
11 Nevertheless some men of Asher, Manasseh, and Zebulun humbled themselves and came to Jerusalem.
12 Also the hand of God came on Judah to give them one heart, to do the commandment of the king and of the princes by the LORD's word.
13 Many people assembled at Jerusalem to keep the feast of unleavened bread in the second month, a very great assembly.
14 They arose and took away the altars that were in Jerusalem, and they took away all the altars for incense and threw them into the brook Kidron.
15 Then they killed the Passover on the fourteenth day of the second month. The priests and the Levites were ashamed, and sanctified themselves, and brought burnt offerings into the LORD's house.
16 They stood in their place after their order, according to the law of Moses the man of God. The priests sprinkled the blood which they received of the hand of the Levites.
17 For there were many in the assembly who had not sanctified themselves; therefore the Levites were in charge of killing the Passovers for everyone who was not clean, to sanctify them to the LORD.
18 For a multitude of the people, even many of Ephraim, Manasseh, Issachar, and Zebulun, had not cleansed themselves, yet they ate the Passover other than the way it is written. For Hezekiah had prayed for them, saying, "May the good LORD pardon everyone
19 who sets his heart to seek God, the LORD, the God of his fathers, even if they aren't clean according to the purification of the sanctuary."

20 The LORD listened to Hezekiah, and
healed the people.
21 The children of Israel who were
present at Jerusalem kept the feast of
unleavened bread seven days with great
gladness. The Levites and the priests
praised the LORD day by day, singing with
loud instruments to the LORD.
22 Hezekiah spoke encouragingly to all
the Levites who had good understanding
in the service of the LORD. So they ate
throughout the feast for the seven days,
offering sacrifices of peace offerings and
making confession to the LORD, the God
of their fathers.
23 The whole assembly took counsel to
keep another seven days, and they kept
another seven days with gladness.
24 For Hezekiah king of Judah gave to
the assembly for offerings one thousand
bulls and seven thousand sheep; and the
princes gave to the assembly a thousand
bulls and ten thousand sheep; and a great
number of priests sanctified themselves.
25 All the assembly of Judah, with the
priests and the Levites, and all the
assembly who came out of Israel, and the
foreigners who came out of the land of
Israel and who lived in Judah, rejoiced.
26 So there was great joy in Jerusalem;
for since the time of Solomon the son of
David king of Israel there was nothing like
this in Jerusalem.
27 Then the Levitical priests arose and
blessed the people. Their voice was heard,
and their prayer came up to his holy
habitation, even to heaven.

31

1 Now when all this was finished, all
Israel who were present went out to the
cities of Judah and broke the pillars in
pieces, cut down the Asherah poles, and
broke down the high places and the altars
out of all Judah and Benjamin, also in
Ephraim and Manasseh, until they had
destroyed them all. Then all the children
of Israel returned, every man to his
possession, into their own cities.
2 Hezekiah appointed the divisions of
the priests and the Levites after their
divisions, every man according to his
service, both the priests and the Levites,
for burnt offerings and for peace
offerings, to minister, to give thanks, and
to praise in the gates of the LORD's camp.
3 He also appointed the king's portion of
his possessions for the burnt offerings: for
the morning and evening burnt offerings,
and the burnt offerings for the Sabbaths,
for the new moons, and for the set feasts,
as it is written in the LORD's law.
4 Moreover he commanded the people
who lived in Jerusalem to give the portion
of the priests and the Levites, that they
might give themselves to the LORD's law.
5 As soon as the commandment went
out, the children of Israel gave in
abundance the first fruits of grain, new
wine, oil, honey, and of all the increase of
the field; and they brought in the tithe of
all things abundantly.
6 The children of Israel and Judah, who
lived in the cities of Judah, also brought in
the tithe of cattle and sheep, and the tithe
of dedicated things which were
consecrated to the LORD their God, and
laid them in heaps.
7 In the third month, they began to lay
the foundation of the heaps, and finished
them in the seventh month.
8 When Hezekiah and the princes came
and saw the heaps, they blessed the LORD
and his people Israel.
9 Then Hezekiah questioned the priests
and the Levites about the heaps.
10 Azariah the chief priest, of the house
of Zadok, answered him and said, "Since
people began to bring the offerings into
the LORD's house, we have eaten and had
enough, and have plenty left over, for the
LORD has blessed his people; and that
which is left is this great store."
11 Then Hezekiah commanded them to
prepare rooms in the LORD's house, and
they prepared them.
12 They brought in the offerings, the
tithes, and the dedicated things faithfully.
Conaniah the Levite was ruler over them,
and Shimei his brother was second.
13 Jehiel, Azaziah, Nahath, Asahel,
Jerimoth, Jozabad, Eliel, Ismachiah,

Mahath, and Benaiah were overseers
under the hand of Conaniah and Shimei
his brother, by the appointment of
Hezekiah the king and Azariah the ruler
of God's house.
14 Kore the son of Imnah the Levite, the
gatekeeper at the east gate, was over the
free will offerings of God, to distribute the
LORD's offerings and the most holy things.
15 Under him were Eden, Miniamin,
Jeshua, Shemaiah, Amariah, and
Shecaniah, in the cities of the priests, in
their office of trust, to give to their
brothers by divisions, to the great as well
as to the small;
16 in addition to those who were listed
by genealogy of males, from three years
old and upward, even everyone who
entered into the LORD's house, as the duty
of every day required, for their service in
their offices according to their divisions;
17 and those who were listed by
genealogy of the priests by their fathers'
houses, and the Levites from twenty years
old and upward, in their offices by their
divisions;
18 and those who were listed by
genealogy of all their little ones, their
wives, their sons, and their daughters,
through all the congregation; for in their
office of trust they sanctified themselves
in holiness.
19 Also for the sons of Aaron the priests,
who were in the fields of the pasture
lands of their cities, in every city, there
were men who were mentioned by name
to give portions to all the males among the
priests and to all who were listed by
genealogy among the Levites.
20 Hezekiah did so throughout all Judah;
and he did that which was good, right,
and faithful before the LORD his God.
21 In every work that he began in the
service of God's house, in the law, and in
the commandments, to seek his God, he
did it with all his heart and prospered.

32

1 After these things and this
faithfulness, Sennacherib king of Assyria
came, entered into Judah, encamped
against the fortified cities, and intended to
win them for himself.
2 When Hezekiah saw that Sennacherib
had come, and that he was planning to
fight against Jerusalem,
3 he took counsel with his princes and
his mighty men to stop the waters of the
springs which were outside of the city,
and they helped him.
4 Then many people gathered together
and they stopped all the springs and the
brook that flowed through the middle of
the land, saying, "Why should the kings of
Assyria come, and find abundant water?"
5 He took courage, built up all the wall
that was broken down, and raised it up to
the towers, with the other wall outside,
and strengthened Millo in David's city,
and made weapons and shields in
abundance.
6 He set captains of war over the people,
gathered them together to him in the wide
place at the gate of the city, and spoke
encouragingly to them, saying,
7 "Be strong and courageous. Don't be
afraid or dismayed because of the king of
Assyria, nor for all the multitude who is
with him; for there is a greater one with
us than with him.
8 An arm of flesh is with him, but the
LORD our God is with us to help us and to
fight our battles." The people rested
themselves on the words of Hezekiah king
of Judah.
9 After this, Sennacherib king of Assyria
sent his servants to Jerusalem, (now he
was attacking Lachish, and all his forces
were with him), to Hezekiah king of
Judah, and to all Judah who were at
Jerusalem, saying,
10 Sennacherib king of Assyria says, "In
whom do you trust, that you remain
under siege in Jerusalem?
11 Doesn't Hezekiah persuade you to
give you over to die by famine and by
thirst, saying, 'The LORD our God will
deliver us out of the hand of the king of
Assyria'?
12 Hasn't the same Hezekiah taken away
his high places and his altars, and
commanded Judah and Jerusalem, saying,

‘You shall worship before one altar, and you shall burn incense on it’?
13 Don’t you know what I and my fathers have done to all the peoples of the lands? Were the gods of the nations of those lands in any way able to deliver their land out of my hand?
14 Who was there among all the gods of those nations which my fathers utterly destroyed that could deliver his people out of my hand, that your God should be able to deliver you out of my hand?
15 Now therefore don’t let Hezekiah deceive you nor persuade you in this way. Don’t believe him, for no god of any nation or kingdom was able to deliver his people out of my hand, and out of the hand of my fathers. How much less will your God deliver you out of my hand?”
16 His servants spoke yet more against the LORD God and against his servant Hezekiah.
17 He also wrote letters insulting the LORD, the God of Israel, and speaking against him, saying, “As the gods of the nations of the lands, which have not delivered their people out of my hand, so shall the God of Hezekiah not deliver his people out of my hand.”
18 They called out with a loud voice in the Jews’ language to the people of Jerusalem who were on the wall, to frighten them and to trouble them, that they might take the city.
19 They spoke of the God of Jerusalem as of the gods of the peoples of the earth, which are the work of men’s hands.
20 Hezekiah the king and Isaiah the prophet, the son of Amoz, prayed because of this, and cried to heaven.
21 The LORD sent an angel, who cut off all the mighty men of valor, the leaders, and captains in the camp of the king of Assyria. So he returned with shame of face to his own land. When he had come into the house of his god, those who came out of his own body† killed him there with the sword.
22 Thus the LORD saved Hezekiah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem from the hand of Sennacherib the king of Assyria and from the hand of all others, and guided them on every side.
23 Many brought gifts to the LORD to Jerusalem, and precious things to Hezekiah king of Judah, so that he was exalted in the sight of all nations from then on.
24 In those days Hezekiah was terminally ill, and he prayed to the LORD; and he spoke to him, and gave him a sign.
25 But Hezekiah didn’t reciprocate appropriate to the benefit done for him, because his heart was lifted up. Therefore there was wrath on him, Judah, and Jerusalem.
26 However, Hezekiah humbled himself for the pride of his heart, both he and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so that the LORD’s wrath didn’t come on them in the days of Hezekiah.
27 Hezekiah had exceedingly great riches and honor. He provided himself with treasuries for silver, for gold, for precious stones, for spices, for shields, and for all kinds of valuable vessels;
28 also storehouses for the increase of grain, new wine, and oil; and stalls for all kinds of animals, and flocks in folds.
29 Moreover he provided for himself cities, and possessions of flocks and herds in abundance; for God had given him abundant possessions.
30 This same Hezekiah also stopped the upper spring of the waters of Gihon, and brought them straight down on the west side of David’s city. Hezekiah prospered in all his works.
31 However, concerning the ambassadors of the princes of Babylon, who sent to him to inquire of the wonder that was done in the land, God left him to test him, that he might know all that was in his heart.
32 Now the rest of the acts of Hezekiah and his good deeds, behold, they are written in the vision of Isaiah the prophet, the son of Amoz, in the book of the kings of Judah and Israel.

† **32:21** i.e., his own sons

33 Hezekiah slept with his fathers, and they buried him in the ascent to the tombs of the sons of David. All Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem honored him at his death. Manasseh his son reigned in his place.

33

1 Manasseh was twelve years old when he began to reign, and he reigned fifty-five years in Jerusalem.
2 He did that which was evil in the LORD's sight, after the abominations of the nations whom the LORD cast out before the children of Israel.
3 For he built again the high places which Hezekiah his father had broken down; and he raised up altars for the Baals, made Asheroth, and worshiped all the army of the sky, and served them.
4 He built altars in the LORD's house, of which the LORD said, "My name shall be in Jerusalem forever."
5 He built altars for all the army of the sky in the two courts of the LORD's house.
6 He also made his children to pass through the fire in the valley of the son of Hinnom. He practiced sorcery, divination, and witchcraft, and dealt with those who had familiar spirits and with wizards. He did much evil in the LORD's sight, to provoke him to anger.
7 He set the engraved image of the idol, which he had made, in God's house, of which God said to David and to Solomon his son, "In this house, and in Jerusalem, which I have chosen out of all the tribes of Israel, I will put my name forever.
8 I will not any more remove the foot of Israel from off the land which I have appointed for your fathers, if only they will observe to do all that I have commanded them, even all the law, the statutes, and the ordinances given by Moses."
9 Manasseh seduced Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so that they did more evil than did the nations whom the LORD destroyed before the children of Israel.
10 The LORD spoke to Manasseh and to his people, but they didn't listen.
11 Therefore the LORD brought on them the captains of the army of the king of Assyria, who took Manasseh in chains, bound him with fetters, and carried him to Babylon.
12 When he was in distress, he begged the LORD his God, and humbled himself greatly before the God of his fathers.
13 He prayed to him; and he was entreated by him, and heard his supplication, and brought him again to Jerusalem into his kingdom. Then Manasseh knew that the LORD was God.
14 Now after this, he built an outer wall to David's city on the west side of Gihon, in the valley, even to the entrance at the fish gate. He encircled Ophel with it, and raised it up to a very great height; and he put valiant captains in all the fortified cities of Judah.
15 He took away the foreign gods and the idol out of the LORD's house, and all the altars that he had built in the mountain of the LORD's house and in Jerusalem, and cast them out of the city.
16 He built up the LORD's altar, and offered sacrifices of peace offerings and of thanksgiving on it, and commanded Judah to serve the LORD, the God of Israel.
17 Nevertheless the people still sacrificed in the high places, but only to the LORD their God.
18 Now the rest of the acts of Manasseh, and his prayer to his God, and the words of the seers who spoke to him in the name of the LORD, the God of Israel, behold, they are written among the acts of the kings of Israel.
19 His prayer also, and how God listened to his request, and all his sin and his trespass, and the places in which he built high places and set up the Asherah poles and the engraved images before he humbled himself: behold, they are written in the history of Hozai.†
20 So Manasseh slept with his fathers, and they buried him in his own house; and Amon his son reigned in his place.
21 Amon was twenty-two years old when he began to reign; and he reigned

† **33:19** or, the seers

two years in Jerusalem.
22 He did that which was evil in the
LORD's sight, as did Manasseh his father;
and Amon sacrificed to all the engraved
images which Manasseh his father had
made, and served them.
23 He didn't humble himself before the
LORD, as Manasseh his father had
humbled himself; but this same Amon
trespassed more and more.
24 His servants conspired against him,
and put him to death in his own house.
25 But the people of the land killed all
those who had conspired against King
Amon; and the people of the land made
Josiah his son king in his place.

34

1 Josiah was eight years old when he
began to reign, and he reigned thirty-one
years in Jerusalem.
2 He did that which was right in the
LORD's eyes, and walked in the ways of
David his father, and didn't turn away to
the right hand or to the left.
3 For in the eighth year of his reign,
while he was yet young, he began to seek
after the God of David his father; and in
the twelfth year he began to purge Judah
and Jerusalem from the high places, the
Asherah poles, the engraved images, and
the molten images.
4 They broke down the altars of the
Baals in his presence; and he cut down the
incense altars that were on high above
them. He broke the Asherah poles, the
engraved images, and the molten images
in pieces, made dust of them, and
scattered it on the graves of those who
had sacrificed to them.
5 He burned the bones of the priests on
their altars, and purged Judah and
Jerusalem.
6 He did this in the cities of Manasseh,
Ephraim, and Simeon, even to Naphtali,
around in their ruins.
7 He broke down the altars, beat the
Asherah poles and the engraved images
into powder, and cut down all the incense
altars throughout all the land of Israel,
then returned to Jerusalem.
8 Now in the eighteenth year of his
reign, when he had purged the land and
the house, he sent Shaphan the son of
Azaliah, Maaseiah the governor of the
city, and Joah the son of Joahaz the
recorder to repair the house of the LORD
his God.
9 They came to Hilkiah the high priest
and delivered the money that was
brought into God's house, which the
Levites, the keepers of the threshold, had
gathered from the hands of Manasseh,
Ephraim, of all the remnant of Israel, of
all Judah and Benjamin, and of the
inhabitants of Jerusalem.
10 They delivered it into the hands of the
workmen who had the oversight of the
LORD's house; and the workmen who
labored in the LORD's house gave it to
mend and repair the house.
11 They gave it to the carpenters and to
the builders to buy cut stone and timber
for couplings, and to make beams for the
houses which the kings of Judah had
destroyed.
12 The men did the work faithfully.
Their overseers were Jahath and Obadiah
the Levites, of the sons of Merari; and
Zechariah and Meshullam, of the sons of
the Kohathites, to give direction; and
others of the Levites, who were all skillful
with musical instruments.
13 Also they were over the bearers of
burdens, and directed all who did the
work in every kind of service. Of the
Levites, there were scribes, officials, and
gatekeepers.
14 When they brought out the money
that was brought into the LORD's house,
Hilkiah the priest found the book of the
LORD's law given by Moses.
15 Hilkiah answered Shaphan the
scribe, "I have found the book of the law
in the LORD's house." So Hilkiah
delivered the book to Shaphan.
16 Shaphan carried the book to the king,
and moreover brought back word to the
king, saying, "All that was committed to
your servants, they are doing.
17 They have emptied out the money
that was found in the LORD's house, and

have delivered it into the hand of the overseers and into the hand of the workmen."
18 Shaphan the scribe told the king, saying, "Hilkiah the priest has delivered me a book." Shaphan read from it to the king.

19 When the king had heard the words of the law, he tore his clothes.
20 The king commanded Hilkiah, Ahikam the son of Shaphan, Abdon the son of Micah, Shaphan the scribe, and Asaiah the king's servant, saying,
21 "Go inquire of the LORD for me, and for those who are left in Israel and in Judah, concerning the words of the book that is found; for great is the LORD's wrath that is poured out on us, because our fathers have not kept the LORD's word, to do according to all that is written in this book."
22 So Hilkiah and those whom the king had commanded went to Huldah the prophetess, the wife of Shallum the son of Tokhath, the son of Hasrah, keeper of the wardrobe (now she lived in Jerusalem in the second quarter), and they spoke to her to that effect.
23 She said to them, "The LORD, the God of Israel says: 'Tell the man who sent you to me,
24 "The LORD says, 'Behold, I will bring evil on this place and on its inhabitants, even all the curses that are written in the book which they have read before the king of Judah.
25 Because they have forsaken me, and have burned incense to other gods, that they might provoke me to anger with all the works of their hands, therefore my wrath is poured out on this place, and it will not be quenched.' " '
26 But to the king of Judah, who sent you to inquire of the LORD, you shall tell him this, 'The LORD, the God of Israel says: "About the words which you have heard,
27 because your heart was tender, and you humbled yourself before God when you heard his words against this place and against its inhabitants, and have humbled yourself before me, and have torn your clothes and wept before me, I also have heard you," says the LORD.
28 "Behold, I will gather you to your fathers, and you will be gathered to your grave in peace. Your eyes won't see all the evil that I will bring on this place and on its inhabitants." ' "

They brought back this message to the king.

29 Then the king sent and gathered together all the elders of Judah and Jerusalem.
30 The king went up to the LORD's house with all the men of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem—the priests, the Levites, and all the people, both great and small—and he read in their hearing all the words of the book of the covenant that was found in the LORD's house.
31 The king stood in his place and made a covenant before the LORD, to walk after the LORD, and to keep his commandments, his testimonies, and his statutes with all his heart and with all his soul, to perform the words of the covenant that were written in this book.
32 He caused all who were found in Jerusalem and Benjamin to stand. The inhabitants of Jerusalem did according to the covenant of God, the God of their fathers.
33 Josiah took away all the abominations out of all the countries that belonged to the children of Israel, and made all who were found in Israel to serve, even to serve the LORD their God. All his days they didn't depart from following the LORD, the God of their fathers.

35

1 Josiah kept a Passover to the LORD in Jerusalem. They killed the Passover on the fourteenth day of the first month.
2 He set the priests in their offices and encouraged them in the service of the LORD's house.
3 He said to the Levites who taught all Israel, who were holy to the LORD, "Put the holy ark in the house which Solomon the son of David king of Israel built. It will no longer be a burden on your shoulders.

Now serve the LORD your God and his
people Israel.
4 Prepare yourselves after your fathers'
houses by your divisions, according to the
writing of David king of Israel, and
according to the writing of Solomon his
son.
5 Stand in the holy place according to
the divisions of the fathers' houses of your
brothers the children of the people, and
let there be for each a portion of a fathers'
house of the Levites.
6 Kill the Passover lamb, sanctify
yourselves, and prepare for your
brothers, to do according to the LORD's
word by Moses."
7 Josiah gave to the children of the
people, of the flock, lambs and young
goats, all of them for the Passover
offerings, to all who were present, to the
number of thirty thousand, and three
thousand bulls. These were of the king's
substance.
8 His princes gave a free will offering to
the people, to the priests, and to the
Levites. Hilkiah, Zechariah, and Jehiel,
the rulers of God's house, gave to the
priests for the Passover offerings two
thousand six hundred small livestock, and
three hundred head of cattle.
9 Conaniah also, and Shemaiah and
Nethanel, his brothers, and Hashabiah,
Jeiel, and Jozabad, the chiefs of the
Levites, gave to the Levites for the
Passover offerings five thousand small
livestock and five hundred head of cattle.
10 So the service was prepared, and the
priests stood in their place, and the
Levites by their divisions, according to the
king's commandment.
11 They killed the Passover lambs, and
the priests sprinkled the blood which they
received from their hands, and the
Levites skinned them.
12 They removed the burnt offerings,
that they might give them according to the
divisions of the fathers' houses of the
children of the people, to offer to the
LORD, as it is written in the book of Moses.
They did the same with the cattle.
13 They roasted the Passover with fire
according to the ordinance. They boiled
the holy offerings in pots, in cauldrons,
and in pans, and carried them quickly to
all the children of the people.
14 Afterward they prepared for
themselves and for the priests, because
the priests the sons of Aaron were busy
with offering the burnt offerings and the
fat until night. Therefore the Levites
prepared for themselves and for the
priests the sons of Aaron.
15 The singers, the sons of Asaph, were
in their place, according to the
commandment of David, Asaph, Heman,
and Jeduthun the king's seer; and the
gatekeepers were at every gate. They
didn't need to depart from their service,
because their brothers the Levites
prepared for them.
16 So all the service of the LORD was
prepared the same day, to keep the
Passover, and to offer burnt offerings on
the LORD's altar, according to the
commandment of King Josiah.
17 The children of Israel who were
present kept the Passover at that time, and
the feast of unleavened bread seven days.
18 There was no Passover like that kept
in Israel from the days of Samuel the
prophet, nor did any of the kings of Israel
keep such a Passover as Josiah kept—with
the priests, the Levites, and all Judah and
Israel who were present, and the
inhabitants of Jerusalem.
19 This Passover was kept in the
eighteenth year of the reign of Josiah.
20 After all this, when Josiah had
prepared the temple, Neco king of Egypt
went up to fight against Carchemish by
the Euphrates, and Josiah went out
against him.
21 But he sent ambassadors to him,
saying, "What have I to do with you, you
king of Judah? I come not against you
today, but against the house with which I
have war. God has commanded me to
make haste. Beware that it is God who is
with me, that he not destroy you."
22 Nevertheless Josiah would not turn
his face from him, but disguised himself,
that he might fight with him, and didn't
listen to the words of Neco from the

mouth of God, and came to fight in the valley of Megiddo.
23 The archers shot at King Josiah; and the king said to his servants, “Take me away, because I am seriously wounded!”
24 So his servants took him out of the chariot, and put him in the second chariot that he had, and brought him to Jerusalem; and he died, and was buried in the tombs of his fathers. All Judah and Jerusalem mourned for Josiah.
25 Jeremiah lamented for Josiah, and all the singing men and singing women spoke of Josiah in their lamentations to this day; and they made them an ordinance in Israel. Behold, they are written in the lamentations.
26 Now the rest of the acts of Josiah and his good deeds, according to that which is written in the LORD’s law,
27 and his acts, first and last, behold, they are written in the book of the kings of Israel and Judah.

36

1 Then the people of the land took Jehoahaz the son of Josiah, and made him king in his father’s place in Jerusalem.
2 Joahaz was twenty-three years old when he began to reign; and he reigned three months in Jerusalem.
3 The king of Egypt removed him from office at Jerusalem, and fined the land one hundred talents of silver and a talent† of gold.
4 The king of Egypt made Eliakim his brother king over Judah and Jerusalem, and changed his name to Jehoiakim. Neco took Joahaz his brother, and carried him to Egypt.
5 Jehoiakim was twenty-five years old when he began to reign, and he reigned eleven years in Jerusalem. He did that which was evil in the LORD his God’s sight.
6 Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came up against him, and bound him in fetters to carry him to Babylon.
7 Nebuchadnezzar also carried some of the vessels of the LORD’s house to Babylon, and put them in his temple at Babylon.
8 Now the rest of the acts of Jehoiakim, and his abominations which he did, and that which was found in him, behold, they are written in the book of the kings of Israel and Judah; and Jehoiachin his son reigned in his place.
9 Jehoiachin was eight years old when he began to reign, and he reigned three months and ten days in Jerusalem. He did that which was evil in the LORD’s sight.
10 At the return of the year, King Nebuchadnezzar sent and brought him to Babylon, with the valuable vessels of the LORD’s house, and made Zedekiah his brother king over Judah and Jerusalem.
11 Zedekiah was twenty-one years old when he began to reign, and he reigned eleven years in Jerusalem.
12 He did that which was evil in the LORD his God’s sight. He didn’t humble himself before Jeremiah the prophet speaking from the LORD’s mouth.
13 He also rebelled against King Nebuchadnezzar, who had made him swear by God; but he stiffened his neck, and hardened his heart against turning to the LORD, the God of Israel.
14 Moreover all the chiefs of the priests and the people trespassed very greatly after all the abominations of the nations; and they polluted the LORD’s house which he had made holy in Jerusalem.
15 The LORD, the God of their fathers, sent to them by his messengers, rising up early and sending, because he had compassion on his people and on his dwelling place;
16 but they mocked the messengers of God, despised his words, and scoffed at his prophets, until the LORD’s wrath arose against his people, until there was no remedy.
17 Therefore he brought on them the king of the Chaldeans, who killed their young men with the sword in the house of

36:2 *Joahaz* is a variant of *Jehoahaz*. † **36:3** A talent is about 30 kilograms or 66 pounds or 965 Troy ounces **36:4** *Joahaz* is a variant of *Jehoahaz*.

their sanctuary, and had no compassion
on young man or virgin, old man or
infirm. He gave them all into his hand.
18 All the vessels of God's house, great
and small, and the treasures of the LORD's
house, and the treasures of the king and
of his princes, all these he brought to
Babylon.
19 They burned God's house, broke
down the wall of Jerusalem, burned all its
palaces with fire, and destroyed all of its
valuable vessels.
20 He carried those who had escaped
from the sword away to Babylon, and they
were servants to him and his sons until
the reign of the kingdom of Persia,
21 to fulfill the LORD's word by
Jeremiah's mouth, until the land had
enjoyed its Sabbaths. As long as it lay
desolate, it kept Sabbath, to fulfill seventy
years.
22 Now in the first year of Cyrus king of
Persia, that the LORD's word by the mouth
of Jeremiah might be accomplished, the
LORD stirred up the spirit of Cyrus king of
Persia, so that he made a proclamation
throughout all his kingdom, and put it
also in writing, saying,
23 "Cyrus king of Persia says, 'The LORD,
the God of heaven, has given all the
kingdoms of the earth to me; and he has
commanded me to build him a house in
Jerusalem, which is in Judah. Whoever
there is among you of all his people, the
LORD his God be with him, and let him go
up.' "

The Book of Ezra

1 Now in the first year of Cyrus king of
Persia, that the LORD's† word by
Jeremiah's mouth might be accomplished,
the LORD stirred up the spirit of Cyrus
king of Persia, so that he made a
proclamation throughout all his kingdom,
and put it also in writing, saying,
2 "Cyrus king of Persia says, 'The LORD,
the God‡ of heaven, has given me all the
kingdoms of the earth; and he has
commanded me to build him a house in
Jerusalem, which is in Judah.
3 Whoever there is among you of all his
people, may his God be with him, and let
him go up to Jerusalem, which is in Judah,
and build the house of the LORD, the God
of Israel (he is God), which is in Jerusalem.
4 Whoever is left, in any place where he
lives, let the men of his place help him
with silver, with gold, with goods, and
with animals, in addition to the free will
offering for God's house which is in
Jerusalem.' "

5 Then the heads of fathers' households
of Judah and Benjamin, the priests and
the Levites, all whose spirit God had
stirred to go up, rose up to build the
LORD's house which is in Jerusalem.
6 All those who were around them
strengthened their hands with vessels of
silver, with gold, with goods, with
animals, and with precious things, in
addition to all that was willingly offered.
7 Also Cyrus the king brought out the
vessels of the LORD's house, which
Nebuchadnezzar had brought out of
Jerusalem, and had put in the house of his
gods;
8 even those, Cyrus king of Persia
brought out by the hand of Mithredath the
treasurer, and counted them out to
Sheshbazzar the prince of Judah.
9 This is the number of them: thirty
platters of gold, one thousand platters of
silver, twenty-nine knives,
10 thirty bowls of gold, four hundred ten
silver bowls of a second kind, and one
thousand other vessels.
11 All the vessels of gold and of silver
were five thousand four hundred.
Sheshbazzar brought all these up when
the captives were brought up from
Babylon to Jerusalem.

2

1 Now these are the children of the
province who went up out of the captivity
of those who had been carried away,
whom Nebuchadnezzar the king of
Babylon had carried away to Babylon,
and who returned to Jerusalem and
Judah, everyone to his city;
2 who came with Zerubbabel, Jeshua,
Nehemiah, Seraiah, Reelaiah, Mordecai,
Bilshan, Mispar, Bigvai, Rehum, and
Baanah.
The number of the men of the people of
Israel:
3 The children of Parosh, two thousand
one hundred seventy-two.
4 The children of Shephatiah, three
hundred seventy-two.
5 The children of Arah, seven hundred
seventy-five.
6 The children of Pahathmoab, of the
children of Jeshua and Joab, two thousand
eight hundred twelve.
7 The children of Elam, one thousand
two hundred fifty-four.
8 The children of Zattu, nine hundred
forty-five.
9 The children of Zaccai, seven hundred
sixty.
10 The children of Bani, six hundred
forty-two.
11 The children of Bebai, six hundred
twenty-three.
12 The children of Azgad, one thousand
two hundred twenty-two.
13 The children of Adonikam, six
hundred sixty-six.

† **1:1** When rendered in ALL CAPITAL LETTERS, "LORD" or "GOD" is the translation of God's Proper Name (Hebrew "יהוה", usually pronounced Yahweh). ‡ **1:2** The Hebrew word rendered "God" is "אֱלֹהִים" (Elohim).

14 The children of Bigvai, two thousand
fifty-six.
15 The children of Adin, four hundred
fifty-four.
16 The children of Ater, of Hezekiah,
ninety-eight.
17 The children of Bezai, three hundred
twenty-three.
18 The children of Jorah, one hundred
twelve.
19 The children of Hashum, two
hundred twenty-three.
20 The children of Gibbar, ninety-five.
21 The children of Bethlehem, one
hundred twenty-three.
22 The men of Netophah, fifty-six.
23 The men of Anathoth, one hundred
twenty-eight.
24 The children of Azmaveth, forty-two.
25 The children of Kiriath Arim,
Chephirah, and Beeroth, seven hundred
forty-three.
26 The children of Ramah and Geba, six
hundred twenty-one.
27 The men of Michmas, one hundred
twenty-two.
28 The men of Bethel and Ai, two
hundred twenty-three.
29 The children of Nebo, fifty-two.
30 The children of Magbish, one
hundred fifty-six.
31 The children of the other Elam, one
thousand two hundred fifty-four.
32 The children of Harim, three hundred
twenty.
33 The children of Lod, Hadid, and Ono,
seven hundred twenty-five.
34 The children of Jericho, three
hundred forty-five.
35 The children of Senaah, three
thousand six hundred thirty.

36 The priests: the children of Jedaiah, of
the house of Jeshua, nine hundred
seventy-three.
37 The children of Immer, one thousand
fifty-two.
38 The children of Pashhur, one
thousand two hundred forty-seven.
39 The children of Harim, one thousand
seventeen.

40 The Levites: the children of Jeshua
and Kadmiel, of the children of Hodaviah,
seventy-four.
41 The singers: the children of Asaph,
one hundred twenty-eight.
42 The children of the gatekeepers: the
children of Shallum, the children of Ater,
the children of Talmon, the children of
Akkub, the children of Hatita, the children
of Shobai, in all one hundred thirty-nine.

43 The temple servants: the children of
Ziha, the children of Hasupha, the
children of Tabbaoth,
44 the children of Keros, the children of
Siaha, the children of Padon,
45 the children of Lebanah, the children
of Hagabah, the children of Akkub,
46 the children of Hagab, the children of
Shamlai, the children of Hanan,
47 the children of Giddel, the children of
Gahar, the children of Reaiah,
48 the children of Rezin, the children of
Nekoda, the children of Gazzam,
49 the children of Uzza, the children of
Paseah, the children of Besai,
50 the children of Asnah, the children of
Meunim, the children of Nephisim,
51 the children of Bakbuk, the children
of Hakupha, the children of Harhur,
52 the children of Bazluth, the children
of Mehida, the children of Harsha,
53 the children of Barkos, the children of
Sisera, the children of Temah,
54 the children of Neziah, the children of
Hatipha.

55 The children of Solomon's servants:
the children of Sotai, the children of
Hassophereth, the children of Peruda,
56 the children of Jaalah, the children of
Darkon, the children of Giddel,
57 the children of Shephatiah, the
children of Hattil, the children of
Pochereth Hazzebaim, the children of
Ami.
58 All the temple servants, and the
children of Solomon's servants, were
three hundred ninety-two.

59 These were those who went up from
Tel Melah, Tel Harsha, Cherub, Addan,
and Immer; but they could not show their

† **2:59** or, seed

fathers' houses and their offspring,† whether they were of Israel:
60 the children of Delaiah, the children of Tobiah, the children of Nekoda, six hundred fifty-two.
61 Of the children of the priests: the children of Habaiah, the children of Hakkoz, and the children of Barzillai, who took a wife of the daughters of Barzillai the Gileadite, and was called after their name.
62 These sought their place among those who were registered by genealogy, but they were not found; therefore they were deemed disqualified and removed from the priesthood.
63 The governor told them that they should not eat of the most holy things until a priest stood up to serve with Urim and with Thummim.
64 The whole assembly together was forty-two thousand three hundred sixty,
65 in addition to their male servants and their female servants, of whom there were seven thousand three hundred thirty-seven; and they had two hundred singing men and singing women.
66 Their horses were seven hundred thirty-six; their mules, two hundred forty-five;
67 their camels, four hundred thirty-five; their donkeys, six thousand seven hundred twenty.
68 Some of the heads of fathers' households, when they came to the LORD's house which is in Jerusalem, offered willingly for God's house to set it up in its place.
69 They gave according to their ability into the treasury of the work sixty-one thousand darics of gold,‡ five thousand minas§ of silver, and one hundred priests' garments.
70 So the priests and the Levites, with some of the people, the singers, the gatekeepers, and the temple servants, lived in their cities, and all Israel in their cities.

3

1 When the seventh month had come, and the children of Israel were in the cities, the people gathered themselves together as one man to Jerusalem.
2 Then Jeshua the son of Jozadak stood up with his brothers the priests and Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel and his relatives, and built the altar of the God of Israel, to offer burnt offerings on it, as it is written in the law of Moses the man of God.
3 In spite of their fear because of the peoples of the surrounding lands, they set the altar on its base; and they offered burnt offerings on it to the LORD, even burnt offerings morning and evening.
4 They kept the feast of booths, as it is written, and offered the daily burnt offerings by number, according to the ordinance, as the duty of every day required;
5 and afterward the continual burnt offering, the offerings of the new moons, of all the set feasts of the LORD that were consecrated, and of everyone who willingly offered a free will offering to the LORD.
6 From the first day of the seventh month, they began to offer burnt offerings to the LORD; but the foundation of the LORD's temple was not yet laid.
7 They also gave money to the masons and to the carpenters. They also gave food, drink, and oil to the people of Sidon and Tyre to bring cedar trees from Lebanon to the sea, to Joppa, according to the grant that they had from Cyrus King of Persia.
8 Now in the second year of their coming to God's house at Jerusalem, in the second month, Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, Jeshua the son of Jozadak, and the rest of their brothers the priests and the Levites, and all those who had come out of the captivity to Jerusalem, began the work and appointed the Levites, from twenty years old and upward, to have the oversight of the work of the LORD's house.

‡ **2:69** a daric was a gold coin issued by a Persian king, weighing about 8.4 grams or about 0.27 troy ounces each.
§ **2:69** A mina is about 600 grams or 1.3 U. S. pounds, so 5,000 minas is about 3 metric tons.

9 Then Jeshua stood with his sons and
his brothers, Kadmiel and his sons, the
sons of Judah, together to have the
oversight of the workmen in God's house:
the sons of Henadad, with their sons and
their brothers the Levites.
10 When the builders laid the
foundation of the LORD's temple, they set
the priests in their vestments with
trumpets, with the Levites the sons of
Asaph with cymbals, to praise the LORD,
according to the directions of David king
of Israel.
11 They sang to one another in praising
and giving thanks to the LORD, "For he is
good, for his loving kindness endures
forever toward Israel." All the people
shouted with a great shout, when they
praised the LORD, because the foundation
of the LORD's house had been laid.
12 But many of the priests and Levites
and heads of fathers' households, the old
men who had seen the first house, when
the foundation of this house was laid
before their eyes, wept with a loud voice.
Many also shouted aloud for joy,
13 so that the people could not discern
the noise of the shout of joy from the noise
of the weeping of the people; for the
people shouted with a loud shout, and the
noise was heard far away.

4

1 Now when the adversaries of Judah
and Benjamin heard that the children of
the captivity were building a temple to the
LORD, the God of Israel,
2 they came near to Zerubbabel, and to
the heads of fathers' households, and said
to them, "Let us build with you, for we
seek your God as you do; and we have
been sacrificing to him since the days of
Esar Haddon king of Assyria, who
brought us up here."
3 But Zerubbabel, Jeshua, and the rest of
the heads of fathers' households of Israel
said to them, "You have nothing to do with
us in building a house to our God; but we
ourselves together will build to the LORD,
the God of Israel, as King Cyrus the king of
Persia has commanded us."
4 Then the people of the land weakened
the hands of the people of Judah, and
troubled them in building.
5 They hired counselors against them to
frustrate their purpose all the days of
Cyrus king of Persia, even until the reign
of Darius king of Persia.
6 In the reign of Ahasuerus, in the
beginning of his reign, they wrote an
accusation against the inhabitants of
Judah and Jerusalem.
7 In the days of Artaxerxes, Bishlam,
Mithredath, Tabeel, and the rest of his
companions wrote to Artaxerxes king of
Persia; and the writing of the letter was
written in Syrian and delivered in the
Syrian language.
8 Rehum the chancellor and Shimshai
the scribe wrote a letter against Jerusalem
to Artaxerxes the king as follows.
9 Then Rehum the chancellor, Shimshai
the scribe, and the rest of their
companions, the Dinaites, and the
Apharsathchites, the Tarpelites, the
Apharsites, the Archevites, the
Babylonians, the Shushanchites, the
Dehaites, the Elamites,
10 and the rest of the nations whom the
great and noble Osnappar brought over
and settled in the city of Samaria, and in
the rest of the country beyond the River,
and so forth, wrote.
11 This is the copy of the letter that they
sent:

> To King Artaxerxes, from your servants,
> the people beyond the River.
> 12 Be it known to the king that the
> Jews who came up from you have come
> to us to Jerusalem. They are building
> the rebellious and bad city, and have
> finished the walls and repaired the
> foundations.
> 13 Be it known now to the king that if
> this city is built and the walls finished,
> they will not pay tribute, custom, or toll,
> and in the end it will be hurtful to the
> kings.
> 14 Now because we eat the salt of the
> palace and it is not appropriate for us to
> see the king's dishonor, therefore we have
> sent and informed the king,

15 that search may be made in the
book of the records of your fathers. You
will see in the book of the records, and
know that this city is a rebellious city, and
hurtful to kings and provinces, and that
they have started rebellions within it in
the past. That is why this city was
destroyed.
16 We inform the king that if this city
is built and the walls finished, then you
will have no possession beyond the River.

17 Then the king sent an answer to
Rehum the chancellor, and to Shimshai
the scribe, and to the rest of their
companions who live in Samaria, and in
the rest of the country beyond the River:

Peace.

18 The letter which you sent to us has
been plainly read before me.
19 I decreed, and search has been
made, and it was found that this city has
made insurrection against kings in the
past, and that rebellion and revolts have
been made in it.
20 There have also been mighty kings
over Jerusalem who have ruled over all
the country beyond the River; and tribute,
custom, and toll was paid to them.
21 Make a decree now to cause these
men to cease, and that this city not be
built until a decree is made by me.
22 Be careful that you not be slack
doing so. Why should damage grow to the
hurt of the kings?

23 Then when the copy of King
Artaxerxes' letter was read before
Rehum, Shimshai the scribe, and their
companions, they went in haste to
Jerusalem to the Jews, and made them to
cease by force of arms.
24 Then work stopped on God's house
which is at Jerusalem. It stopped until the
second year of the reign of Darius king of
Persia.

5

1 Now the prophets, Haggai the prophet
and Zechariah the son of Iddo, prophesied
to the Jews who were in Judah and
Jerusalem. They prophesied to them in
the name of the God of Israel.
2 Then Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel,
and Jeshua the son of Jozadak rose up and
began to build God's house which is at
Jerusalem; and with them were the
prophets of God, helping them.
3 At the same time Tattenai, the
governor beyond the River, came to them,
with Shetharbozenai and their
companions, and asked them, "Who gave
you a decree to build this house and to
finish this wall?"
4 They also asked for the names of the
men who were making this building.
5 But the eye of their God was on the
elders of the Jews, and they didn't make
them cease until the matter should come
to Darius, and an answer should be
returned by letter concerning it.
6 The copy of the letter that Tattenai, the
governor beyond the River, and
Shetharbozenai, and his companions the
Apharsachites who were beyond the
River, sent to Darius the king follows.
7 They sent a letter to him, in which was
written:

To Darius the king, all peace.
8 Be it known to the king that we went
into the province of Judah, to the house
of the great God, which is being built
with great stones and timber is laid in
the walls. This work goes on with
diligence and prospers in their hands.
9 Then we asked those elders, and said
to them thus, "Who gave you a decree to
build this house, and to finish this wall?"
10 We asked them their names also, to
inform you that we might write the names
of the men who were at their head.
11 Thus they returned us answer,
saying, "We are the servants of the God of
heaven and earth and are building the
house that was built these many years
ago, which a great king of Israel built and
finished.
12 But after our fathers had provoked
the God of heaven to wrath, he gave them
into the hand of Nebuchadnezzar king of
Babylon, the Chaldean, who destroyed

this house and carried the people away into Babylon.

13 But in the first year of Cyrus king of Babylon, Cyrus the king made a decree to build this house of God.

14 The gold and silver vessels of God's house, which Nebuchadnezzar took out of the temple that was in Jerusalem and brought into the temple of Babylon, those Cyrus the king also took out of the temple of Babylon, and they were delivered to one whose name was Sheshbazzar, whom he had made governor.

15 He said to him, 'Take these vessels, go, put them in the temple that is in Jerusalem, and let God's house be built in its place.'

16 Then the same Sheshbazzar came and laid the foundations of God's house which is in Jerusalem. Since that time even until now it has been being built, and yet it is not completed.

17 Now therefore, if it seems good to the king, let a search be made in the king's treasure house, which is there at Babylon, whether it is so that a decree was made by Cyrus the king to build this house of God at Jerusalem; and let the king send his pleasure to us concerning this matter."

6

1 Then Darius the king made a decree, and the house of the archives, where the treasures were laid up in Babylon, was searched.

2 A scroll was found at Achmetha, in the palace that is in the province of Media, and in it this was written for a record:

3 In the first year of Cyrus the king, Cyrus the king made a decree: Concerning God's house at Jerusalem, let the house be built, the place where they offer sacrifices, and let its foundations be strongly laid, with its height sixty cubits† and its width sixty cubits;

4 with three courses of great stones and a course of new timber. Let the expenses be given out of the king's house.

5 Also let the gold and silver vessels of God's house, which Nebuchadnezzar took out of the temple which is at Jerusalem and brought to Babylon, be restored and brought again to the temple which is at Jerusalem, everything to its place. You shall put them in God's house.

6 Now therefore, Tattenai, governor beyond the River, Shetharbozenai, and your companions the Apharsachites, who are beyond the River, you must stay far from there.

7 Leave the work of this house of God alone; let the governor of the Jews and the elders of the Jews build this house of God in its place.

8 Moreover I make a decree regarding what you shall do for these elders of the Jews for the building of this house of God: that of the king's goods, even of the tribute beyond the River, expenses must be given with all diligence to these men, that they not be hindered.

9 That which they have need of, including young bulls, rams, and lambs, for burnt offerings to the God of heaven; also wheat, salt, wine, and oil, according to the word of the priests who are at Jerusalem, let it be given them day by day without fail,

10 that they may offer sacrifices of pleasant aroma to the God of heaven, and pray for the life of the king and of his sons.

11 I have also made a decree that whoever alters this message, let a beam be pulled out from his house, and let him be lifted up and fastened on it; and let his house be made a dunghill for this.

12 May the God who has caused his name to dwell there overthrow all kings and peoples who stretch out their hand to alter this, to destroy this house of God which is at Jerusalem. I Darius have made a decree. Let it be done with all diligence.

13 Then Tattenai, the governor beyond

† **6:3** A cubit is the length from the tip of the middle finger to the elbow on a man's arm, or about 18 inches or 46 centimeters.

the River, Shetharbozenai, and their companions did accordingly with all diligence, because Darius the king had sent a decree.
14 The elders of the Jews built and prospered, through the prophesying of Haggai the prophet and Zechariah the son of Iddo. They built and finished it, according to the commandment of the God of Israel, and according to the decree of Cyrus, Darius, and Artaxerxes king of Persia.
15 This house was finished on the third day of the month Adar, which was in the sixth year of the reign of Darius the king.
16 The children of Israel, the priests, the Levites, and the rest of the children of the captivity, kept the dedication of this house of God with joy.
17 They offered at the dedication of this house of God one hundred bulls, two hundred rams, four hundred lambs; and for a sin offering for all Israel, twelve male goats, according to the number of the tribes of Israel.
18 They set the priests in their divisions and the Levites in their courses, for the service of God which is at Jerusalem, as it is written in the book of Moses.
19 The children of the captivity kept the Passover on the fourteenth day of the first month.
20 Because the priests and the Levites had purified themselves together, all of them were pure. They killed the Passover for all the children of the captivity, for their brothers the priests, and for themselves.
21 The children of Israel who had returned out of the captivity, and all who had separated themselves to them from the filthiness of the nations of the land to seek the LORD, the God of Israel, ate,
22 and kept the feast of unleavened bread seven days with joy; because the LORD had made them joyful, and had turned the heart of the king of Assyria to them, to strengthen their hands in the work of God, the God of Israel's house.

7

1 Now after these things, in the reign of Artaxerxes king of Persia, Ezra the son of Seraiah, the son of Azariah, the son of Hilkiah,
2 the son of Shallum, the son of Zadok, the son of Ahitub,
3 the son of Amariah, the son of Azariah, the son of Meraioth,
4 the son of Zerahiah, the son of Uzzi, the son of Bukki,
5 the son of Abishua, the son of Phinehas, the son of Eleazar, the son of Aaron the chief priest—
6 this Ezra went up from Babylon. He was a skilled scribe in the law of Moses, which the LORD, the God of Israel, had given; and the king granted him all his request, according to the LORD his God's hand on him.
7 Some of the children of Israel, including some of the priests, the Levites, the singers, the gatekeepers, and the temple servants went up to Jerusalem in the seventh year of Artaxerxes the king.
8 He came to Jerusalem in the fifth month, which was in the seventh year of the king.
9 For on the first day of the first month he began to go up from Babylon; and on the first day of the fifth month he came to Jerusalem, according to the good hand of his God on him.
10 For Ezra had set his heart to seek the LORD's law, and to do it, and to teach statutes and ordinances in Israel.

11 Now this is the copy of the letter that King Artaxerxes gave to Ezra the priest, the scribe, even the scribe of the words of the LORD's commandments, and of his statutes to Israel:

12 Artaxerxes, king of kings,
To Ezra the priest, the scribe of the law of the perfect God of heaven.
Now
13 I make a decree that all those of the people of Israel and their priests and the Levites in my realm, who intend of their own free will to go to Jerusalem, go with you.
14 Because you are sent by the king and his seven counselors to inquire concerning Judah and Jerusalem,

according to the law of your God which is in your hand,
15 and to carry the silver and gold, which the king and his counselors have freely offered to the God of Israel, whose habitation is in Jerusalem,
16 and all the silver and gold that you will find in all the province of Babylon, with the free will offering of the people and of the priests, offering willingly for the house of their God which is in Jerusalem.
17 Therefore you shall with all diligence buy with this money bulls, rams, and lambs with their meal offerings and their drink offerings, and shall offer them on the altar of the house of your God which is in Jerusalem.
18 Whatever seems good to you and to your brothers to do with the rest of the silver and the gold, do that according to the will of your God.
19 The vessels that are given to you for the service of the house of your God, deliver before the God of Jerusalem.
20 Whatever more will be needed for the house of your God, which you may have occasion to give, give it out of the king's treasure house.
21 I, even I, Artaxerxes the king, make a decree to all the treasurers who are beyond the River, that whatever Ezra the priest, the scribe of the law of the God of heaven, requires of you, it shall be done with all diligence,
22 up to one hundred talents† of silver, and to one hundred cors‡ of wheat, and to one hundred baths§ of wine, and to one hundred baths of oil, and salt without prescribing how much.
23 Whatever is commanded by the God of heaven, let it be done exactly for the house of the God of heaven; for why should there be wrath against the realm of the king and his sons?
24 Also we inform you that it shall not be lawful to impose tribute, custom, or toll on any of the priests, Levites, singers, gatekeepers, temple servants, or laborers of this house of God.
25 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 beyond the River, who all know the laws of your God; and teach him who doesn't know them.
26 Whoever will not do the law of your God and the law of the king, let judgment be executed on him with all diligence, whether it is to death, or to banishment, or to confiscation of goods, or to imprisonment.

27 Blessed be the LORD, the God of our fathers, who has put such a thing as this in the king's heart, to beautify the LORD's house which is in Jerusalem;
28 and has extended loving kindness to me before the king and his counselors, and before all the king's mighty princes. I was strengthened according to the LORD my God's hand on me, and I gathered together chief men out of Israel to go up with me.

8

1 Now these are the heads of their fathers' households, and this is the genealogy of those who went up with me from Babylon, in the reign of Artaxerxes the king:
2 Of the sons of Phinehas, Gershom.
Of the sons of Ithamar, Daniel.
Of the sons of David, Hattush.
3 Of the sons of Shecaniah, of the sons of Parosh, Zechariah; and with him were listed by genealogy of the males one hundred fifty.
4 Of the sons of Pahathmoab, Eliehoenai the son of Zerahiah; and with him two hundred males.
5 Of the sons of Shecaniah, the son of Jahaziel; and with him three hundred males.

† **7:22** A talent is about 30 kilograms or 66 pounds or 965 Troy ounces ‡ **7:22** 1 cor is the same as a homer, or about 55.9 U. S. gallons (liquid) or 211 liters or 6 bushels. § **7:22** 1 bath is one tenth of a cor, or about 5.6 U. S. gallons or 21 liters or 2.4 pecks. 100 baths would be about 2,100 liters.

6 Of the sons of Adin, Ebed the son of
Jonathan; and with him fifty males.
7 Of the sons of Elam, Jeshaiah the son of
Athaliah; and with him seventy
males.
8 Of the sons of Shephatiah, Zebadiah
the son of Michael; and with him
eighty males.
9 Of the sons of Joab, Obadiah the son of
Jehiel; and with him two hundred
eighteen males.
10 Of the sons of Shelomith, the son of
Josiphiah; and with him one hundred
sixty males.
11 Of the sons of Bebai, Zechariah the
son of Bebai; and with him
twenty-eight males.
12 Of the sons of Azgad, Johanan the son
of Hakkatan; and with him one
hundred ten males.
13 Of the sons of Adonikam, who were
the last, their names are: Eliphelet,
Jeuel, and Shemaiah; and with them
sixty males.
14 Of the sons of Bigvai, Uthai and
Zabbud; and with them seventy
males.
15 I gathered them together to the river
that runs to Ahava; and there we
encamped three days. Then I looked
around at the people and the priests, and
found there were none of the sons of Levi.
16 Then I sent for Eliezer, for Ariel, for
Shemaiah, for Elnathan, for Jarib, for
Elnathan, for Nathan, for Zechariah, and
for Meshullam, chief men; also for Joiarib
and for Elnathan, who were teachers.
17 I sent them out to Iddo the chief at the
place Casiphia; and I told them what they
should tell Iddo and his brothers the
temple servants at the place Casiphia, that
they should bring to us ministers for the
house of our God.
18 According to the good hand of our
God on us they brought us a man of
discretion, of the sons of Mahli, the son of
Levi, the son of Israel, namely Sherebiah,
with his sons and his brothers, eighteen;
19 and Hashabiah, and with him
Jeshaiah of the sons of Merari, his
brothers and their sons, twenty;
20 and of the temple servants, whom
David and the princes had given for the
service of the Levites, two hundred
twenty temple servants. All of them were
mentioned by name.
21 Then I proclaimed a fast there at the
river Ahava, that we might humble
ourselves before our God, to seek from
him a straight way for us, for our little
ones, and for all our possessions.
22 For I was ashamed to ask of the king a
band of soldiers and horsemen to help us
against the enemy on the way, because we
had spoken to the king, saying, “The hand
of our God is on all those who seek him,
for good; but his power and his wrath is
against all those who forsake him.”
23 So we fasted and begged our God for
this, and he granted our request.
24 Then I set apart twelve of the chiefs of
the priests, even Sherebiah, Hashabiah,
and ten of their brothers with them,
25 and weighed to them the silver, the
gold, and the vessels, even the offering for
the house of our God, which the king, his
counselors, his princes, and all Israel
there present, had offered.
26 I weighed into their hand six hundred
fifty talents of silver,† one hundred talents
of silver vessels, one hundred talents of
gold,
27 twenty bowls of gold weighing one
thousand darics,‡ and two vessels of fine
bright bronze, precious as gold.
28 I said to them, “You are holy to the
LORD, and the vessels are holy. The silver
and the gold are a free will offering to the
LORD, the God of your fathers.
29 Watch and keep them until you weigh
them before the chiefs of the priests, the
Levites, and the princes of the fathers’
households of Israel at Jerusalem, in the
rooms of the LORD’s house.”
30 So the priests and the Levites
received the weight of the silver, the gold,
and the vessels, to bring them to
Jerusalem to the house of our God.

† **8:26** A talent is about 30 kilograms or 66 pounds or 965 Troy ounces ‡ **8:27** a daric was a gold coin issued by a Persian king, weighing about 8.4 grams or about 0.27 troy ounces each.

31 Then we departed from the river
Ahava on the twelfth day of the first
month, to go to Jerusalem. The hand of
our God was on us, and he delivered us
from the hand of the enemy and the
bandits by the way.
32 We came to Jerusalem, and stayed
there three days.
33 On the fourth day the silver and the
gold and the vessels were weighed 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.
34 Everything was counted and
weighed; and all the weight was written
at that time.
35 The children of the captivity, who had
come out of exile, offered burnt offerings
to the God of Israel: twelve bulls for all
Israel, ninety-six rams, seventy-seven
lambs, and twelve male goats for a sin
offering. All this was a burnt offering to
the LORD.
36 They delivered the king's
commissions to the king's local governors
and to the governors beyond the River. So
they supported the people and God's
house.

9

1 Now when these things were done, the
princes came near to me, saying, "The
people of Israel, the priests, and the
Levites have not separated themselves
from the peoples of the lands, following
their abominations, even those of the
Canaanites, the Hittites, the Perizzites, the
Jebusites, the Ammonites, the Moabites,
the Egyptians, and the Amorites.
2 For they have taken of their daughters
for themselves and for their sons, so that
the holy offspring have mixed themselves
with the peoples of the lands. Yes, the
hand of the princes and rulers has been
chief in this trespass."
3 When I heard this thing, I tore my
garment and my robe, and pulled the hair
out of my head and of my beard, and sat
down confounded.
4 Then everyone who trembled at the
words of the God of Israel were assembled
to me because of the trespass of the exiles;
and I sat confounded until the evening
offering.
5 At the evening offering I rose up from
my humiliation, even with my garment
and my robe torn; and I fell on my knees,
and spread out my hands to the LORD my
God;
6 and I said, "My God, I am ashamed and
blush to lift up my face to you, my God, for
our iniquities have increased over our
head, and our guiltiness has grown up to
the heavens.
7 Since the days of our fathers we have
been exceedingly guilty to this day; and
for our iniquities we, our kings, and our
priests have been delivered into the hand
of the kings of the lands, to the sword, to
captivity, to plunder, and to confusion of
face, as it is this day.
8 Now for a little moment grace has
been shown from the LORD our God, to
leave us a remnant to escape, and to give
us a stake in his holy place, that our God
may lighten our eyes, and revive us a little
in our bondage.
9 For we are bondservants; yet our God
has not forsaken us in our bondage, but
has extended loving kindness to us in the
sight of the kings of Persia, to revive us, to
set up the house of our God, and to repair
its ruins, and to give us a wall in Judah
and in Jerusalem.
10 "Now, our God, what shall we say
after this? For we have forsaken your
commandments,
11 which you have commanded by your
servants the prophets, saying, 'The land to
which you go to possess is an unclean
land through the uncleanness of the
peoples of the lands, through their
abominations, which have filled it from
one end to another with their filthiness.
12 Now therefore don't give your
daughters to their sons. Don't take their
daughters to your sons, nor seek their
peace or their prosperity forever, that you
may be strong and eat the good of the

land, and leave it for an inheritance to your children forever.'
13 "After all that has come on us for our evil deeds and for our great guilt, since you, our God, have punished us less than our iniquities deserve, and have given us such a remnant,
14 shall we again break your commandments, and join ourselves with the peoples that do these abominations? Wouldn't you be angry with us until you had consumed us, so that there would be no remnant, nor any to escape?
15 LORD, the God of Israel, you are righteous; for we are left a remnant that has escaped, as it is today. Behold,† we are before you in our guiltiness; for no one can stand before you because of this."

10

1 Now while Ezra prayed and made confession, weeping and casting himself down before God's house, there was gathered together to him out of Israel a very great assembly of men and women and children; for the people wept very bitterly.
2 Shecaniah the son of Jehiel, one of the sons of Elam, answered Ezra, "We have trespassed against our God, and have married foreign women of the peoples of the land. Yet now there is hope for Israel concerning this thing.
3 Now therefore let's make a covenant with our God to put away all the wives and those who are born of them, according to the counsel of my lord and of those who tremble at the commandment of our God. Let it be done according to the law.
4 Arise, for the matter belongs to you and we are with you. Be courageous, and do it."
5 Then Ezra arose, and made the chiefs of the priests, the Levites, and all Israel to swear that they would do according to this word. So they swore.
6 Then Ezra rose up from before God's house, and went into the room of Jehohanan the son of Eliashib. When he came there, he didn't eat bread or drink water, for he mourned because of the trespass of the exiles.
7 They made a proclamation throughout Judah and Jerusalem to all the children of the captivity, that they should gather themselves together to Jerusalem;
8 and that whoever didn't come within three days, according to the counsel of the princes and the elders, all his possessions should be forfeited, and he himself separated from the assembly of the captivity.
9 Then all the men of Judah and Benjamin gathered themselves together to Jerusalem within the three days. It was the ninth month, on the twentieth day of the month; and all the people sat in the wide place in front of God's house, trembling because of this matter, and because of the great rain.
10 Ezra the priest stood up and said to them, "You have trespassed, and have married foreign women, increasing the guilt of Israel.
11 Now therefore make confession to the LORD, the God of your fathers and do his pleasure. Separate yourselves from the peoples of the land and from the foreign women."
12 Then all the assembly answered with a loud voice, "We must do as you have said concerning us.
13 But the people are many, and it is a time of much rain, and we are not able to stand outside. This is not a work of one day or two, for we have greatly transgressed in this matter.
14 Now let our princes be appointed for all the assembly, and let all those who are in our cities who have married foreign women come at appointed times, and with them the elders of every city and its judges, until the fierce wrath of our God is turned from us, until this matter is resolved."
15 Only Jonathan the son of Asahel and Jahzeiah the son of Tikvah stood up against this; and Meshullam and Shabbethai the Levite helped them.

† **9:15** "Behold", from "הִנֵּה", means look at, take notice, observe, see, or gaze at. It is often used as an interjection.

16 The children of the captivity did so.
Ezra the priest, with certain heads of
fathers' households, after their fathers'
houses, and all of them by their names,
were set apart; and they sat down in the
first day of the tenth month to examine
the matter.
17 They finished with all the men who
had married foreign women by the first
day of the first month.
18 Among the sons of the priests there
were found who had married foreign
women:
of the sons of Jeshua, the son of Jozadak,
and his brothers: Maaseiah, Eliezer,
Jarib, and Gedaliah.
19 They gave their hand that they would
put away their wives; and being guilty,
they offered a ram of the flock for their
guilt.
20 Of the sons of Immer: Hanani and
Zebadiah.
21 Of the sons of Harim: Maaseiah,
Elijah, Shemaiah, Jehiel, and Uzziah.
22 Of the sons of Pashhur: Elioenai,
Maaseiah, Ishmael, Nethanel,
Jozabad, and Elasah.
23 Of the Levites: Jozabad, Shimei,
Kelaiah (also called Kelita),
Pethahiah, Judah, and Eliezer.
24 Of the singers: Eliashib.
Of the gatekeepers: Shallum, Telem,
and Uri.
25 Of Israel: Of the sons of Parosh:
Ramiah, Izziah, Malchijah, Mijamin,
Eleazar, Malchijah, and Benaiah.
26 Of the sons of Elam: Mattaniah,
Zechariah, Jehiel, Abdi, Jeremoth, and
Elijah.
27 Of the sons of Zattu: Elioenai,
Eliashib, Mattaniah, Jeremoth, Zabad,
and Aziza.
28 Of the sons of Bebai: Jehohanan,
Hananiah, Zabbai, and Athlai.
29 Of the sons of Bani: Meshullam,
Malluch, Adaiah, Jashub, Sheal, and
Jeremoth.
30 Of the sons of Pahathmoab: Adna,
Chelal, Benaiah, Maaseiah,
Mattaniah, Bezalel, Binnui, and
Manasseh.
31 Of the sons of Harim: Eliezer, Isshijah,
Malchijah, Shemaiah, Shimeon,
32 Benjamin, Malluch, and Shemariah.
33 Of the sons of Hashum: Mattenai,
Mattattah, Zabad, Eliphelet, Jeremai,
Manasseh, and Shimei.
34 Of the sons of Bani: Maadai, Amram,
Uel,
35 Benaiah, Bedeiah, Cheluhi,
36 Vaniah, Meremoth, Eliashib,
37 Mattaniah, Mattenai, Jaasu,
38 Bani, Binnui, Shimei,
39 Shelemiah, Nathan, Adaiah,
40 Machnadebai, Shashai, Sharai,
41 Azarel, Shelemiah, Shemariah,
42 Shallum, Amariah, and Joseph.
43 Of the sons of Nebo: Jeiel, Mattithiah,
Zabad, Zebina, Iddo, Joel, and
Benaiah.
44 All these had taken foreign wives.
Some of them had wives by whom they
had children.

The Book of Nehemiah

1 The words of Nehemiah the son of Hacaliah.
Now in the month Chislev, in the twentieth year, as I was in Susa the palace,
2 Hanani, one of my brothers, came, he and certain men out of Judah; and I asked them about the Jews who had escaped, who were left of the captivity, and concerning Jerusalem.
3 They said to me, "The remnant who are left of the captivity there in the province are in great affliction and reproach. The wall of Jerusalem is also broken down, and its gates are burned with fire."
4 When I heard these words, I sat down and wept, and mourned several days; and I fasted and prayed before the God† of heaven,
5 and said, "I beg you, LORD,‡ the God of heaven, the great and awesome God who keeps covenant and loving kindness with those who love him and keep his commandments,
6 let your ear now be attentive and your eyes open, that you may listen to the prayer of your servant which I pray before you at this time, day and night, for the children of Israel your servants, while I confess the sins of the children of Israel which we have sinned against you. Yes, I and my father's house have sinned.
7 We have dealt very corruptly against you, and have not kept the commandments, nor the statutes, nor the ordinances, which you commanded your servant Moses.
8 "Remember, I beg you, the word that you commanded your servant Moses, saying, 'If you trespass, I will scatter you among the peoples;
9 but if you return to me, and keep my commandments and do them, though your outcasts were in the uttermost part of the heavens, yet I will gather them from there, and will bring them to the place that I have chosen, to cause my name to dwell there.'
10 "Now these are your servants and your people, whom you have redeemed by your great power and by your strong hand.
11 Lord,§ I beg you, let your ear be attentive now to the prayer of your servant, and to the prayer of your servants who delight to fear your name; and please prosper your servant today, and grant him mercy in the sight of this man."
Now I was cup bearer to the king.

2

1 In the month Nisan, in the twentieth year of Artaxerxes the king, when wine was before him, I picked up the wine, and gave it to the king. Now I had not been sad before in his presence.
2 The king said to me, "Why is your face sad, since you are not sick? This is nothing else but sorrow of heart."
Then I was very much afraid.
3 I said to the king, "Let the king live forever! Why shouldn't my face be sad, when the city, the place of my fathers' tombs, lies waste, and its gates have been consumed with fire?"
4 Then the king said to me, "What is your request?"
So I prayed to the God of heaven.
5 I said to the king, "If it pleases the king, and if your servant has found favor in your sight, I ask that you would send me to Judah, to the city of my fathers' tombs, that I may build it."
6 The king said to me (the queen was also sitting by him), "How long will your journey be? When will you return?"
So it pleased the king to send me, and I set a time for him.
7 Moreover I said to the king, "If it pleases the king, let letters be given me to the governors beyond the River, that they

† **1:4** The Hebrew word rendered "God" is "אֱלֹהִים" (Elohim). ‡ **1:5** When rendered in ALL CAPITAL LETTERS, "LORD" or "GOD" is the translation of God's Proper Name (Hebrew "יהוה", usually pronounced Yahweh). § **1:11** The word translated "Lord" is "Adonai."

may let me pass through until I come to Judah;
8 and a letter to Asaph the keeper of the king's forest, that he may give me timber to make beams for the gates of the citadel by the temple, for the wall of the city, and for the house that I will occupy."

The king granted my requests, because of the good hand of my God on me.
9 Then I came to the governors beyond the River, and gave them the king's letters. Now the king had sent captains of the army and horsemen with me.
10 When Sanballat the Horonite and Tobiah the Ammonite servant heard of it, it grieved them exceedingly, because a man had come to seek the welfare of the children of Israel.
11 So I came to Jerusalem, and was there three days.
12 I arose in the night, I and a few men with me. I didn't tell anyone what my God put into my heart to do for Jerusalem. There wasn't any animal with me except the animal that I rode on.
13 I went out by night by the valley gate toward the jackal's well, then to the dung gate; and I inspected the walls of Jerusalem, which were broken down, and its gates were consumed with fire.
14 Then I went on to the spring gate and to the king's pool, but there was no place for the animal that was under me to pass.
15 Then I went up in the night by the brook and inspected the wall; and I turned back, and entered by the valley gate, and so returned.
16 The rulers didn't know where I went, or what I did. I had not as yet told it to the Jews, nor to the priests, nor to the nobles, nor to the rulers, nor to the rest who did the work.
17 Then I said to them, "You see the bad situation that we are in, how Jerusalem lies waste, and its gates are burned with fire. Come, let's build up the wall of Jerusalem, that we won't be disgraced."
18 I told them about the hand of my God which was good on me, and also about the king's words that he had spoken to me.

They said, "Let's rise up and build." So they strengthened their hands for the good work.
19 But when Sanballat the Horonite, Tobiah the Ammonite servant, and Geshem the Arabian, heard it, they ridiculed us and despised us, and said, "What is this thing that you are doing? Will you rebel against the king?"
20 Then I answered them, and said to them, "The God of heaven will prosper us. Therefore we, his servants, will arise and build; but you have no portion, nor right, nor memorial in Jerusalem."

3

1 Then Eliashib the high priest rose up with his brothers the priests, and they built the sheep gate. They sanctified it, and set up its doors. They sanctified it even to the tower of Hammeah, to the tower of Hananel.
2 Next to him the men of Jericho built. Next to them Zaccur the son of Imri built.
3 The sons of Hassenaah built the fish gate. They laid its beams, and set up its doors, its bolts, and its bars.
4 Next to them, Meremoth the son of Uriah, the son of Hakkoz made repairs. Next to them, Meshullam the son of Berechiah, the son of Meshezabel made repairs. Next to them, Zadok the son of Baana made repairs.
5 Next to them, the Tekoites made repairs; but their nobles didn't put their necks to the Lord's work.
6 Joiada the son of Paseah and Meshullam the son of Besodeiah repaired the old gate. They laid its beams and set up its doors, its bolts, and its bars.
7 Next to them, Melatiah the Gibeonite and Jadon the Meronothite, the men of Gibeon and of Mizpah, repaired the residence of the governor beyond the River.
8 Next to him, Uzziel the son of Harhaiah, goldsmiths, made repairs. Next to him, Hananiah, one of the perfumers, made repairs, and they fortified Jerusalem even to the wide wall.

9 Next to them, Rephaiah the son of Hur,
the ruler of half the district of Jerusalem,
made repairs.
10 Next to them, Jedaiah the son of
Harumaph made repairs across from his
house. Next to him, Hattush the son of
Hashabneiah made repairs.
11 Malchijah the son of Harim and
Hasshub the son of Pahathmoab repaired
another portion and the tower of the
furnaces.
12 Next to him, Shallum the son of
Hallohesh, the ruler of half the district of
Jerusalem, he and his daughters made
repairs.
13 Hanun and the inhabitants of Zanoah
repaired the valley gate. They built it, and
set up its doors, its bolts, and its bars, and
one thousand cubits† of the wall to the
dung gate.
14 Malchijah the son of Rechab, the ruler
of the district of Beth Haccherem,
repaired the dung gate. He built it, and set
up its doors, its bolts, and its bars.
15 Shallun the son of Colhozeh, the ruler
of the district of Mizpah, repaired the
spring gate. He built it, covered it, and set
up its doors, its bolts, and its bars; and he
repaired the wall of the pool of Shelah by
the king's garden, even to the stairs that
go down from David's city.
16 After him, Nehemiah the son of
Azbuk, the ruler of half the district of Beth
Zur, made repairs to the place opposite
the tombs of David, and to the pool that
was made, and to the house of the mighty
men.
17 After him, the Levites—Rehum the
son of Bani made repairs. Next to him,
Hashabiah, the ruler of half the district of
Keilah, made repairs for his district.
18 After him, their brothers, Bavvai the
son of Henadad, the ruler of half the
district of Keilah made repairs.
19 Next to him, Ezer the son of Jeshua,
the ruler of Mizpah, repaired another
portion across from the ascent to the
armory at the turning of the wall.
20 After him, Baruch the son of Zabbai
earnestly repaired another portion, from
the turning of the wall to the door of the
house of Eliashib the high priest.
21 After him, Meremoth the son of Uriah
the son of Hakkoz repaired another
portion, from the door of the house of
Eliashib even to the end of the house of
Eliashib.
22 After him, the priests, the men of the
surrounding area made repairs.
23 After them, Benjamin and Hasshub
made repairs across from their house.
After them, Azariah the son of Maaseiah
the son of Ananiah made repairs beside
his own house.
24 After him, Binnui the son of Henadad
repaired another portion, from the house
of Azariah to the turning of the wall, and
to the corner.
25 Palal the son of Uzai made repairs
opposite the turning of the wall, and the
tower that stands out from the upper
house of the king, which is by the court of
the guard. After him Pedaiah the son of
Parosh made repairs.
26 (Now the temple servants lived in
Ophel, to the place opposite the water gate
toward the east, and the tower that stands
out.)
27 After him the Tekoites repaired
another portion, opposite the great tower
that stands out, and to the wall of Ophel.
28 Above the horse gate, the priests
made repairs, everyone across from his
own house.
29 After them, Zadok the son of Immer
made repairs across from his own house.
After him, Shemaiah the son of Shecaniah,
the keeper of the east gate, made repairs.
30 After him, Hananiah the son of
Shelemiah, and Hanun, the sixth son of
Zalaph, repaired another portion. After
him, Meshullam the son of Berechiah
made repairs across from his room.
31 After him, Malchijah, one of the
goldsmiths to the house of the temple
servants, and of the merchants, made
repairs opposite the gate of Hammiphkad
and to the ascent of the corner.
32 Between the ascent of the corner and
the sheep gate, the goldsmiths and the

† **3:13** A cubit is the length from the tip of the middle finger to the elbow on a man's arm, or about 18 inches or 46 centimeters.

merchants made repairs.

4

1 But when Sanballat heard that we
were building the wall, he was angry, and
was very indignant, and mocked the Jews.
2 He spoke before his brothers and the
army of Samaria, and said, “What are
these feeble Jews doing? Will they fortify
themselves? Will they sacrifice? Will they
finish in a day? Will they revive the stones
out of the heaps of rubbish, since they are
burned?”
3 Now Tobiah the Ammonite was by
him, and he said, “What they are building,
if a fox climbed up it, he would break
down their stone wall.”
4 “Hear, our God, for we are despised.
Turn back their reproach on their own
head. Give them up for a plunder in a
land of captivity.
5 Don’t cover their iniquity. Don’t let
their sin be blotted out from before you;
for they have insulted the builders.”
6 So we built the wall; and all the wall
was joined together to half its height, for
the people had a mind to work.
7 But when Sanballat, Tobiah, the
Arabians, the Ammonites, and the
Ashdodites heard that the repairing of the
walls of Jerusalem went forward, and that
the breaches began to be filled, they were
very angry;
8 and they all conspired together to
come and fight against Jerusalem, and to
cause confusion among us.
9 But we made our prayer to our God,
and set a watch against them day and
night because of them.
10 Judah said, “The strength of the
bearers of burdens is fading and there is
much rubble, so that we are not able to
build the wall.”
11 Our adversaries said, “They will not
know or see, until we come in among
them and kill them, and cause the work to
cease.”
12 When the Jews who lived by them
came, they said to us ten times from all
places, “Wherever you turn, they will
attack us.”
13 Therefore I set guards in the lowest
parts of the space behind the wall, in the
open places. I set the people by family
groups with their swords, their spears,
and their bows.
14 I looked, and rose up, and said to the
nobles, to the rulers, and to the rest of the
people, “Don’t be afraid of them!
Remember the Lord, who is great and
awesome, and fight for your brothers,
your sons, your daughters, your wives,
and your houses.”
15 When our enemies heard that it was
known to us, and God had brought their
counsel to nothing, all of us returned to
the wall, everyone to his work.
16 From that time forth, half of my
servants did the work, and half of them
held the spears, the shields, the bows, and
the coats of mail; and the rulers were
behind all the house of Judah.
17 Those who built the wall, and those
who bore burdens loaded themselves;
everyone with one of his hands did the
work, and with the other held his weapon.
18 Among the builders, everyone wore
his sword at his side, and so built. He who
sounded the trumpet was by me.
19 I said to the nobles, and to the rulers
and to the rest of the people, “The work is
great and widely spread out, and we are
separated on the wall, far from one
another.
20 Wherever you hear the sound of the
trumpet, rally there to us. Our God will
fight for us.”
21 So we did the work. Half of the people
held the spears from the rising of the
morning until the stars appeared.
22 Likewise at the same time I said to the
people, “Let everyone with his servant
lodge within Jerusalem, that in the night
they may be a guard to us, and may labor
in the day.”
23 So neither I, nor my brothers, nor my
servants, nor the men of the guard who
followed me took off our clothes.
Everyone took his weapon to the water.

5

1 Then there arose a great cry of the
people and of their wives against their

brothers the Jews.
2 For there were some who said, “We,
our sons and our daughters, are many.
Let us get grain, that we may eat and live.”
3 There were also some who said, “We
are mortgaging our fields, our vineyards,
and our houses. Let us get grain, because
of the famine.”
4 There were also some who said, “We
have borrowed money for the king’s
tribute using our fields and our vineyards
as collateral.
5 Yet now our flesh is as the flesh of our
brothers, our children as their children.
Behold,† we bring our sons and our
daughters into bondage to be servants,
and some of our daughters have been
brought into bondage. It is also not in our
power to help it, because other men have
our fields and our vineyards.”
6 I was very angry when I heard their
cry and these words.
7 Then I consulted with myself, and
contended with the nobles and the rulers,
and said to them, “You exact usury,
everyone of his brother.” I held a great
assembly against them.
8 I said to them, “We, after our ability,
have redeemed our brothers the Jews that
were sold to the nations; and would you
even sell your brothers, and should they
be sold to us?” Then they held their peace,
and found not a word to say.
9 Also I said, “The thing that you do is
not good. Shouldn’t you walk in the fear
of our God because of the reproach of the
nations, our enemies?
10 I likewise, my brothers and my
servants, lend them money and grain.
Please let us stop this usury.
11 Please restore to them, even today,
their fields, their vineyards, their olive
groves, and their houses, also the
hundredth part of the money, and of the
grain, the new wine, and the oil, that you
are charging them.”
12 Then they said, “We will restore them,
and will require nothing of them. We will
do so, even as you say.”

Then I called the priests, and took an
oath of them, that they would do
according to this promise.
13 Also I shook out my lap, and said, “So
may God shake out every man from his
house, and from his labor, that doesn’t
perform this promise; even may he be
shaken out and emptied like this.”

All the assembly said, “Amen,” and
praised the LORD. The people did
according to this promise.
14 Moreover from the time that I was
appointed to be their governor in the land
of Judah, from the twentieth year even to
the thirty-second year of Artaxerxes the
king, that is, twelve years, I and my
brothers have not eaten the bread of the
governor.
15 But the former governors who were
before me were supported by the people,
and took bread and wine from them, plus
forty shekels‡ of silver; yes, even their
servants ruled over the people, but I
didn’t do so, because of the fear of God.
16 Yes, I also continued in the work of
this wall. We didn’t buy any land. All my
servants were gathered there to the work.
17 Moreover there were at my table, of
the Jews and the rulers, one hundred fifty
men, in addition to those who came to us
from among the nations that were around
us.
18 Now that which was prepared for one
day was one ox and six choice sheep. Also
fowls were prepared for me, and once in
ten days a store of all sorts of wine. Yet for
all this, I didn’t demand the governor’s
pay, because the bondage was heavy on
this people.
19 Remember me, my God, for all the
good that I have done for this people.

6

1 Now when it was reported to
Sanballat, Tobiah, Geshem the Arabian,
and to the rest of our enemies that I had
built the wall, and that there was no
breach left in it (though even to that time I
had not set up the doors in the gates),

† **5:5** “Behold”, from “הִנֵּה”, means look at, take notice, observe, see, or gaze at. It is often used as an interjection.
‡ **5:15** A shekel is about 10 grams or about 0.35 ounces.

2 Sanballat and Geshem sent to me,
saying, “Come! Let’s meet together in the
villages in the plain of Ono.” But they
intended to harm me.
3 I sent messengers to them, saying, “I
am doing a great work, so that I can’t
come down. Why should the work cease
while I leave it and come down to you?”
4 They sent to me four times like this;
and I answered them the same way.
5 Then Sanballat sent his servant to me
the same way the fifth time with an open
letter in his hand,
6 in which was written, “It is reported
among the nations, and Gashmu says it,
that you and the Jews intend to rebel.
Because of that, you are building the wall.
You would be their king, according to
these words.
7 You have also appointed prophets to
proclaim of you at Jerusalem, saying,
‘There is a king in Judah!’ Now it will be
reported to the king according to these
words. Come now therefore, and let’s take
counsel together.”
8 Then I sent to him, saying, “There are
no such things done as you say, but you
imagine them out of your own heart.”
9 For they all would have made us
afraid, saying, “Their hands will be
weakened from the work, that it not be
done.” But now, strengthen my hands.
10 I went to the house of Shemaiah the
son of Delaiah the son of Mehetabel, who
was shut in at his home; and he said, “Let
us meet together in God’s house, within
the temple, and let’s shut the doors of the
temple; for they will come to kill you. Yes,
in the night they will come to kill you.”
11 I said, “Should a man like me flee?
Who is there that, being such as I, would
go into the temple to save his life? I will
not go in.”
12 I discerned, and behold, God had not
sent him, but he pronounced this
prophecy against me. Tobiah and
Sanballat had hired him.
13 He was hired so that I would be
afraid, do so, and sin, and that they might
have material for an evil report, that they
might reproach me.
14 “Remember, my God, Tobiah and
Sanballat according to these their works,
and also the prophetess Noadiah and the
rest of the prophets that would have put
me in fear.”
15 So the wall was finished in the
twenty-fifth day of Elul, in fifty-two days.
16 When all our enemies heard of it, all
the nations that were around us were
afraid, and they lost their confidence; for
they perceived that this work was done by
our God.
17 Moreover in those days the nobles of
Judah sent many letters to Tobiah, and
Tobiah’s letters came to them.
18 For there were many in Judah sworn
to him because he was the son-in-law of
Shecaniah the son of Arah; and his son
Jehohanan had taken the daughter of
Meshullam the son of Berechiah as wife.
19 Also they spoke of his good deeds
before me, and reported my words to him.
Tobiah sent letters to put me in fear.

7

1 Now when the wall was built and I had
set up the doors, and the gatekeepers and
the singers and the Levites were
appointed,
2 I put my brother Hanani, and
Hananiah the governor of the fortress, in
charge of Jerusalem; for he was a faithful
man and feared God above many.
3 I said to them, “Don’t let the gates of
Jerusalem be opened until the sun is hot;
and while they stand guard, let them shut
the doors, and you bar them; and appoint
watches of the inhabitants of Jerusalem,
everyone in his watch, with everyone
near his house.”
4 Now the city was wide and large; but
the people were few therein, and the
houses were not built.
5 My God put into my heart to gather
together the nobles, and the rulers, and
the people, that they might be listed by
genealogy. I found the book of the
genealogy of those who came up at the
first, and I found this written in it:
6 These are the children of the province
who went up out of the captivity of those
who had been carried away, whom

Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon had
carried away, and who returned to
Jerusalem and to Judah, everyone to his
city,
7 who came with Zerubbabel, Jeshua,
Nehemiah, Azariah, Raamiah, Nahamani,
Mordecai, Bilshan, Mispereth, Bigvai,
Nehum, and Baanah.

The number of the men of the people of
Israel:
8 The children of Parosh: two thousand
one hundred seventy-two.
9 The children of Shephatiah: three
hundred seventy-two.
10 The children of Arah: six hundred
fifty-two.
11 The children of Pahathmoab, of the
children of Jeshua and Joab: two
thousand eight hundred eighteen.
12 The children of Elam: one thousand
two hundred fifty-four.
13 The children of Zattu: eight hundred
forty-five.
14 The children of Zaccai: seven
hundred sixty.
15 The children of Binnui: six hundred
forty-eight.
16 The children of Bebai: six hundred
twenty-eight.
17 The children of Azgad: two thousand
three hundred twenty-two.
18 The children of Adonikam: six
hundred sixty-seven.
19 The children of Bigvai: two thousand
sixty-seven.
20 The children of Adin: six hundred
fifty-five.
21 The children of Ater: of Hezekiah,
ninety-eight.
22 The children of Hashum: three
hundred twenty-eight.
23 The children of Bezai: three hundred
twenty-four.
24 The children of Hariph: one hundred
twelve.
25 The children of Gibeon: ninety-five.
26 The men of Bethlehem and Netophah:
one hundred eighty-eight.
27 The men of Anathoth: one hundred
twenty-eight.
28 The men of Beth Azmaveth: forty-two.
29 The men of Kiriath Jearim,
Chephirah, and Beeroth: seven
hundred forty-three.
30 The men of Ramah and Geba: six
hundred twenty-one.
31 The men of Michmas: one hundred
twenty-two.
32 The men of Bethel and Ai: one
hundred twenty-three.
33 The men of the other Nebo: fifty-two.
34 The children of the other Elam: one
thousand two hundred fifty-four.
35 The children of Harim: three
hundred twenty.
36 The children of Jericho: three
hundred forty-five.
37 The children of Lod, Hadid, and Ono:
seven hundred twenty-one.
38 The children of Senaah: three
thousand nine hundred thirty.

39 The priests: The children of Jedaiah,
of the house of Jeshua: nine hundred
seventy-three.
40 The children of Immer: one thousand
fifty-two.
41 The children of Pashhur: one
thousand two hundred forty-seven.
42 The children of Harim: one thousand
seventeen.

43 The Levites: the children of Jeshua, of
Kadmiel, of the children of Hodevah:
seventy-four.
44 The singers: the children of Asaph:
one hundred forty-eight.
45 The gatekeepers: the children of
Shallum, the children of Ater, the
children of Talmon, the children of
Akkub, the children of Hatita, the
children of Shobai: one hundred
thirty-eight.
46 The temple servants: the children of
Ziha, the children of Hasupha, the
children of Tabbaoth,
47 the children of Keros, the children of
Sia, the children of Padon,
48 the children of Lebana, the children
of Hagaba, the children of Salmai,
49 the children of Hanan, the children of
Giddel, the children of Gahar,
50 the children of Reaiah, the children of
Rezin, the children of Nekoda,

51 the children of Gazzam, the children
of Uzza, the children of Paseah,
52 the children of Besai, the children of
Meunim, the children of Nephushesim,
53 the children of Bakbuk, the children
of Hakupha, the children of Harhur,
54 the children of Bazlith, the children of
Mehida, the children of Harsha,
55 the children of Barkos, the children of
Sisera, the children of Temah,
56 the children of Neziah, and the
children of Hatipha.
57 The children of Solomon's servants:
the children of Sotai, the children of
Sophereth, the children of Perida,
58 the children of Jaala, the children of
Darkon, the children of Giddel,
59 the children of Shephatiah, the
children of Hattil, the children of
Pochereth Hazzebaim, and the children of
Amon.
60 All the temple servants and the
children of Solomon's servants were three
hundred ninety-two.
61 These were those who went up from
Tel Melah, Tel Harsha, Cherub, Addon,
and Immer; but they could not show their
fathers' houses, nor their offspring,†
whether they were of Israel:
62 The children of Delaiah, the children
of Tobiah, the children of Nekoda: six
hundred forty-two.
63 Of the priests: the children of
Hobaiah, the children of Hakkoz, the
children of Barzillai, who took a wife
of the daughters of Barzillai the
Gileadite, and was called after their
name.
64 These searched for their genealogical
records, but couldn't find them. Therefore
they were deemed disqualified and
removed from the priesthood.
65 The governor told them not to eat of
the most holy things until a priest stood
up to minister with Urim and Thummim.
66 The whole assembly together was
forty-two thousand three hundred sixty,
67 in addition to their male servants and
their female servants, of whom there
were seven thousand three hundred
thirty-seven. They had two hundred
forty-five singing men and singing
women.
68 Their horses were seven hundred
thirty-six; their mules, two hundred
forty-five;
69 their camels, four hundred
thirty-five; their donkeys, six thousand
seven hundred twenty.
70 Some from among the heads of
fathers' households gave to the work. The
governor gave to the treasury one
thousand darics of gold,‡ fifty basins, and
five hundred thirty priests' garments.
71 Some of the heads of fathers'
households gave into the treasury of the
work twenty thousand darics of gold, and
two thousand two hundred minas§ of
silver.
72 That which the rest of the people gave
was twenty thousand darics of gold, plus
two thousand minas of silver, and
sixty-seven priests' garments.
73 So the priests, the Levites, the
gatekeepers, the singers, some of the
people, the temple servants, and all Israel
lived in their cities.
When the seventh month had come, the
children of Israel were in their cities.

8

1 All the people gathered themselves
together as one man into the wide place
that was in front of the water gate; and
they spoke to Ezra the scribe to bring the
book of the law of Moses, which the LORD
had commanded to Israel.
2 Ezra the priest brought the law before
the assembly, both men and women, and
all who could hear with understanding,
on the first day of the seventh month.
3 He read from it before the wide place
that was in front of the water gate from
early morning until midday, in the
presence of the men and the women, and
of those who could understand. The ears
of all the people were attentive to the
book of the law.
4 Ezra the scribe stood on a pulpit of
wood, which they had made for the

† **7:61** or, seed ‡ **7:70** a daric was a gold coin issued by a Persian king, weighing about 8.4 grams or about 0.27 troy ounces each. § **7:71** A mina is about 600 grams or 1.3 U. S. pounds, so 2,200 minas is about 1.3 metric tons.

purpose; and beside him stood Mattithiah, Shema, Anaiah, Uriah, Hilkiah, and Maaseiah, on his right hand; and on his left hand, Pedaiah, Mishael, Malchijah, Hashum, Hashbaddanah, Zechariah, and Meshullam.
5 Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people (for he was above all the people), and when he opened it, all the people stood up.
6 Then Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God.
All the people answered, "Amen, Amen," with the lifting up of their hands. They bowed their heads, and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground.
7 Also Jeshua, Bani, Sherebiah, Jamin, Akkub, Shabbethai, Hodiah, Maaseiah, Kelita, Azariah, Jozabad, Hanan, Pelaiah, and the Levites, caused the people to understand the law; and the people stayed in their place.
8 They read in the book, in the law of God, distinctly; and they gave the sense, so that they understood the reading.
9 Nehemiah, who was the governor, Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "Today is holy to the LORD your God. Don't mourn, nor weep." For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law.
10 Then he said to them, "Go your way. Eat the fat, drink the sweet, and send portions to him for whom nothing is prepared, for today is holy to our Lord. Don't be grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength."
11 So the Levites calmed all the people, saying, "Hold your peace, for the day is holy. Don't be grieved."
12 All the people went their way to eat, to drink, to send portions, and to celebrate, because they had understood the words that were declared to them.
13 On the second day, the heads of fathers' households of all the people, the priests, and the Levites were gathered together to Ezra the scribe, to study the words of the law.
14 They found written in the law how the LORD had commanded by Moses that the children of Israel should dwell in booths in the feast of the seventh month;
15 and that they should publish and proclaim in all their cities and in Jerusalem, saying, "Go out to the mountain, and get olive branches, branches of wild olive, myrtle branches, palm branches, and branches of thick trees, to make temporary shelters,† as it is written."
16 So the people went out and brought them, and made themselves temporary shelters,‡ everyone on the roof of his house, in their courts, in the courts of God's house, in the wide place of the water gate, and in the wide place of Ephraim's gate.
17 All the assembly of those who had come back out of the captivity made temporary shelters§ and lived in the temporary shelters, for since the days of Joshua the son of Nun to that day the children of Israel had not done so. There was very great gladness.
18 Also day by day, from the first day to the last day, he read in the book of the law of God. They kept the feast seven days; and on the eighth day was a solemn assembly, according to the ordinance.

9

1 Now in the twenty-fourth day of this month the children of Israel were assembled with fasting, with sackcloth, and dirt on them.
2 The offspring of Israel separated themselves from all foreigners and stood and confessed their sins and the iniquities of their fathers.
3 They stood up in their place, and read in the book of the law of the LORD their God a fourth part of the day; and a fourth part they confessed and worshiped the LORD their God.
4 Then Jeshua, Bani, Kadmiel, Shebaniah, Bunni, Sherebiah, Bani, and Chenani of the Levites stood up on the stairs, and cried with a loud voice to the LORD their God.

† **8:15** or, booths ‡ **8:16** or, booths § **8:17** or, booths

5 Then the Levites, Jeshua, and Kadmiel,
Bani, Hashabneiah, Sherebiah, Hodiah,
Shebaniah, and Pethahiah, said, "Stand up
and bless the LORD your God from
everlasting to everlasting! Blessed be
your glorious name, which is exalted
above all blessing and praise!
6 You are the LORD, even you alone. You
have made heaven, the heaven of
heavens, with all their army, the earth
and all things that are on it, the seas and
all that is in them, and you preserve them
all. The army of heaven worships you.
7 You are the LORD, the God who chose
Abram, brought him out of Ur of the
Chaldees, gave him the name of Abraham,
8 found his heart faithful before you,
and made a covenant with him to give the
land of the Canaanite, the Hittite, the
Amorite, the Perizzite, the Jebusite, and
the Girgashite, to give it to his offspring,
and have performed your words, for you
are righteous.
9 "You saw the affliction of our fathers in
Egypt, and heard their cry by the Red Sea,
10 and showed signs and wonders
against Pharaoh, against all his servants,
and against all the people of his land, for
you knew that they dealt proudly against
them, and made a name for yourself, as it
is today.
11 You divided the sea before them, so
that they went through the middle of the
sea on the dry land; and you cast their
pursuers into the depths, as a stone into
the mighty waters.
12 Moreover, in a pillar of cloud you led
them by day; and in a pillar of fire by
night, to give them light in the way in
which they should go.
13 "You also came down on Mount Sinai,
and spoke with them from heaven, and
gave them right ordinances and true laws,
good statutes and commandments,
14 and made known to them your holy
Sabbath, and commanded them
commandments, statutes, and a law, by
Moses your servant,
15 and gave them bread from the sky for
their hunger, and brought water out of
the rock for them for their thirst, and
commanded them that they should go in
to possess the land which you had sworn
to give them.
16 "But they and our fathers behaved
proudly, hardened their neck, didn't
listen to your commandments,
17 and refused to obey. They weren't
mindful of your wonders that you did
among them, but hardened their neck,
and in their rebellion appointed a captain
to return to their bondage. But you are a
God ready to pardon, gracious and
merciful, slow to anger, and abundant in
loving kindness, and didn't forsake them.
18 Yes, when they had made themselves
a molded calf, and said, 'This is your God
who brought you up out of Egypt,' and
had committed awful blasphemies,
19 yet you in your manifold mercies
didn't forsake them in the wilderness. The
pillar of cloud didn't depart from over
them by day, to lead them in the way;
neither did the pillar of fire by night, to
show them light, and the way in which
they should go.
20 You gave also your good Spirit to
instruct them, and didn't withhold your
manna from their mouth, and gave them
water for their thirst.
21 "Yes, forty years you sustained them
in the wilderness. They lacked nothing.
Their clothes didn't grow old, and their
feet didn't swell.
22 Moreover you gave them kingdoms
and peoples, which you allotted according
to their portions. So they possessed the
land of Sihon, even the land of the king of
Heshbon, and the land of Og king of
Bashan.
23 You also multiplied their children as
the stars of the sky, and brought them into
the land concerning which you said to
their fathers that they should go in to
possess it.
24 "So the children went in and
possessed the land; and you subdued
before them the inhabitants of the land,
the Canaanites, and gave them into their
hands, with their kings and the peoples of
the land, that they might do with them as
they pleased.

25 They took fortified cities and a rich
land, and possessed houses full of all good
things, cisterns dug out, vineyards, olive
groves, and fruit trees in abundance. So
they ate, were filled, became fat, and
delighted themselves in your great
goodness.

26 “Nevertheless they were disobedient
and rebelled against you, cast your law
behind their back, killed your prophets
that testified against them to turn them
again to you, and they committed awful
blasphemies.

27 Therefore you delivered them into
the hand of their adversaries, who
distressed them. In the time of their
trouble, when they cried to you, you
heard from heaven; and according to
your manifold mercies you gave them
saviors who saved them out of the hands
of their adversaries.

28 But after they had rest, they did evil
again before you; therefore you left them
in the hands of their enemies, so that they
had the dominion over them; yet when
they returned and cried to you, you heard
from heaven; and many times you
delivered them according to your mercies,

29 and testified against them, that you
might bring them again to your law. Yet
they were arrogant, and didn’t listen to
your commandments, but sinned against
your ordinances (which if a man does, he
shall live in them), turned their backs,
stiffened their neck, and would not hear.

30 Yet many years you put up with them,
and testified against them by your Spirit
through your prophets. Yet they would
not listen. Therefore you gave them into
the hand of the peoples of the lands.

31 “Nevertheless in your manifold
mercies you didn’t make a full end of
them, nor forsake them; for you are a
gracious and merciful God.

32 Now therefore, our God, the great, the
mighty, and the awesome God, who keeps
covenant and loving kindness, don’t let all
the travail seem little before you that has
come on us, on our kings, on our princes,
on our priests, on our prophets, on our
fathers, and on all your people, since the
time of the kings of Assyria to this day.

33 However you are just in all that has
come on us; for you have dealt truly, but
we have done wickedly.

34 Also our kings, our princes, our
priests, and our fathers have not kept
your law, nor listened to your
commandments and your testimonies
with which you testified against them.

35 For they have not served you in their
kingdom, and in your great goodness that
you gave them, and in the large and rich
land which you gave before them. They
didn’t turn from their wicked works.

36 “Behold, we are servants today, and
as for the land that you gave to our fathers
to eat its fruit and its good, behold, we are
servants in it.

37 It yields much increase to the kings
whom you have set over us because of our
sins. Also they have power over our
bodies and over our livestock, at their
pleasure, and we are in great distress.

38 Yet for all this, we make a sure
covenant, and write it; and our princes,
our Levites, and our priests, seal it.”

10

1 Now those who sealed were:
Nehemiah the governor, the son of
Hacaliah, and Zedekiah,

2 Seraiah, Azariah, Jeremiah,

3 Pashhur, Amariah, Malchijah,

4 Hattush, Shebaniah, Malluch,

5 Harim, Meremoth, Obadiah,

6 Daniel, Ginnethon, Baruch,

7 Meshullam, Abijah, Mijamin,

8 Maaziah, Bilgai, and Shemaiah. These
were the priests.

9 The Levites: Jeshua the son of Azaniah,
Binnui of the sons of Henadad, Kadmiel;

10 and their brothers, Shebaniah,
Hodiah, Kelita, Pelaiah, Hanan,

11 Mica, Rehob, Hashabiah,

12 Zaccur, Sherebiah, Shebaniah,

13 Hodiah, Bani, and Beninu.

14 The chiefs of the people: Parosh,
Pahathmoab, Elam, Zattu, Bani,

15 Bunni, Azgad, Bebai,

16 Adonijah, Bigvai, Adin,

17 Ater, Hezekiah, Azzur,

18 Hodiah, Hashum, Bezai,
19 Hariph, Anathoth, Nobai,
20 Magpiash, Meshullam, Hezir,
21 Meshezabel, Zadok, Jaddua,
22 Pelatiah, Hanan, Anaiah,
23 Hoshea, Hananiah, Hasshub,
24 Hallohesh, Pilha, Shobek,
25 Rehum, Hashabnah, Maaseiah,
26 Ahiah, Hanan, Anan,
27 Malluch, Harim, and Baanah.

28 The rest of the people, the priests, the Levites, the gatekeepers, the singers, the temple servants, and all those who had separated themselves from the peoples of the lands to the law of God, their wives, their sons, and their daughters—everyone who had knowledge and understanding—
29 joined with their brothers, their nobles, and entered into a curse and into an oath, to walk in God's law, which was given by Moses the servant of God, and to observe and do all the commandments of the LORD our Lord, and his ordinances and his statutes;
30 and that we would not give our daughters to the peoples of the land, nor take their daughters for our sons;
31 and if the peoples of the land bring wares or any grain on the Sabbath day to sell, that we would not buy from them on the Sabbath, or on a holy day; and that we would forego the seventh year crops and the exaction of every debt.

32 Also we made ordinances for ourselves, to charge ourselves yearly with the third part of a shekel† for the service of the house of our God:
33 for the show bread, for the continual meal offering, for the continual burnt offering, for the Sabbaths, for the new moons, for the set feasts, for the holy things, for the sin offerings to make atonement for Israel, and for all the work of the house of our God.
34 We, the priests, the Levites, and the people, cast lots for the wood offering, to bring it into the house of our God, according to our fathers' houses, at times appointed year by year, to burn on the LORD our God's altar, as it is written in the law;
35 and to bring the first fruits of our ground and the first fruits of all fruit of all kinds of trees, year by year, to the LORD's house;
36 also the firstborn of our sons and of our livestock, as it is written in the law, and the firstborn of our herds and of our flocks, to bring to the house of our God, to the priests who minister in the house of our God;
37 and that we should bring the first fruits of our dough, our wave offerings, the fruit of all kinds of trees, and the new wine and the oil, to the priests, to the rooms of the house of our God; and the tithes of our ground to the Levites; for they, the Levites, take the tithes in all our farming villages.
38 The priest, the descendent of Aaron, shall be with the Levites when the Levites take tithes. The Levites shall bring up the tithe of the tithes to the house of our God, to the rooms, into the treasure house.
39 For the children of Israel and the children of Levi shall bring the wave offering of the grain, of the new wine, and of the oil, to the rooms where the vessels of the sanctuary are, and the priests who minister, with the gatekeepers and the singers. We will not forsake the house of our God.

† **10:32** A shekel is about 10 grams or about 0.35 ounces.

11

1 The princes of the people lived in Jerusalem. The rest of the people also cast lots to bring one of ten to dwell in Jerusalem, the holy city, and nine parts in the other cities.
2 The people blessed all the men who willingly offered themselves to dwell in Jerusalem.

3 Now these are the chiefs of the province who lived in Jerusalem; but in the cities of Judah, everyone lived in his possession in their cities—Israel, the priests, the Levites, the temple servants, and the children of Solomon's servants.
4 Some of the children of Judah and of the children of Benjamin lived in

Jerusalem. Of the children of Judah:
Athaiah the son of Uzziah, the son of
Zechariah, the son of Amariah, the son of
Shephatiah, the son of Mahalalel, of the
children of Perez;
5 and Maaseiah the son of Baruch, the
son of Colhozeh, the son of Hazaiah, the
son of Adaiah, the son of Joiarib, the son
of Zechariah, the son of the Shilonite.
6 All the sons of Perez who lived in
Jerusalem were four hundred sixty-eight
valiant men.
7 These are the sons of Benjamin: Sallu
the son of Meshullam, the son of Joed, the
son of Pedaiah, the son of Kolaiah, the son
of Maaseiah, the son of Ithiel, the son of
Jeshaiah.
8 After him Gabbai and Sallai, nine
hundred twenty-eight.
9 Joel the son of Zichri was their
overseer; and Judah the son of Hassenuah
was second over the city.
10 Of the priests: Jedaiah the son of
Joiarib, Jachin,
11 Seraiah the son of Hilkiah, the son of
Meshullam, the son of Zadok, the son of
Meraioth, the son of Ahitub, the ruler of
God's house,
12 and their brothers who did the work
of the house, eight hundred twenty-two;
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
Malchijah,
13 and his brothers, chiefs of fathers'
households, two hundred forty-two; and
Amashsai the son of Azarel, the son of
Ahzai, the son of Meshillemoth, the son of
Immer,
14 and their brothers, mighty men of
valor, one hundred twenty-eight; and
their overseer was Zabdiel, the son of
Haggedolim.
15 Of the Levites: Shemaiah the son of
Hasshub, the son of Azrikam, the son of
Hashabiah, the son of Bunni;
16 and Shabbethai and Jozabad, of the
chiefs of the Levites, who had the
oversight of the outward business of
God's house;
17 and Mattaniah the son of Mica, the
son of Zabdi, the son of Asaph, who was
the chief to begin the thanksgiving in
prayer, and Bakbukiah, the second among
his brothers; and Abda the son of
Shammua, the son of Galal, the son of
Jeduthun.
18 All the Levites in the holy city were
two hundred eighty-four.
19 Moreover the gatekeepers, Akkub,
Talmon, and their brothers, who kept
watch at the gates, were one hundred
seventy-two.
20 The residue of Israel, of the priests,
and the Levites were in all the cities of
Judah, everyone in his inheritance.
21 But the temple servants lived in
Ophel; and Ziha and Gishpa were over the
temple servants.
22 The overseer also of the Levites at
Jerusalem was Uzzi the son of Bani, the
son of Hashabiah, the son of Mattaniah,
the son of Mica, of the sons of Asaph, the
singers responsible for the service of
God's house.
23 For there was a commandment from
the king concerning them, and a settled
provision for the singers, as every day
required.
24 Pethahiah the son of Meshezabel, of
the children of Zerah the son of Judah,
was at the king's hand in all matters
concerning the people.
25 As for the villages with their fields,
some of the children of Judah lived in
Kiriath Arba and its towns, in Dibon and
its towns, in Jekabzeel and its villages,
26 in Jeshua, in Moladah, Beth Pelet,
27 in Hazar Shual, in Beersheba and its
towns,
28 in Ziklag, in Meconah and in its towns,
29 in En Rimmon, in Zorah, in Jarmuth,
30 Zanoah, Adullam, and their villages,
Lachish and its fields, and Azekah and its
towns. So they encamped from Beersheba
to the valley of Hinnom.
31 The children of Benjamin also lived
from Geba onward, at Michmash and
Aija, and at Bethel and its towns,
32 at Anathoth, Nob, Ananiah,
33 Hazor, Ramah, Gittaim,
34 Hadid, Zeboim, Neballat,
35 Lod, and Ono, the valley of craftsmen.
36 Of the Levites, certain divisions in
Judah settled in Benjamin's territory.

12

1 Now these are the priests and the
Levites who went up with Zerubbabel the
son of Shealtiel, and Jeshua: Seraiah,
Jeremiah, Ezra,
2 Amariah, Malluch, Hattush,
3 Shecaniah, Rehum, Meremoth,
4 Iddo, Ginnethoi, Abijah,
5 Mijamin, Maadiah, Bilgah,
6 Shemaiah, Joiarib, Jedaiah,
7 Sallu, Amok, Hilkiah, and Jedaiah.
These were the chiefs of the priests and of
their brothers in the days of Jeshua.
8 Moreover the Levites were Jeshua,
Binnui, Kadmiel, Sherebiah, Judah, and
Mattaniah, who was over the
thanksgiving songs, he and his brothers.
9 Also Bakbukiah and Unno, their
brothers, were close to them according to
their offices.
10 Jeshua became the father of Joiakim,
and Joiakim became the father of Eliashib,
and Eliashib became the father of Joiada,
11 and Joiada became the father of
Jonathan, and Jonathan became the
father of Jaddua.
12 In the days of Joiakim were priests,
heads of fathers' households: of Seraiah,
Meraiah; of Jeremiah, Hananiah;
13 of Ezra, Meshullam; of Amariah,
Jehohanan;
14 of Malluchi, Jonathan; of Shebaniah,
Joseph;
15 of Harim, Adna; of Meraioth, Helkai;
16 of Iddo, Zechariah; of Ginnethon,
Meshullam;
17 of Abijah, Zichri; of Miniamin, of
Moadiah, Piltai;
18 of Bilgah, Shammua; of Shemaiah,
Jehonathan;
19 of Joiarib, Mattenai; of Jedaiah, Uzzi;
20 of Sallai, Kallai; of Amok, Eber;
21 of Hilkiah, Hashabiah; of Jedaiah,
Nethanel.
22 As for the Levites, in the days of
Eliashib, Joiada, Johanan, and Jaddua,
there were recorded the heads of fathers'
households; also the priests, in the reign
of Darius the Persian.
23 The sons of Levi, heads of fathers'
households, were written in the book of
the chronicles, even until the days of
Johanan the son of Eliashib.
24 The chiefs of the Levites: Hashabiah,
Sherebiah, and Jeshua the son of Kadmiel,
with their brothers close to them, to
praise and give thanks according to the
commandment of David the man of God,
section next to section.
25 Mattaniah, Bakbukiah, Obadiah,
Meshullam, Talmon, and Akkub were
gatekeepers keeping the watch at the
storehouses of the gates.
26 These were in the days of Joiakim the
son of Jeshua, the son of Jozadak, and in
the days of Nehemiah the governor, and
of Ezra the priest and scribe.
27 At the dedication of the wall of
Jerusalem, they sought the Levites out of
all their places, to bring them to
Jerusalem to keep the dedication with
gladness, both with giving thanks and
with singing, with cymbals, stringed
instruments, and with harps.
28 The sons of the singers gathered
themselves together, both out of the plain
around Jerusalem and from the villages of
the Netophathites;
29 also from Beth Gilgal and out of the
fields of Geba and Azmaveth, for the
singers had built themselves villages
around Jerusalem.
30 The priests and the Levites purified
themselves; and they purified the people,
the gates, and the wall.
31 Then I brought the princes of Judah
up on the wall, and appointed two great
companies who gave thanks and went in
procession. One went on the right hand
on the wall toward the dung gate;
32 and after them went Hoshaiah, with
half of the princes of Judah,
33 and Azariah, Ezra, and Meshullam,
34 Judah, Benjamin, Shemaiah,
Jeremiah,
35 and some of the priests' sons with
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;
36 and his brothers, Shemaiah, Azarel,
Milalai, Gilalai, Maai, Nethanel, Judah,

and Hanani, with the musical instruments of David the man of God; and Ezra the scribe was before them.
37 By the spring gate, and straight before them, they went up by the stairs of David's city, at the ascent of the wall, above David's house, even to the water gate eastward.
38 The other company of those who gave thanks went to meet them, and I after them, with the half of the people on the wall above the tower of the furnaces, even to the wide wall,
39 and above the gate of Ephraim, and by the old gate, and by the fish gate, the tower of Hananel, and the tower of Hammeah, even to the sheep gate; and they stood still in the gate of the guard.
40 So the two companies of those who gave thanks in God's house stood, and I and the half of the rulers with me;
41 and the priests, Eliakim, Maaseiah, Miniamin, Micaiah, Elioenai, Zechariah, and Hananiah, with trumpets;
42 and Maaseiah, Shemaiah, Eleazar, Uzzi, Jehohanan, Malchijah, Elam, and Ezer. The singers sang loud, with Jezrahiah their overseer.
43 They offered great sacrifices that day, and rejoiced, for God had made them rejoice with great joy; and the women and the children also rejoiced, so that the joy of Jerusalem was heard even far away.
44 On that day, men were appointed over the rooms for the treasures, for the wave offerings, for the first fruits, and for the tithes, to gather into them according to the fields of the cities the portions appointed by the law for the priests and Levites; for Judah rejoiced for the priests and for the Levites who served.
45 They performed the duty of their God and the duty of the purification, and so did the singers and the gatekeepers, according to the commandment of David and of Solomon his son.
46 For in the days of David and Asaph of old there was a chief of the singers, and songs of praise and thanksgiving to God.
47 All Israel in the days of Zerubbabel and in the days of Nehemiah gave the portions of the singers and the gatekeepers, as every day required; and they set apart that which was for the Levites; and the Levites set apart that which was for the sons of Aaron.

13

1 On that day they read in the book of Moses in the hearing of the people; and it was found written in it that an Ammonite and a Moabite should not enter into the assembly of God forever,
2 because they didn't meet the children of Israel with bread and with water, but hired Balaam against them to curse them; however, our God turned the curse into a blessing.
3 It came to pass, when they had heard the law, that they separated all the mixed multitude from Israel.
4 Now before this, Eliashib the priest, who was appointed over the rooms of the house of our God, being allied to Tobiah,
5 had prepared for him a great room, where previously they laid the meal offerings, the frankincense, the vessels, and the tithes of the grain, the new wine, and the oil, which were given by commandment to the Levites, the singers, and the gatekeepers; and the wave offerings for the priests.
6 But in all this, I was not at Jerusalem; for in the thirty-second year of Artaxerxes king of Babylon I went to the king; and after some days I asked leave of the king,
7 and I came to Jerusalem, and understood the evil that Eliashib had done for Tobiah, in preparing him a room in the courts of God's house.
8 It grieved me severely. Therefore I threw all Tobiah's household stuff out of the room.
9 Then I commanded, and they cleansed the rooms. I brought into them the vessels of God's house, with the meal offerings and the frankincense again.
10 I perceived that the portions of the Levites had not been given them, so that the Levites and the singers, who did the work, had each fled to his field.
11 Then I contended with the rulers, and said, "Why is God's house forsaken?" I

gathered them together, and set them in their place.
12 Then all Judah brought the tithe of the grain, the new wine, and the oil to the treasuries.
13 I made treasurers over the treasuries, Shelemiah the priest, and Zadok the scribe, and of the Levites, Pedaiah: and next to them was Hanan the son of Zaccur, the son of Mattaniah; for they were counted faithful, and their business was to distribute to their brothers.
14 Remember me, my God, concerning this, and don't wipe out my good deeds that I have done for the house of my God, and for its observances.
15 In those days I saw some men treading wine presses on the Sabbath in Judah, bringing in sheaves, and loading donkeys with wine, grapes, figs, and all kinds of burdens which they brought into Jerusalem on the Sabbath day; and I testified against them in the day in which they sold food.
16 Some men of Tyre also lived there, who brought in fish and all kinds of wares, and sold on the Sabbath to the children of Judah, and in Jerusalem.
17 Then I contended with the nobles of Judah, and said to them, "What evil thing is this that you do, and profane the Sabbath day?
18 Didn't your fathers do this, and didn't our God bring all this evil on us and on this city? Yet you bring more wrath on Israel by profaning the Sabbath."
19 It came to pass that when the gates of Jerusalem began to be dark before the Sabbath, I commanded that the doors should be shut, and commanded that they should not be opened until after the Sabbath. I set some of my servants over the gates, so that no burden should be brought in on the Sabbath day.
20 So the merchants and sellers of all kinds of wares camped outside of Jerusalem once or twice.
21 Then I testified against them, and said to them, "Why do you stay around the wall? If you do so again, I will lay hands on you." From that time on, they didn't come on the Sabbath.
22 I commanded the Levites that they should purify themselves, and that they should come and keep the gates, to sanctify the Sabbath day. Remember me for this also, my God, and spare me according to the greatness of your loving kindness.
23 In those days I also saw the Jews who had married women of Ashdod, of Ammon, and of Moab;
24 and their children spoke half in the speech of Ashdod, and could not speak in the Jews' language, but according to the language of each people.
25 I contended with them, cursed them, struck certain of them, plucked off their hair, and made them swear by God, "You shall not give your daughters to their sons, nor take their daughters for your sons, or for yourselves.
26 Didn't Solomon king of Israel sin by these things? Yet among many nations there was no king like him, and he was loved by his God, and God made him king over all Israel. Nevertheless foreign women caused even him to sin.
27 Shall we then listen to you to do all this great evil, to trespass against our God in marrying foreign women?"
28 One of the sons of Joiada, the son of Eliashib the high priest, was son-in-law to Sanballat the Horonite; therefore I chased him from me.
29 Remember them, my God, because they have defiled the priesthood and the covenant of the priesthood and of the Levites.
30 Thus I cleansed them from all foreigners and appointed duties for the priests and for the Levites, everyone in his work;
31 and for the wood offering, at appointed times, and for the first fruits. Remember me, my God, for good.

The Book of Esther

1 Now in the days of Ahasuerus (this is
Ahasuerus who reigned from India even
to Ethiopia, over one hundred
twenty-seven provinces),
2 in those days, when the King
Ahasuerus sat on the throne of his
kingdom, which was in Susa the palace,
3 in the third year of his reign, he made
a feast for all his princes and his servants;
the army of Persia and Media, the nobles
and princes of the provinces being before
him.
4 He displayed the riches of his glorious
kingdom and the honor of his excellent
majesty many days, even one hundred
eighty days.
5 When these days were fulfilled, the
king made a seven day feast for all the
people who were present in Susa the
palace, both great and small, in the court
of the garden of the king's palace.
6 There were hangings of white and
blue material, fastened with cords of fine
linen and purple to silver rings and
marble pillars. The couches were of gold
and silver, on a pavement of red, white,
yellow, and black marble.
7 They gave them drinks in golden
vessels of various kinds, including royal
wine in abundance, according to the
bounty of the king.
8 In accordance with the law, the
drinking was not compulsory; for so the
king had instructed all the officials of his
house, that they should do according to
every man's pleasure.
9 Also Vashti the queen made a feast for
the women in the royal house which
belonged to King Ahasuerus.
10 On the seventh day, when the heart of
the king was merry with wine, he
commanded Mehuman, Biztha, Harbona,
Bigtha, and Abagtha, Zethar, and Carcass,
the seven eunuchs who served in the
presence of Ahasuerus the king,
11 to bring Vashti the queen before the
king wearing the royal crown, to show the
people and the princes her beauty; for she
was beautiful.
12 But the queen Vashti refused to come
at the king's commandment by the
eunuchs. Therefore the king was very
angry, and his anger burned in him.
13 Then the king said to the wise men,
who knew the times (for it was the king's
custom to consult those who knew law
and judgment;
14 and next to him were Carshena,
Shethar, Admatha, Tarshish, Meres,
Marsena, and Memucan, the seven
princes of Persia and Media, who saw the
king's face, and sat first in the kingdom),
15 "What shall we do to Queen Vashti
according to law, because she has not
done the bidding of the King Ahasuerus
by the eunuchs?"
16 Memucan answered before the king
and the princes, "Vashti the queen has not
done wrong to just the king, but also to all
the princes, and to all the people who are
in all the provinces of the King Ahasuerus.
17 For this deed of the queen will
become known to all women, causing
them to show contempt for their
husbands when it is reported, 'King
Ahasuerus commanded Vashti the queen
to be brought in before him, but she didn't
come.'
18 Today, the princesses of Persia and
Media who have heard of the queen's
deed will tell all the king's princes. This
will cause much contempt and wrath.
19 "If it pleases the king, let a royal
commandment go from him, and let it be
written among the laws of the Persians
and the Medes, so that it cannot be
altered, that Vashti may never again come
before King Ahasuerus; and let the king
give her royal estate to another who is
better than she.
20 When the king's decree which he
shall make is published throughout all his
kingdom (for it is great), all the wives will
give their husbands honor, both great and
small."

21 This advice pleased the king and the
princes, and the king did according to the
word of Memucan:
22 for he sent letters into all the king's
provinces, into every province according
to its writing, and to every people in their
language, that every man should rule his
own house, speaking in the language of
his own people.

2

1 After these things, when the wrath of
King Ahasuerus was pacified, he
remembered Vashti, and what she had
done, and what was decreed against her.
2 Then the king's servants who served
him said, "Let beautiful young virgins be
sought for the king.
3 Let the king appoint officers in all the
provinces of his kingdom, that they may
gather together all the beautiful young
virgins to the citadel of Susa, to the
women's house, to the custody of Hegai
the king's eunuch, keeper of the women.
Let cosmetics be given them;
4 and let the maiden who pleases the
king be queen instead of Vashti." The
thing pleased the king, and he did so.

5 There was a certain Jew in the citadel
of Susa whose name was Mordecai, the
son of Jair, the son of Shimei, the son of
Kish, a Benjamite,
6 who had been carried away from
Jerusalem with the captives who had been
carried away with Jeconiah king of Judah,
whom Nebuchadnezzar the king of
Babylon had carried away.
7 He brought up Hadassah, that is,
Esther, his uncle's daughter; for she had
neither father nor mother. The maiden
was fair and beautiful; and when her
father and mother were dead, Mordecai
took her for his own daughter.

8 So, when the king's commandment
and his decree was heard, and when
many maidens were gathered together to
the citadel of Susa, to the custody of Hegai,
Esther was taken into the king's house, to
the custody of Hegai, keeper of the
women.

9 The maiden pleased him, and she
obtained kindness from him. He quickly
gave her cosmetics and her portions of
food, and the seven choice maidens who
were to be given her out of the king's
house. He moved her and her maidens to
the best place in the women's house.
10 Esther had not made known her
people nor her relatives, because
Mordecai had instructed her that she
should not make it known.
11 Mordecai walked every day in front
of the court of the women's house, to find
out how Esther was doing, and what
would become of her.
12 Each young woman's turn came to go
in to King Ahasuerus after her
purification for twelve months (for so
were the days of their purification
accomplished, six months with oil of
myrrh, and six months with sweet
fragrances and with preparations for
beautifying women).
13 The young woman then came to the
king like this: whatever she desired was
given her to go with her out of the
women's house to the king's house.
14 In the evening she went, and on the
next day she returned into the second
women's house, to the custody of
Shaashgaz, the king's eunuch, who kept
the concubines. She came in to the king
no more, unless the king delighted in her,
and she was called by name.
15 Now when the turn of Esther, the
daughter of Abihail the uncle of Mordecai,
who had taken her for his daughter, came
to go in to the king, she required nothing
but what Hegai the king's eunuch, the
keeper of the women, advised. Esther
obtained favor in the sight of all those
who looked at her.
16 So Esther was taken to King
Ahasuerus into his royal house in the
tenth month, which is the month Tebeth,
in the seventh year of his reign.
17 The king loved Esther more than all
the women, and she obtained favor and
kindness in his sight more than all the
virgins; so that he set the royal crown on
her head, and made her queen instead of
Vashti.

18 Then the king made a great feast for
all his princes and his servants, even
Esther's feast; and he proclaimed a
holiday in the provinces, and gave gifts
according to the king's bounty.
19 When the virgins were gathered
together the second time, Mordecai was
sitting in the king's gate.
20 Esther had not yet made known her
relatives nor her people, as Mordecai had
commanded her; for Esther obeyed
Mordecai, like she did when she was
brought up by him.
21 In those days, while Mordecai was
sitting in the king's gate, two of the king's
eunuchs, Bigthan and Teresh, who were
doorkeepers, were angry, and sought to
lay hands on the King Ahasuerus.
22 This thing became known to
Mordecai, who informed Esther the
queen; and Esther informed the king in
Mordecai's name.
23 When this matter was investigated,
and it was found to be so, they were both
hanged on a gallows; and it was written in
the book of the chronicles in the king's
presence.

3

1 After these things King Ahasuerus
promoted Haman the son of
Hammedatha the Agagite, and advanced
him, and set his seat above all the princes
who were with him.
2 All the king's servants who were in the
king's gate bowed down and paid homage
to Haman, for the king had so commanded
concerning him. But Mordecai didn't bow
down or pay him homage.
3 Then the king's servants who were in
the king's gate said to Mordecai, "Why do
you disobey the king's commandment?"
4 Now it came to pass, when they spoke
daily to him, and he didn't listen to them,
that they told Haman, to see whether
Mordecai's reason would stand; for he
had told them that he was a Jew.
5 When Haman saw that Mordecai
didn't bow down nor pay him homage,
Haman was full of wrath.
6 But he scorned the thought of laying
hands on Mordecai alone, for they had
made known to him Mordecai's people.
Therefore Haman sought to destroy all the
Jews who were throughout the whole
kingdom of Ahasuerus, even Mordecai's
people.
7 In the first month, which is the month
Nisan, in the twelfth year of King
Ahasuerus, they cast Pur, that is, the lot,
before Haman from day to day, and from
month to month, and chose the twelfth
month, which is the month Adar.
8 Haman said to King Ahasuerus, "There
is a certain people scattered abroad and
dispersed among the peoples in all the
provinces of your kingdom, and their
laws are different from other people's.
They don't keep the king's laws. Therefore
it is not for the king's profit to allow them
to remain.
9 If it pleases the king, let it be written
that they be destroyed; and I will pay ten
thousand talents† of silver into the hands
of those who are in charge of the king's
business, to bring it into the king's
treasuries."
10 The king took his ring from his hand,
and gave it to Haman the son of
Hammedatha the Agagite, the Jews'
enemy.
11 The king said to Haman, "The silver is
given to you, the people also, to do with
them as it seems good to you."
12 Then the king's scribes were called in
on the first month, on the thirteenth day
of the month; and all that Haman
commanded was written to the king's
local governors, and to the governors who
were over every province, and to the
princes of every people, to every province
according to its writing, and to every
people in their language. It was written in
the name of King Ahasuerus, and it was
sealed with the king's ring.
13 Letters were sent by couriers into all
the king's provinces, to destroy, to kill,
and to cause to perish, all Jews, both
young and old, little children and women,
in one day, even on the thirteenth day of

† **3:9** A talent is about 30 kilograms or 66 pounds or 965 Troy ounces

the twelfth month, which is the month Adar, and to plunder their possessions.
14 A copy of the letter, that the decree should be given out in every province, was published to all the peoples, that they should be ready against that day.
15 The couriers went out in haste by the king's commandment, and the decree was given out in the citadel of Susa. The king and Haman sat down to drink; but the city of Susa was perplexed.

4

1 Now when Mordecai found out all that was done, Mordecai tore his clothes and put on sackcloth with ashes, and went out into the middle of the city, and wailed loudly and bitterly.
2 He came even before the king's gate, for no one is allowed inside the king's gate clothed with sackcloth.
3 In every province, wherever the king's commandment and his decree came, there was great mourning among the Jews, and fasting, and weeping, and wailing; and many lay in sackcloth and ashes.
4 Esther's maidens and her eunuchs came and told her this, and the queen was exceedingly grieved. She sent clothing to Mordecai, to replace his sackcloth, but he didn't receive it.
5 Then Esther called for Hathach, one of the king's eunuchs, whom he had appointed to attend her, and commanded him to go to Mordecai, to find out what this was, and why it was.
6 So Hathach went out to Mordecai, to the city square which was before the king's gate.
7 Mordecai told him of all that had happened to him, and the exact sum of the money that Haman had promised to pay to the king's treasuries for the destruction of the Jews.
8 He also gave him the copy of the writing of the decree that was given out in Susa to destroy them, to show it to Esther, and to declare it to her, and to urge her to go in to the king to make supplication to him, and to make request before him for her people.
9 Hathach came and told Esther the words of Mordecai.
10 Then Esther spoke to Hathach, and gave him a message to Mordecai:
11 "All the king's servants and the people of the king's provinces know that whoever, whether man or woman, comes to the king into the inner court without being called, there is one law for him, that he be put to death, except those to whom the king might hold out the golden scepter, that he may live. I have not been called to come in to the king these thirty days."
12 They told Esther's words to Mordecai.
13 Then Mordecai asked them to return this answer to Esther: "Don't think to yourself that you will escape in the king's house any more than all the Jews.
14 For if you remain silent now, then relief and deliverance will come to the Jews from another place, but you and your father's house will perish. Who knows if you haven't come to the kingdom for such a time as this?"
15 Then Esther asked them to answer Mordecai,
16 "Go, gather together all the Jews who are present in Susa, and fast for me, and neither eat nor drink three days, night or day. I and my maidens will also fast the same way. Then I will go in to the king, which is against the law; and if I perish, I perish."
17 So Mordecai went his way, and did according to all that Esther had commanded him.

5

1 Now on the third day, Esther put on her royal clothing and stood in the inner court of the king's house, next to the king's house. The king sat on his royal throne in the royal house, next to the entrance of the house.
2 When the king saw Esther the queen standing in the court, she obtained favor in his sight; and the king held out to Esther the golden scepter that was in his hand. So Esther came near and touched the top of the scepter.

3 Then the king asked her, “What would
you like, queen Esther? What is your
request? It shall be given you even to the
half of the kingdom.”
4 Esther said, “If it seems good to the
king, let the king and Haman come today
to the banquet that I have prepared for
him.”
5 Then the king said, “Bring Haman
quickly, so that it may be done as Esther
has said.” So the king and Haman came to
the banquet that Esther had prepared.
6 The king said to Esther at the banquet
of wine, “What is your petition? It shall be
granted you. What is your request? Even
to the half of the kingdom it shall be
performed.”
7 Then Esther answered and said, “My
petition and my request is this.
8 If I have found favor in the sight of the
king, and if it pleases the king to grant my
petition and to perform my request, let
the king and Haman come to the banquet
that I will prepare for them, and I will do
tomorrow as the king has said.”
9 Then Haman went out that day joyful
and glad of heart, but when Haman saw
Mordecai in the king’s gate, that he didn’t
stand up nor move for him, he was filled
with wrath against Mordecai.
10 Nevertheless Haman restrained
himself, and went home. There, he sent
and called for his friends and Zeresh his
wife.
11 Haman recounted to them the glory
of his riches, the multitude of his children,
all the things in which the king had
promoted him, and how he had advanced
him above the princes and servants of the
king.
12 Haman also said, “Yes, Esther the
queen let no man come in with the king to
the banquet that she had prepared but
myself; and tomorrow I am also invited by
her together with the king.
13 Yet all this avails me nothing, so long
as I see Mordecai the Jew sitting at the
king’s gate.”
14 Then Zeresh his wife and all his
friends said to him, “Let a gallows be
made fifty cubits† high, and in the
morning speak to the king about hanging
Mordecai on it. Then go in merrily with
the king to the banquet.” This pleased
Haman, so he had the gallows made.

6

1 On that night, the king couldn’t sleep.
He commanded the book of records of the
chronicles to be brought, and they were
read to the king.
2 It was found written that Mordecai
had told of Bigthana and Teresh, two of
the king’s eunuchs, who were
doorkeepers, who had tried to lay hands
on the King Ahasuerus.
3 The king said, “What honor and
dignity has been given to Mordecai for
this?”
Then the king’s servants who attended
him said, “Nothing has been done for
him.”
4 The king said, “Who is in the court?”
Now Haman had come into the outer
court of the king’s house, to speak to the
king about hanging Mordecai on the
gallows that he had prepared for him.
5 The king’s servants said to him,
“Behold,† Haman stands in the court.”
The king said, “Let him come in.”
6 So Haman came in. The king said to
him, “What shall be done to the man
whom the king delights to honor?”
Now Haman said in his heart, “Who
would the king delight to honor more
than myself?”
7 Haman said to the king, “For the man
whom the king delights to honor,
8 let royal clothing be brought which the
king uses to wear, and the horse that the
king rides on, and on the head of which a
royal crown is set.
9 Let the clothing and the horse be
delivered to the hand of one of the king’s
most noble princes, that they may array
the man whom the king delights to honor
with them, and have him ride on

† **5:14** A cubit is the length from the tip of the middle finger to the elbow on a man’s arm, or about 18 inches or 46 centimeters. † **6:5** “Behold”, from “הִנֵּה”, means look at, take notice, observe, see, or gaze at. It is often used as an interjection.

horseback through the city square, and proclaim before him, ‘Thus it shall be done to the man whom the king delights to honor!’ ”

10 Then the king said to Haman, “Hurry and take the clothing and the horse, as you have said, and do this for Mordecai the Jew, who sits at the king’s gate. Let nothing fail of all that you have spoken.”

11 Then Haman took the clothing and the horse, and arrayed Mordecai, and had him ride through the city square, and proclaimed before him, “Thus it shall be done to the man whom the king delights to honor!”

12 Mordecai came back to the king’s gate, but Haman hurried to his house, mourning and having his head covered.

13 Haman recounted to Zeresh his wife and all his friends everything that had happened to him. Then his wise men and Zeresh his wife said to him, “If Mordecai, before whom you have begun to fall, is of Jewish descent, you will not prevail against him, but you will surely fall before him.”

14 While they were yet talking with him, the king’s eunuchs came, and hurried to bring Haman to the banquet that Esther had prepared.

7

1 So the king and Haman came to banquet with Esther the queen.

2 The king said again to Esther on the second day at the banquet of wine, “What is your petition, queen Esther? It shall be granted you. What is your request? Even to the half of the kingdom it shall be performed.”

3 Then Esther the queen answered, “If I have found favor in your sight, O king, and if it pleases the king, let my life be given me at my petition, and my people at my request.

4 For we are sold, I and my people, to be destroyed, to be slain, and to perish. But if we had been sold for male and female slaves, I would have held my peace, although the adversary could not have compensated for the king’s loss.”

5 Then King Ahasuerus said to Esther the queen, “Who is he, and where is he who dared presume in his heart to do so?”

6 Esther said, “An adversary and an enemy, even this wicked Haman!”

Then Haman was afraid before the king and the queen.

7 The king arose in his wrath from the banquet of wine and went into the palace garden. Haman stood up to make request for his life to Esther the queen, for he saw that there was evil determined against him by the king.

8 Then the king returned out of the palace garden into the place of the banquet of wine; and Haman had fallen on the couch where Esther was. Then the king said, “Will he even assault the queen in front of me in the house?” As the word went out of the king’s mouth, they covered Haman’s face.

9 Then Harbonah, one of the eunuchs who were with the king, said, “Behold, the gallows fifty cubits† high, which Haman has made for Mordecai, who spoke good for the king, is standing at Haman’s house.”

The king said, “Hang him on it!”

10 So they hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai. Then the king’s wrath was pacified.

8

1 On that day, King Ahasuerus gave the house of Haman, the Jews’ enemy, to Esther the queen. Mordecai came before the king; for Esther had told what he was to her.

2 The king took off his ring, which he had taken from Haman, and gave it to Mordecai. Esther set Mordecai over the house of Haman.

3 Esther spoke yet again before the king, and fell down at his feet and begged him with tears to put away the mischief of Haman the Agagite, and his plan that he had planned against the Jews.

† **7:9** A cubit is the length from the tip of the middle finger to the elbow on a man’s arm, or about 18 inches or 46 centimeters.

4 Then the king held out to Esther the
golden scepter. So Esther arose, and stood
before the king.
5 She said, “If it pleases the king, and if I
have found favor in his sight, and the
thing seems right to the king, and I am
pleasing in his eyes, let it be written to
reverse the letters devised by Haman, the
son of Hammedatha the Agagite, which he
wrote to destroy the Jews who are in all
the king’s provinces.
6 For how can I endure to see the evil
that would come to my people? How can I
endure to see the destruction of my
relatives?”

7 Then King Ahasuerus said to Esther
the queen and to Mordecai the Jew, “See, I
have given Esther the house of Haman,
and they have hanged him on the gallows
because he laid his hand on the Jews.
8 Write also to the Jews as it pleases you,
in the king’s name, and seal it with the
king’s ring; for the writing which is
written in the king’s name, and sealed
with the king’s ring, may not be reversed
by any man.”

9 Then the king’s scribes were called at
that time, in the third month, which is the
month Sivan, on the twenty-third day of
the month; and it was written according
to all that Mordecai commanded to the
Jews, and to the local governors, and the
governors and princes of the provinces
which are from India to Ethiopia, one
hundred twenty-seven provinces, to
every province according to its writing,
and to every people in their language, and
to the Jews in their writing, and in their
language.
10 He wrote in the name of King
Ahasuerus, and sealed it with the king’s
ring, and sent letters by courier on
horseback, riding on royal horses that
were bred from swift steeds.
11 In those letters, the king granted the
Jews who were in every city to gather
themselves together and to defend their
lives—to destroy, to kill, and to cause to
perish all the power of the people and
province that would assault them, their
little ones and women, and to plunder
their possessions,
12 on one day in all the provinces of King
Ahasuerus, on the thirteenth day of the
twelfth month, which is the month Adar.
13 A copy of the letter, that the decree
should be given out in every province,
was published to all the peoples, that the
Jews should be ready for that day to
avenge themselves on their enemies.
14 So the couriers who rode on royal
horses went out, hastened and pressed on
by the king’s commandment. The decree
was given out in the citadel of Susa.

15 Mordecai went out of the presence of
the king in royal clothing of blue and
white, and with a great crown of gold, and
with a robe of fine linen and purple; and
the city of Susa shouted and was glad.
16 The Jews had light, gladness, joy, and
honor.
17 In every province and in every city,
wherever the king’s commandment and
his decree came, the Jews had gladness,
joy, a feast and a holiday. Many from
among the peoples of the land became
Jews, for the fear of the Jews had fallen on
them.

9

1 Now in the twelfth month, which is the
month Adar, on the thirteenth day of the
month, when the king’s commandment
and his decree came near to be put in
execution, on the day that the enemies of
the Jews hoped to conquer them, (but it
turned out that the opposite happened,
that the Jews conquered those who hated
them),
2 the Jews gathered themselves together
in their cities throughout all the provinces
of the King Ahasuerus, to lay hands on
those who wanted to harm them. No one
could withstand them, because the fear of
them had fallen on all the people.
3 All the princes of the provinces, the
local governors, the governors, and those
who did the king’s business helped the
Jews, because the fear of Mordecai had
fallen on them.

4 For Mordecai was great in the king's
house, and his fame went out throughout
all the provinces, for the man Mordecai
grew greater and greater.
5 The Jews struck all their enemies with
the stroke of the sword, and with
slaughter and destruction, and did what
they wanted to those who hated them.
6 In the citadel of Susa, the Jews killed
and destroyed five hundred men.
7 They killed Parshandatha, Dalphon,
Aspatha,
8 Poratha, Adalia, Aridatha,
9 Parmashta, Arisai, Aridai, and
Vaizatha,
10 the ten sons of Haman the son of
Hammedatha, the Jews' enemy, but they
didn't lay their hand on the plunder.

11 On that day, the number of those who
were slain in the citadel of Susa was
brought before the king.
12 The king said to Esther the queen,
"The Jews have slain and destroyed five
hundred men in the citadel of Susa,
including the ten sons of Haman; what
then have they done in the rest of the
king's provinces! Now what is your
petition? It shall be granted you. What is
your further request? It shall be done."

13 Then Esther said, "If it pleases the
king, let it be granted to the Jews who are
in Susa to do tomorrow also according to
today's decree, and let Haman's ten sons
be hanged on the gallows."

14 The king commanded this to be done.
A decree was given out in Susa; and they
hanged Haman's ten sons.
15 The Jews who were in Susa gathered
themselves together on the fourteenth
day also of the month Adar, and killed
three hundred men in Susa; but they
didn't lay their hand on the plunder.

16 The other Jews who were in the king's
provinces gathered themselves together,
defended their lives, had rest from their
enemies, and killed seventy-five thousand
of those who hated them; but they didn't
lay their hand on the plunder.

17 This was done on the thirteenth day
of the month Adar; and on the fourteenth
day of that month they rested and made it
a day of feasting and gladness.

18 But the Jews who were in Susa
assembled together on the thirteenth and
on the fourteenth days of the month; and
on the fifteenth day of that month, they
rested, and made it a day of feasting and
gladness.
19 Therefore the Jews of the villages,
who live in the unwalled towns, make the
fourteenth day of the month Adar a day of
gladness and feasting, a holiday, and a
day of sending presents of food to one
another.
20 Mordecai wrote these things, and sent
letters to all the Jews who were in all the
provinces of the King Ahasuerus, both
near and far,
21 to enjoin them that they should keep
the fourteenth and fifteenth days of the
month Adar yearly,
22 as the days in which the Jews had rest
from their enemies, and the month which
was turned to them from sorrow to
gladness, and from mourning into a
holiday; that they should make them days
of feasting and gladness, and of sending
presents of food to one another, and gifts
to the needy.
23 The Jews accepted the custom that
they had begun, as Mordecai had written
to them,
24 because Haman the son of
Hammedatha, the Agagite, the enemy of
all the Jews, had plotted against the Jews
to destroy them, and had cast "Pur", that is
the lot, to consume them and to destroy
them;
25 but when this became known to the
king, he commanded by letters that his
wicked plan, which he had planned
against the Jews, should return on his
own head, and that he and his sons should
be hanged on the gallows.

26 Therefore they called these days
"Purim",† from the word "Pur." Therefore
because of all the words of this letter, and
of that which they had seen concerning

† **9:26** Purim is the Hebrew plural for pur, which means lot.

this matter, and that which had come to
them,
27 the Jews established and imposed on
themselves, on their descendants, and on
all those who joined themselves to them,
so that it should not fail that they would
keep these two days according to what
was written and according to its
appointed time every year;
28 and that these days should be
remembered and kept throughout every
generation, every family, every province,
and every city; and that these days of
Purim should not fail from among the
Jews, nor their memory perish from their
offspring.‡
29 Then Esther the queen, the daughter
of Abihail, and Mordecai the Jew wrote
with all authority to confirm this second
letter of Purim.
30 He sent letters to all the Jews in the
hundred twenty-seven provinces of the
kingdom of Ahasuerus with words of
peace and truth,
31 to confirm these days of Purim in
their appointed times, as Mordecai the
Jew and Esther the queen had decreed,
and as they had imposed upon themselves
and their descendants in the matter of the
fastings and their mourning.
32 The commandment of Esther
confirmed these matters of Purim; and it
was written in the book.

10

1 King Ahasuerus laid a tribute on the
land and on the islands of the sea.
2 Aren't all the acts of his power and of
his might, and the full account of the
greatness of Mordecai, to which the king
advanced him, written in the book of the
chronicles of the kings of Media and
Persia?
3 For Mordecai the Jew was next to King
Ahasuerus, and great among the Jews and
accepted by the multitude of his brothers,
seeking the good of his people and
speaking peace to all his descendants.

‡ **9:28** or, seed

The Book of Job

1 There was a man in the land of Uz,
whose name was Job. That man was
blameless and upright, and one who
feared God,† and turned away from evil.
2 There were born to him seven sons
and three daughters.
3 His possessions also were seven
thousand sheep, three thousand camels,
five hundred yoke of oxen, five hundred
female donkeys, and a very great
household; so that this man was the
greatest of all the children of the east.
4 His sons went and held a feast in the
house of each one on his birthday; and
they sent and called for their three sisters
to eat and to drink with them.
5 It was so, when the days of their
feasting had run their course, that Job
sent and sanctified them, and rose up
early in the morning, and offered burnt
offerings according to the number of
them all. For Job said, "It may be that my
sons have sinned, and renounced God in
their hearts." Job did so continually.
6 Now on the day when God's sons came
to present themselves before the LORD,‡
Satan also came among them.
7 The LORD said to Satan, "Where have
you come from?"

Then Satan answered the LORD, and
said, "From going back and forth on the
earth, and from walking up and down in
it."
8 The LORD said to Satan, "Have you
considered my servant, Job? For there is
no one like him on the earth, a blameless
and an upright man, one who fears God,
and turns away from evil."
9 Then Satan answered the LORD, and
said, "Does Job fear God for nothing?
10 Haven't you made a hedge around
him, and around his house, and around
all that he has, on every side? You have
blessed the work of his hands, and his
substance is increased in the land.
11 But stretch out your hand now, and
touch all that he has, and he will renounce
you to your face."
12 The LORD said to Satan, "Behold,§ all
that he has is in your power. Only on
himself don't stretch out your hand."

So Satan went out from the presence of
the LORD.
13 It fell on a day when his sons and his
daughters were eating and drinking wine
in their oldest brother's house,
14 that a messenger came to Job, and
said, "The oxen were plowing, and the
donkeys feeding beside them,
15 and the Sabeans attacked, and took
them away. Yes, they have killed the
servants with the edge of the sword, and I
alone have escaped to tell you."
16 While he was still speaking, another
also came and said, "The fire of God has
fallen from the sky, and has burned up
the sheep and the servants, and
consumed them, and I alone have escaped
to tell you."
17 While he was still speaking, another
also came and said, "The Chaldeans made
three bands, and swept down on the
camels, and have taken them away, yes,
and killed the servants with the edge of
the sword; and I alone have escaped to tell
you."
18 While he was still speaking, there
came also another, and said, "Your sons
and your daughters were eating and
drinking wine in their oldest brother's
house,
19 and behold, there came a great wind
from the wilderness, and struck the four
corners of the house, and it fell on the
young men, and they are dead. I alone
have escaped to tell you."
20 Then Job arose, and tore his robe, and
shaved his head, and fell down on the
ground, and worshiped.
21 He said, "Naked I came out of my
mother's womb, and naked will I return

† **1:1** The Hebrew word rendered "God" is "אֱלֹהִים" (Elohim). ‡ **1:6** When rendered in ALL CAPITAL LETTERS, "LORD" or "GOD" is the translation of God's Proper Name (Hebrew "יהוה", usually pronounced Yahweh). § **1:12** "Behold", from "הִנֵּה", means look at, take notice, observe, see, or gaze at. It is often used as an interjection.

there. The LORD gave, and the LORD has
taken away. Blessed be the LORD's name."
22 In all this, Job didn't sin, nor charge
God with wrongdoing.

2

1 Again, on the day when God's sons
came to present themselves before the
LORD, Satan came also among them to
present himself before the LORD.
2 The LORD said to Satan, "Where have
you come from?"
Satan answered the LORD, and said,
"From going back and forth on the earth,
and from walking up and down in it."
3 The LORD said to Satan, "Have you
considered my servant Job? For there is
no one like him on the earth, a blameless
and an upright man, one who fears God,
and turns away from evil. He still
maintains his integrity, although you
incited me against him, to ruin him
without cause."
4 Satan answered the LORD, and said,
"Skin for skin. Yes, all that a man has he
will give for his life.
5 But stretch out your hand now, and
touch his bone and his flesh, and he will
renounce you to your face."
6 The LORD said to Satan, "Behold, he is
in your hand. Only spare his life."
7 So Satan went out from the presence
of the LORD, and struck Job with painful
sores from the sole of his foot to his head.
8 He took for himself a potsherd to
scrape himself with, and he sat among the
ashes.
9 Then his wife said to him, "Do you still
maintain your integrity? Renounce God,
and die."
10 But he said to her, "You speak as one
of the foolish women would speak. What?
Shall we receive good at the hand of God,
and shall we not receive evil?"
In all this Job didn't sin with his lips.
11 Now when Job's three friends heard
of all this evil that had come on him, they
each came from his own place: Eliphaz
the Temanite, Bildad the Shuhite, and
Zophar the Naamathite; and they made
an appointment together to come to
sympathize with him and to comfort him.
12 When they lifted up their eyes from a
distance, and didn't recognize him, they
raised their voices, and wept; and they
each tore his robe, and sprinkled dust on
their heads toward the sky.
13 So they sat down with him on the
ground seven days and seven nights, and
no one spoke a word to him, for they saw
that his grief was very great.

3

1 After this Job opened his mouth, and
cursed the day of his birth.
2 Job answered:
3 "Let the day perish in which I was born,
the night which said, 'There is a boy
conceived.'
4 Let that day be darkness.
Don't let God from above seek for it,
neither let the light shine on it.
5 Let darkness and the shadow of death
claim it for their own.
Let a cloud dwell on it.
Let all that makes the day black
terrify it.
6 As for that night, let thick darkness seize
on it.
Let it not rejoice among the days of
the year.
Let it not come into the number of the
months.
7 Behold, let that night be barren.
Let no joyful voice come therein.
8 Let them curse it who curse the day,
who are ready to rouse up leviathan.
9 Let the stars of its twilight be dark.
Let it look for light, but have none,
neither let it see the eyelids of the
morning,
10 because it didn't shut up the doors of
my mother's womb,
nor did it hide trouble from my eyes.

11 "Why didn't I die from the womb?
Why didn't I give up the spirit when
my mother bore me?
12 Why did the knees receive me?
Or why the breast, that I should
nurse?
13 For now I should have lain down and
been quiet.

I should have slept, then I would have
been at rest,
14 with kings and counselors of the earth,
who built up waste places for
themselves;
15 or with princes who had gold,
who filled their houses with silver;
16 or as a hidden untimely birth I had not
been,
as infants who never saw light.
17 There the wicked cease from troubling.
There the weary are at rest.
18 There the prisoners are at ease together.
They don't hear the voice of the
taskmaster.
19 The small and the great are there.
The servant is free from his master.

20 "Why is light given to him who is in
misery,
life to the bitter in soul,
21 who long for death, but it doesn't come;
and dig for it more than for hidden
treasures,
22 who rejoice exceedingly,
and are glad, when they can find the
grave?
23 Why is light given to a man whose way
is hidden,
whom God has hedged in?
24 For my sighing comes before I eat.
My groanings are poured out like
water.
25 For the thing which I fear comes on me,
that which I am afraid of comes to me.
26 I am not at ease, neither am I quiet,
neither do I have rest;
but trouble comes."

4

1 Then Eliphaz the Temanite answered,
2 "If someone ventures to talk with you,
will you be grieved?
But who can withhold himself from
speaking?
3 Behold, you have instructed many,
you have strengthened the weak
hands.
4 Your words have supported him who
was falling,
you have made the feeble knees firm.
5 But now it has come to you, and you
faint.
It touches you, and you are troubled.
6 Isn't your piety your confidence?
Isn't the integrity of your ways your
hope?

7 "Remember, now, who ever perished,
being innocent?
Or where were the upright cut off?
8 According to what I have seen, those
who plow iniquity
and sow trouble, reap the same.
9 By the breath of God they perish.
By the blast of his anger are they
consumed.
10 The roaring of the lion,
and the voice of the fierce lion,
the teeth of the young lions, are
broken.
11 The old lion perishes for lack of prey.
The cubs of the lioness are scattered
abroad.

12 "Now a thing was secretly brought to
me.
My ear received a whisper of it.
13 In thoughts from the visions of the
night,
when deep sleep falls on men,
14 fear came on me, and trembling,
which made all my bones shake.
15 Then a spirit passed before my face.
The hair of my flesh stood up.
16 It stood still, but I couldn't discern its
appearance.
A form was before my eyes.
Silence, then I heard a voice, saying,
17 'Shall mortal man be more just than
God?
Shall a man be more pure than his
Maker?
18 Behold, he puts no trust in his servants.
He charges his angels with error.
19 How much more those who dwell in
houses of clay,
whose foundation is in the dust,
who are crushed before the moth!
20 Between morning and evening they are
destroyed.
They perish forever without any
regarding it.
21 Isn't their tent cord plucked up within
them?
They die, and that without wisdom.'

5

1 “Call now; is there any who will answer you?
To which of the holy ones will you turn?
2 For resentment kills the foolish man,
and jealousy kills the simple.
3 I have seen the foolish taking root,
but suddenly I cursed his habitation.
4 His children are far from safety.
They are crushed in the gate.
Neither is there any to deliver them,
5 whose harvest the hungry eat up,
and take it even out of the thorns.
The snare gapes for their substance.
6 For affliction doesn’t come out of the dust,
neither does trouble spring out of the ground;
7 but man is born to trouble,
as the sparks fly upward.

8 “But as for me, I would seek God.
I would commit my cause to God,
9 who does great things that can’t be fathomed,
marvelous things without number;
10 who gives rain on the earth,
and sends waters on the fields;
11 so that he sets up on high those who are low,
those who mourn are exalted to safety.
12 He frustrates the plans of the crafty,
so that their hands can’t perform their enterprise.
13 He takes the wise in their own craftiness;
the counsel of the cunning is carried headlong.
14 They meet with darkness in the day time,
and grope at noonday as in the night.
15 But he saves from the sword of their mouth,
even the needy from the hand of the mighty.
16 So the poor has hope,
and injustice shuts her mouth.
17 “Behold, happy is the man whom God corrects.
Therefore do not despise the chastening of the Almighty.
18 For he wounds and binds up.
He injures and his hands make whole.
19 He will deliver you in six troubles;
yes, in seven no evil will touch you.
20 In famine he will redeem you from death;
in war, from the power of the sword.
21 You will be hidden from the scourge of the tongue,
neither will you be afraid of destruction when it comes.
22 You will laugh at destruction and famine,
neither will you be afraid of the animals of the earth.
23 For you will be allied with the stones of the field.
The animals of the field will be at peace with you.
24 You will know that your tent is in peace.
You will visit your fold, and will miss nothing.
25 You will know also that your offspring† will be great,
your offspring as the grass of the earth.
26 You will come to your grave in a full age,
like a shock of grain comes in its season.
27 Behold, we have researched it. It is so.
Hear it, and know it for your good.”

6

1 Then Job answered,
2 “Oh that my anguish were weighed,
and all my calamity laid in the balances!
3 For now it would be heavier than the sand of the seas,
therefore my words have been rash.
4 For the arrows of the Almighty are within me.
My spirit drinks up their poison.
The terrors of God set themselves in array against me.
5 Does the wild donkey bray when he has grass?

† **5:25** or, seed

Or does the ox low over his fodder?
6 Can that which has no flavor be
eaten without salt?
Or is there any taste in the white of an
egg?
7 My soul refuses to touch them.
They are as loathsome food to me.

8 “Oh that I might have my request,
that God would grant the thing that I
long for,
9 even that it would please God to crush
me;
that he would let loose his hand, and
cut me off!
10 Let it still be my consolation,
yes, let me exult in pain that doesn’t
spare,
that I have not denied the words of
the Holy One.
11 What is my strength, that I should wait?
What is my end, that I should be
patient?
12 Is my strength the strength of stones?
Or is my flesh of bronze?
13 Isn’t it that I have no help in me,
that wisdom is driven away from me?

14 “To him who is ready to faint, kindness
should be shown from his friend;
even to him who forsakes the fear of
the Almighty.
15 My brothers have dealt deceitfully as a
brook,
as the channel of brooks that pass
away;
16 which are black by reason of the ice,
in which the snow hides itself.
17 In the dry season, they vanish.
When it is hot, they are consumed out
of their place.
18 The caravans that travel beside them
turn away.
They go up into the waste, and perish.
19 The caravans of Tema looked.
The companies of Sheba waited for
them.
20 They were distressed because they
were confident.
They came there, and were
confounded.
21 For now you are nothing.
You see a terror, and are afraid.
22 Did I ever say, ‘Give to me’?
or, ‘Offer a present for me from your
substance’?
23 or, ‘Deliver me from the adversary’s
hand’?
or, ‘Redeem me from the hand of the
oppressors’?

24 “Teach me, and I will hold my peace.
Cause me to understand my error.
25 How forcible are words of uprightness!
But your reproof, what does it
reprove?
26 Do you intend to reprove words,
since the speeches of one who is
desperate are as wind?
27 Yes, you would even cast lots for the
fatherless,
and make merchandise of your
friend.
28 Now therefore be pleased to look at me,
for surely I will not lie to your face.
29 Please return.
Let there be no injustice.
Yes, return again.
My cause is righteous.
30 Is there injustice on my tongue?
Can’t my taste discern mischievous
things?

7

1 “Isn’t a man forced to labor on earth?
Aren’t his days like the days of a hired
hand?
2 As a servant who earnestly desires the
shadow,
as a hireling who looks for his wages,
3 so I am made to possess months of
misery,
wearisome nights are appointed to
me.
4 When I lie down, I say,
‘When will I arise, and the night be
gone?’
I toss and turn until the dawning of
the day.
5 My flesh is clothed with worms and clods
of dust.
My skin closes up, and breaks out
afresh.
6 My days are swifter than a weaver’s
shuttle,

and are spent without hope.
7 Oh remember that my life is a breath.
My eye will no more see good.
8 The eye of him who sees me will see me no more.
Your eyes will be on me, but I will not be.
9 As the cloud is consumed and vanishes away,
so he who goes down to Sheol† will come up no more.
10 He will return no more to his house,
neither will his place know him any more.

11 "Therefore I will not keep silent.
I will speak in the anguish of my spirit.
I will complain in the bitterness of my soul.
12 Am I a sea, or a sea monster,
that you put a guard over me?
13 When I say, 'My bed will comfort me.
My couch will ease my complaint,'
14 then you scare me with dreams
and terrify me through visions,
15 so that my soul chooses strangling,
death rather than my bones.
16 I loathe my life.
I don't want to live forever.
Leave me alone, for my days are but a breath.
17 What is man, that you should magnify him,
that you should set your mind on him,
18 that you should visit him every morning,
and test him every moment?
19 How long will you not look away from me,
nor leave me alone until I swallow down my spittle?
20 If I have sinned, what do I do to you, you watcher of men?
Why have you set me as a mark for you,
so that I am a burden to myself?
21 Why do you not pardon my disobedience, and take away my iniquity?
For now will I lie down in the dust.
You will seek me diligently, but I will not be."

† **7:9** Sheol is the place of the dead.

8

1 Then Bildad the Shuhite answered,
2 "How long will you speak these things?
Shall the words of your mouth be a mighty wind?
3 Does God pervert justice?
Or does the Almighty pervert righteousness?
4 If your children have sinned against him,
he has delivered them into the hand of their disobedience.
5 If you want to seek God diligently,
make your supplication to the Almighty.
6 If you were pure and upright,
surely now he would awaken for you,
and make the habitation of your righteousness prosperous.
7 Though your beginning was small,
yet your latter end would greatly increase.

8 "Please inquire of past generations.
Find out about the learning of their fathers.
9 (For we are but of yesterday, and know nothing,
because our days on earth are a shadow.)
10 Shall they not teach you, tell you,
and utter words out of their heart?

11 "Can the papyrus grow up without mire?
Can the rushes grow without water?
12 While it is yet in its greenness, not cut down,
it withers before any other reed.
13 So are the paths of all who forget God.
The hope of the godless man will perish,
14 whose confidence will break apart,
whose trust is a spider's web.
15 He will lean on his house, but it will not stand.
He will cling to it, but it will not endure.
16 He is green before the sun.
His shoots go out along his garden.

17 His roots are wrapped around the rock pile.
He sees the place of stones.
18 If he is destroyed from his place,
then it will deny him, saying, 'I have not seen you.'
19 Behold, this is the joy of his way.
Out of the earth, others will spring.

20 "Behold, God will not cast away a blameless man,
neither will he uphold the evildoers.
21 He will still fill your mouth with laughter,
your lips with shouting.
22 Those who hate you will be clothed with shame.
The tent of the wicked will be no more."

9

1 Then Job answered,
2 "Truly I know that it is so,
but how can man be just with God?
3 If he is pleased to contend with him,
he can't answer him one time in a thousand.
4 God is wise in heart, and mighty in strength.
Who has hardened himself against him and prospered?
5 He removes the mountains, and they don't know it,
when he overturns them in his anger.
6 He shakes the earth out of its place.
Its pillars tremble.
7 He commands the sun and it doesn't rise,
and seals up the stars.
8 He alone stretches out the heavens,
and treads on the waves of the sea.
9 He makes the Bear, Orion, and the Pleiades,
and the rooms of the south.
10 He does great things past finding out;
yes, marvelous things without number.
11 Behold, he goes by me, and I don't see him.
He passes on also, but I don't perceive him.
12 Behold, he snatches away.
Who can hinder him?
Who will ask him, 'What are you doing?'

13 "God will not withdraw his anger.
The helpers of Rahab stoop under him.
14 How much less will I answer him,
and choose my words to argue with him?
15 Though I were righteous, yet I wouldn't answer him.
I would make supplication to my judge.
16 If I had called, and he had answered me,
yet I wouldn't believe that he listened to my voice.
17 For he breaks me with a storm,
and multiplies my wounds without cause.
18 He will not allow me to catch my breath,
but fills me with bitterness.
19 If it is a matter of strength, behold, he is mighty!
If of justice, 'Who,' says he, 'will summon me?'
20 Though I am righteous, my own mouth will condemn me.
Though I am blameless, it will prove me perverse.
21 I am blameless.
I don't respect myself.
I despise my life.

22 "It is all the same.
Therefore I say he destroys the blameless and the wicked.
23 If the scourge kills suddenly,
he will mock at the trial of the innocent.
24 The earth is given into the hand of the wicked.
He covers the faces of its judges.
If not he, then who is it?

25 "Now my days are swifter than a runner.
They flee away. They see no good.
26 They have passed away as the swift ships,
as the eagle that swoops on the prey.
27 If I say, 'I will forget my complaint,
I will put off my sad face, and cheer up,'
28 I am afraid of all my sorrows.

I know that you will not hold me
innocent.
29 I will be condemned.
Why then do I labor in vain?
30 If I wash myself with snow,
and cleanse my hands with lye,
31 yet you will plunge me in the ditch.
My own clothes will abhor me.
32 For he is not a man, as I am, that I
should answer him,
that we should come together in
judgment.
33 There is no umpire between us,
that might lay his hand on us both.
34 Let him take his rod away from me.
Let his terror not make me afraid;
35 then I would speak, and not fear him,
for I am not so in myself.

10

1 "My soul is weary of my life.
I will give free course to my
complaint.
I will speak in the bitterness of my
soul.
2 I will tell God, 'Do not condemn me.
Show me why you contend with me.
3 Is it good to you that you should oppress,
that you should despise the work of
your hands,
and smile on the counsel of the
wicked?
4 Do you have eyes of flesh?
Or do you see as man sees?
5 Are your days as the days of mortals,
or your years as man's years,
6 that you inquire after my iniquity,
and search after my sin?
7 Although you know that I am not wicked,
there is no one who can deliver out of
your hand.

8 " 'Your hands have framed me and
fashioned me altogether,
yet you destroy me.
9 Remember, I beg you, that you have
fashioned me as clay.
Will you bring me into dust again?
10 Haven't you poured me out like milk,
and curdled me like cheese?
11 You have clothed me with skin and
flesh,
and knit me together with bones and
sinews.
12 You have granted me life and loving
kindness.
Your visitation has preserved my
spirit.
13 Yet you hid these things in your heart.
I know that this is with you:
14 if I sin, then you mark me.
You will not acquit me from my
iniquity.
15 If I am wicked, woe to me.
If I am righteous, I still will not lift up
my head,
being filled with disgrace,
and conscious of my affliction.
16 If my head is held high, you hunt me
like a lion.
Again you show yourself powerful to
me.
17 You renew your witnesses against me,
and increase your indignation on me.
Changes and warfare are with me.

18 " 'Why, then, have you brought me out
of the womb?
I wish I had given up the spirit, and
no eye had seen me.
19 I should have been as though I had not
been.
I should have been carried from the
womb to the grave.
20 Aren't my days few?
Stop!
Leave me alone, that I may find a little
comfort,
21 before I go where I will not return
from,
to the land of darkness and of the
shadow of death;
22 the land dark as midnight,
of the shadow of death,
without any order,
where the light is as midnight.' "

11

1 Then Zophar, the Naamathite,
answered,
2 "Shouldn't the multitude of words be
answered?
Should a man full of talk be justified?

3 Should your boastings make men hold
their peace?
When you mock, will no man make
you ashamed?
4 For you say, ‘My doctrine is pure.
I am clean in your eyes.’
5 But oh that God would speak,
and open his lips against you,
6 that he would show you the secrets of
wisdom!
For true wisdom has two sides.
Know therefore that God exacts of
you less than your iniquity
deserves.

7 “Can you fathom the mystery of God?
Or can you probe the limits of the
Almighty?
8 They are high as heaven. What can you
do?
They are deeper than Sheol.† What
can you know?
9 Its measure is longer than the earth,
and broader than the sea.
10 If he passes by, or confines,
or convenes a court, then who can
oppose him?
11 For he knows false men.
He sees iniquity also, even though he
doesn’t consider it.
12 An empty-headed man becomes wise
when a man is born as a wild
donkey’s colt.

13 “If you set your heart aright,
stretch out your hands toward him.
14 If iniquity is in your hand, put it far
away.
Don’t let unrighteousness dwell in
your tents.
15 Surely then you will lift up your face
without spot.
Yes, you will be steadfast, and will not
fear,
16 for you will forget your misery.
You will remember it like waters that
have passed away.
17 Life will be clearer than the noonday.
Though there is darkness, it will be as
the morning.
18 You will be secure, because there is
hope.
Yes, you will search, and will take
your rest in safety.
19 Also you will lie down, and no one will
make you afraid.
Yes, many will court your favor.
20 But the eyes of the wicked will fail.
They will have no way to flee.
Their hope will be the giving up of the
spirit.”

12

1 Then Job answered,
2 “No doubt, but you are the people,
and wisdom will die with you.
3 But I have understanding as well as you;
I am not inferior to you.
Yes, who doesn’t know such things as
these?
4 I am like one who is a joke to his
neighbor,
I, who called on God, and he
answered.
The just, the blameless man is a joke.
5 In the thought of him who is at ease
there is contempt for misfortune.
It is ready for them whose foot slips.
6 The tents of robbers prosper.
Those who provoke God are secure,
who carry their god in their hands.

7 “But ask the animals now, and they will
teach you;
the birds of the sky, and they will tell
you.
8 Or speak to the earth, and it will teach
you.
The fish of the sea will declare to you.
9 Who doesn’t know that in all these,
the LORD’s hand has done this,
10 in whose hand is the life of every living
thing,
and the breath of all mankind?
11 Doesn’t the ear try words,
even as the palate tastes its food?
12 With aged men is wisdom,
in length of days understanding.

13 “With God is wisdom and might.
He has counsel and understanding.
14 Behold, he breaks down, and it can’t be
built again.

† **11:8** Sheol is the place of the dead.

He imprisons a man, and there can be no release.
15 Behold, he withholds the waters, and they dry up.
Again, he sends them out, and they overturn the earth.
16 With him is strength and wisdom.
The deceived and the deceiver are his.
17 He leads counselors away stripped.
He makes judges fools.
18 He loosens the bond of kings.
He binds their waist with a belt.
19 He leads priests away stripped,
and overthrows the mighty.
20 He removes the speech of those who are trusted,
and takes away the understanding of the elders.
21 He pours contempt on princes,
and loosens the belt of the strong.
22 He uncovers deep things out of darkness,
and brings out to light the shadow of death.
23 He increases the nations, and he destroys them.
He enlarges the nations, and he leads them captive.
24 He takes away understanding from the chiefs of the people of the earth,
and causes them to wander in a wilderness where there is no way.
25 They grope in the dark without light.
He makes them stagger like a drunken man.

13

1 "Behold, my eye has seen all this.
My ear has heard and understood it.
2 What you know, I know also.
I am not inferior to you.

3 "Surely I would speak to the Almighty.
I desire to reason with God.
4 But you are forgers of lies.
You are all physicians of no value.
5 Oh that you would be completely silent!
Then you would be wise.
6 Hear now my reasoning.
Listen to the pleadings of my lips.
7 Will you speak unrighteously for God,
and talk deceitfully for him?
8 Will you show partiality to him?
Will you contend for God?
9 Is it good that he should search you out?
Or as one deceives a man, will you deceive him?
10 He will surely reprove you
if you secretly show partiality.
11 Won't his majesty make you afraid
and his dread fall on you?
12 Your memorable sayings are proverbs of ashes.
Your defenses are defenses of clay.

13 "Be silent!
Leave me alone, that I may speak.
Let come on me what will.
14 Why should I take my flesh in my teeth,
and put my life in my hand?
15 Behold, he will kill me.
I have no hope.
Nevertheless, I will maintain my ways before him.
16 This also will be my salvation,
that a godless man will not come before him.
17 Listen carefully to my speech.
Let my declaration be in your ears.
18 See now, I have set my cause in order.
I know that I am righteous.
19 Who is he who will contend with me?
For then I would hold my peace and give up the spirit.

20 "Only don't do two things to me,
then I will not hide myself from your face:
21 withdraw your hand far from me,
and don't let your terror make me afraid.
22 Then call, and I will answer,
or let me speak, and you answer me.
23 How many are my iniquities and sins?
Make me know my disobedience and my sin.
24 Why do you hide your face,
and consider me your enemy?
25 Will you harass a driven leaf?
Will you pursue the dry stubble?
26 For you write bitter things against me,
and make me inherit the iniquities of my youth.

27 You also put my feet in the stocks,
and mark all my paths.
You set a bound to the soles of my feet,
28 though I am decaying like a rotten thing,
like a garment that is moth-eaten.

14

1 "Man, who is born of a woman,
is of few days, and full of trouble.
2 He grows up like a flower, and is cut down.
He also flees like a shadow, and doesn't continue.
3 Do you open your eyes on such a one,
and bring me into judgment with you?
4 Who can bring a clean thing out of an unclean?
Not one.
5 Seeing his days are determined,
the number of his months is with you,
and you have appointed his bounds that he can't pass.
6 Look away from him, that he may rest,
until he accomplishes, as a hireling, his day.

7 "For there is hope for a tree if it is cut down,
that it will sprout again,
that the tender branch of it will not cease.
8 Though its root grows old in the earth,
and its stock dies in the ground,
9 yet through the scent of water it will bud,
and sprout boughs like a plant.
10 But man dies, and is laid low.
Yes, man gives up the spirit, and where is he?
11 As the waters fail from the sea,
and the river wastes and dries up,
12 so man lies down and doesn't rise.
Until the heavens are no more, they will not awake,
nor be roused out of their sleep.

13 "Oh that you would hide me in Sheol,† that you would keep me secret until your wrath is past,
that you would appoint me a set time and remember me!
14 If a man dies, will he live again?
I would wait all the days of my warfare,
until my release should come.
15 You would call, and I would answer you.
You would have a desire for the work of your hands.
16 But now you count my steps.
Don't you watch over my sin?
17 My disobedience is sealed up in a bag.
You fasten up my iniquity.

18 "But the mountain falling comes to nothing.
The rock is removed out of its place.
19 The waters wear the stones.
The torrents of it wash away the dust of the earth.
So you destroy the hope of man.
20 You forever prevail against him, and he departs.
You change his face, and send him away.
21 His sons come to honor, and he doesn't know it.
They are brought low, but he doesn't perceive it of them.
22 But his flesh on him has pain,
and his soul within him mourns."

15

1 Then Eliphaz the Temanite answered,
2 "Should a wise man answer with vain knowledge,
and fill himself with the east wind?
3 Should he reason with unprofitable talk,
or with speeches with which he can do no good?
4 Yes, you do away with fear,
and hinder devotion before God.
5 For your iniquity teaches your mouth,
and you choose the language of the crafty.
6 Your own mouth condemns you, and not I.
Yes, your own lips testify against you.

7 "Are you the first man who was born?

† **14:13** Sheol is the place of the dead.

Or were you brought out before the hills?
8 Have you heard the secret counsel of God?
Do you limit wisdom to yourself?
9 What do you know that we don't know?
What do you understand which is not in us?
10 With us are both the gray-headed and the very aged men,
much older than your father.
11 Are the consolations of God too small for you,
even the word that is gentle toward you?
12 Why does your heart carry you away?
Why do your eyes flash,
13 that you turn your spirit against God,
and let such words go out of your mouth?
14 What is man, that he should be clean?
What is he who is born of a woman, that he should be righteous?
15 Behold, he puts no trust in his holy ones.
Yes, the heavens are not clean in his sight;
16 how much less one who is abominable and corrupt,
a man who drinks iniquity like water!

17 "I will show you, listen to me;
that which I have seen I will declare
18 (which wise men have told by their fathers,
and have not hidden it;
19 to whom alone the land was given,
and no stranger passed among them):
20 the wicked man writhes in pain all his days,
even the number of years that are laid up for the oppressor.
21 A sound of terrors is in his ears.
In prosperity the destroyer will come on him.
22 He doesn't believe that he will return out of darkness.
He is waited for by the sword.
23 He wanders abroad for bread, saying, 'Where is it?'
He knows that the day of darkness is ready at his hand.
24 Distress and anguish make him afraid.
They prevail against him, as a king ready to the battle.
25 Because he has stretched out his hand against God,
and behaves himself proudly against the Almighty,
26 he runs at him with a stiff neck,
with the thick shields of his bucklers,
27 because he has covered his face with his fatness,
and gathered fat on his thighs.
28 He has lived in desolate cities,
in houses which no one inhabited,
which were ready to become heaps.
29 He will not be rich, neither will his substance continue,
neither will their possessions be extended on the earth.
30 He will not depart out of darkness.
The flame will dry up his branches.
He will go away by the breath of God's mouth.
31 Let him not trust in emptiness, deceiving himself,
for emptiness will be his reward.
32 It will be accomplished before his time.
His branch will not be green.
33 He will shake off his unripe grape as the vine,
and will cast off his flower as the olive tree.
34 For the company of the godless will be barren,
and fire will consume the tents of bribery.
35 They conceive mischief and produce iniquity.
Their heart prepares deceit."

16

1 Then Job answered,
2 "I have heard many such things.
You are all miserable comforters!
3 Shall vain words have an end?
Or what provokes you that you answer?
4 I also could speak as you do.
If your soul were in my soul's place,
I could join words together against you,
and shake my head at you,

5 but I would strengthen you with my
mouth.
The solace of my lips would relieve
you.

6 “Though I speak, my grief is not
subsided.
Though I forbear, what am I eased?
7 But now, God, you have surely worn me
out.
You have made all my company
desolate.
8 You have shriveled me up. This is a
witness against me.
My leanness rises up against me.
It testifies to my face.
9 He has torn me in his wrath and
persecuted me.
He has gnashed on me with his teeth.
My adversary sharpens his eyes on
me.
10 They have gaped on me with their
mouth.
They have struck me on the cheek
reproachfully.
They gather themselves together
against me.
11 God delivers me to the ungodly,
and casts me into the hands of the
wicked.
12 I was at ease, and he broke me apart.
Yes, he has taken me by the neck, and
dashed me to pieces.
He has also set me up for his target.
13 His archers surround me.
He splits my kidneys apart, and does
not spare.
He pours out my bile on the ground.
14 He breaks me with breach on breach.
He runs at me like a giant.
15 I have sewed sackcloth on my skin,
and have thrust my horn in the dust.
16 My face is red with weeping.
Deep darkness is on my eyelids,
17 although there is no violence in my
hands,
and my prayer is pure.

18 “Earth, don’t cover my blood.
Let my cry have no place to rest.
19 Even now, behold, my witness is in
heaven.
He who vouches for me is on high.
20 My friends scoff at me.
My eyes pour out tears to God,
21 that he would maintain the right of a
man with God,
of a son of man with his neighbor!
22 For when a few years have come,
I will go the way of no return.

17

1 “My spirit is consumed.
My days are extinct
and the grave is ready for me.
2 Surely there are mockers with me.
My eye dwells on their provocation.

3 “Now give a pledge. Be collateral for me
with yourself.
Who is there who will strike hands
with me?
4 For you have hidden their heart from
understanding,
therefore you will not exalt them.
5 He who denounces his friends for
plunder,
even the eyes of his children will fail.

6 “But he has made me a byword of the
people.
They spit in my face.
7 My eye also is dim by reason of sorrow.
All my members are as a shadow.
8 Upright men will be astonished at this.
The innocent will stir himself up
against the godless.
9 Yet the righteous will hold to his way.
He who has clean hands will grow
stronger and stronger.
10 But as for you all, come back.
I will not find a wise man among you.
11 My days are past.
My plans are broken off,
as are the thoughts of my heart.
12 They change the night into day,
saying ‘The light is near’ in the
presence of darkness.
13 If I look for Sheol† as my house,
if I have spread my couch in the
darkness,

† **17:13** Sheol is the place of the dead.

14 if I have said to corruption, ‘You are my
father,’
and to the worm, ‘My mother,’ and
‘My sister,’
15 where then is my hope?
As for my hope, who will see it?
16 Shall it go down with me to the gates of
Sheol,‡
or descend together into the dust?”

18

1 Then Bildad the Shuhite answered,
2 “How long will you hunt for words?
Consider, and afterwards we will
speak.
3 Why are we counted as animals,
which have become unclean in your
sight?
4 You who tear yourself in your anger,
will the earth be forsaken for you?
Or will the rock be removed out of its
place?

5 “Yes, the light of the wicked will be put
out.
The spark of his fire won’t shine.
6 The light will be dark in his tent.
His lamp above him will be put out.
7 The steps of his strength will be
shortened.
His own counsel will cast him down.
8 For he is cast into a net by his own feet,
and he wanders into its mesh.
9 A snare will take him by the heel.
A trap will catch him.
10 A noose is hidden for him in the ground,
a trap for him on the path.
11 Terrors will make him afraid on every
side,
and will chase him at his heels.
12 His strength will be famished.
Calamity will be ready at his side.
13 The members of his body will be
devoured.
The firstborn of death will devour his
members.
14 He will be rooted out of the security of
his tent.
He will be brought to the king of
terrors.
15 There will dwell in his tent that which is
none of his.
Sulfur will be scattered on his
habitation.
16 His roots will be dried up beneath.
His branch will be cut off above.
17 His memory will perish from the earth.
He will have no name in the street.
18 He will be driven from light into
darkness,
and chased out of the world.
19 He will have neither son nor grandson
among his people,
nor any remaining where he lived.
20 Those who come after will be
astonished at his day,
as those who went before were
frightened.
21 Surely such are the dwellings of the
unrighteous.
This is the place of him who doesn’t
know God.”

19

1 Then Job answered,
2 “How long will you torment me,
and crush me with words?
3 You have reproached me ten times.
You aren’t ashamed that you attack
me.
4 If it is true that I have erred,
my error remains with myself.
5 If indeed you will magnify yourselves
against me,
and plead against me my reproach,
6 know now that God has subverted me,
and has surrounded me with his net.

7 “Behold, I cry out of wrong, but I am not
heard.
I cry for help, but there is no justice.
8 He has walled up my way so that I can’t
pass,
and has set darkness in my paths.
9 He has stripped me of my glory,
and taken the crown from my head.
10 He has broken me down on every side,
and I am gone.
He has plucked my hope up like a tree.
11 He has also kindled his wrath against
me.
He counts me among his adversaries.
12 His troops come on together,

‡ **17:16** Sheol is the place of the dead.

build a siege ramp against me,
and encamp around my tent.

13 “He has put my brothers far from me.
My acquaintances are wholly estranged from me.
14 My relatives have gone away.
My familiar friends have forgotten me.
15 Those who dwell in my house and my maids consider me a stranger.
I am an alien in their sight.
16 I call to my servant, and he gives me no answer.
I beg him with my mouth.
17 My breath is offensive to my wife.
I am loathsome to the children of my own mother.
18 Even young children despise me.
If I arise, they speak against me.
19 All my familiar friends abhor me.
They whom I loved have turned against me.
20 My bones stick to my skin and to my flesh.
I have escaped by the skin of my teeth.

21 “Have pity on me. Have pity on me, you my friends,
for the hand of God has touched me.
22 Why do you persecute me as God,
and are not satisfied with my flesh?

23 “Oh that my words were now written!
Oh that they were inscribed in a book!
24 That with an iron pen and lead
they were engraved in the rock forever!
25 But as for me, I know that my Redeemer lives.
In the end, he will stand upon the earth.
26 After my skin is destroyed,
then I will see God in my flesh,
27 whom I, even I, will see on my side.
My eyes will see, and not as a stranger.

“My heart is consumed within me.
28 If you say, ‘How we will persecute him!’
because the root of the matter is found in me,
29 be afraid of the sword,
for wrath brings the punishments of the sword,
that you may know there is a judgment.”

20

1 Then Zophar the Naamathite answered,
2 “Therefore my thoughts answer me,
even by reason of my haste that is in me.
3 I have heard the reproof which puts me to shame.
The spirit of my understanding answers me.
4 Don’t you know this from old time,
since man was placed on earth,
5 that the triumphing of the wicked is short,
the joy of the godless but for a moment?
6 Though his height mount up to the heavens,
and his head reach to the clouds,
7 yet he will perish forever like his own dung.
Those who have seen him will say, ‘Where is he?’
8 He will fly away as a dream, and will not be found.
Yes, he will be chased away like a vision of the night.
9 The eye which saw him will see him no more,
neither will his place see him any more.
10 His children will seek the favor of the poor.
His hands will give back his wealth.
11 His bones are full of his youth,
but youth will lie down with him in the dust.

12 “Though wickedness is sweet in his mouth,
though he hide it under his tongue,
13 though he spare it, and will not let it go,
but keep it still within his mouth,
14 yet his food in his bowels is turned.
It is cobra venom within him.
15 He has swallowed down riches, and he will vomit them up again.
God will cast them out of his belly.
16 He will suck cobra venom.

The viper's tongue will kill him.
17 He will not look at the rivers,
the flowing streams of honey and butter.
18 He will restore that for which he labored, and will not swallow it down.
He will not rejoice according to the substance that he has gotten.
19 For he has oppressed and forsaken the poor.
He has violently taken away a house, and he will not build it up.

20 "Because he knew no quietness within him,
he will not save anything of that in which he delights.
21 There was nothing left that he didn't devour,
therefore his prosperity will not endure.
22 In the fullness of his sufficiency, distress will overtake him.
The hand of everyone who is in misery will come on him.
23 When he is about to fill his belly, God will cast the fierceness of his wrath on him.
It will rain on him while he is eating.
24 He will flee from the iron weapon.
The bronze arrow will strike him through.
25 He draws it out, and it comes out of his body.
Yes, the glittering point comes out of his liver.
Terrors are on him.
26 All darkness is laid up for his treasures.
An unfanned fire will devour him.
It will consume that which is left in his tent.
27 The heavens will reveal his iniquity.
The earth will rise up against him.
28 The increase of his house will depart.
They will rush away in the day of his wrath.
29 This is the portion of a wicked man from God,
the heritage appointed to him by God."

21

1 Then Job answered,
2 "Listen diligently to my speech.
Let this be your consolation.
3 Allow me, and I also will speak.
After I have spoken, mock on.
4 As for me, is my complaint to man?
Why shouldn't I be impatient?
5 Look at me, and be astonished.
Lay your hand on your mouth.
6 When I remember, I am troubled.
Horror takes hold of my flesh.

7 "Why do the wicked live,
become old, yes, and grow mighty in power?
8 Their child is established with them in their sight,
their offspring before their eyes.
9 Their houses are safe from fear,
neither is the rod of God upon them.
10 Their bulls breed without fail.
Their cows calve, and don't miscarry.
11 They send out their little ones like a flock.
Their children dance.
12 They sing to the tambourine and harp,
and rejoice at the sound of the pipe.
13 They spend their days in prosperity.
In an instant they go down to Sheol.†
14 They tell God, 'Depart from us,
for we don't want to know about your ways.
15 What is the Almighty, that we should serve him?
What profit should we have, if we pray to him?'
16 Behold, their prosperity is not in their hand.
The counsel of the wicked is far from me.

17 "How often is it that the lamp of the wicked is put out,
that their calamity comes on them,
that God distributes sorrows in his anger?
18 How often is it that they are as stubble before the wind,
as chaff that the storm carries away?

† **21:13** Sheol is the place of the dead.

19 You say, ‘God lays up his iniquity for his children.’
Let him recompense it to himself, that he may know it.
20 Let his own eyes see his destruction.
Let him drink of the wrath of the Almighty.
21 For what does he care for his house after him,
when the number of his months is cut off?

22 “Shall any teach God knowledge,
since he judges those who are high?
23 One dies in his full strength,
being wholly at ease and quiet.
24 His pails are full of milk.
The marrow of his bones is moistened.
25 Another dies in bitterness of soul,
and never tastes of good.
26 They lie down alike in the dust.
The worm covers them.

27 “Behold, I know your thoughts,
the plans with which you would wrong me.
28 For you say, ‘Where is the house of the prince?
Where is the tent in which the wicked lived?’
29 Haven’t you asked wayfaring men?
Don’t you know their evidences,
30 that the evil man is reserved to the day of calamity,
that they are led out to the day of wrath?
31 Who will declare his way to his face?
Who will repay him what he has done?
32 Yet he will be borne to the grave.
Men will keep watch over the tomb.
33 The clods of the valley will be sweet to him.
All men will draw after him,
as there were innumerable before him.
34 So how can you comfort me with nonsense,
because in your answers there remains only falsehood?”

22

1 Then Eliphaz the Temanite answered,
2 “Can a man be profitable to God?
Surely he who is wise is profitable to himself.
3 Is it any pleasure to the Almighty that you are righteous?
Or does it benefit him that you make your ways perfect?
4 Is it for your piety that he reproves you,
that he enters with you into judgment?
5 Isn’t your wickedness great?
Neither is there any end to your iniquities.
6 For you have taken pledges from your brother for nothing,
and stripped the naked of their clothing.
7 You haven’t given water to the weary to drink,
and you have withheld bread from the hungry.
8 But as for the mighty man, he had the earth.
The honorable man, he lived in it.
9 You have sent widows away empty,
and the arms of the fatherless have been broken.
10 Therefore snares are around you.
Sudden fear troubles you,
11 or darkness, so that you can not see,
and floods of waters cover you.

12 “Isn’t God in the heights of heaven?
See the height of the stars, how high they are!
13 You say, ‘What does God know?
Can he judge through the thick darkness?
14 Thick clouds are a covering to him, so that he doesn’t see.
He walks on the vault of the sky.’
15 Will you keep the old way,
which wicked men have trodden,
16 who were snatched away before their time,
whose foundation was poured out as a stream,
17 who said to God, ‘Depart from us!’
and, ‘What can the Almighty do for us?’
18 Yet he filled their houses with good things,

but the counsel of the wicked is far
from me.
19 The righteous see it, and are glad.
The innocent ridicule them,
20 saying, 'Surely those who rose up
against us are cut off.
The fire has consumed their
remnant.'

21 "Acquaint yourself with him now, and
be at peace.
By it, good will come to you.
22 Please receive instruction from his
mouth,
and lay up his words in your heart.
23 If you return to the Almighty, you will
be built up,
if you put away unrighteousness far
from your tents.
24 Lay your treasure in the dust,
the gold of Ophir among the stones of
the brooks.
25 The Almighty will be your treasure,
and precious silver to you.
26 For then you will delight yourself in the
Almighty,
and will lift up your face to God.
27 You will make your prayer to him, and
he will hear you.
You will pay your vows.
28 You will also decree a thing, and it will
be established to you.
Light will shine on your ways.
29 When they cast down, you will say, 'be
lifted up.'
He will save the humble person.
30 He will even deliver him who is not
innocent.
Yes, he will be delivered through the
cleanness of your hands."

23

1 Then Job answered,
2 "Even today my complaint is rebellious.
His hand is heavy in spite of my
groaning.
3 Oh that I knew where I might find him!
That I might come even to his seat!
4 I would set my cause in order before
him,
and fill my mouth with arguments.
5 I would know the words which he would
answer me,
and understand what he would tell
me.
6 Would he contend with me in the
greatness of his power?
No, but he would listen to me.
7 There the upright might reason with
him,
so I should be delivered forever from
my judge.

8 "If I go east, he is not there.
If I go west, I can't find him.
9 He works to the north, but I can't see
him.
He turns south, but I can't catch a
glimpse of him.

10 But he knows the way that I take.
When he has tried me, I will come out
like gold.
11 My foot has held fast to his steps.
I have kept his way, and not turned
away.
12 I haven't gone back from the
commandment of his lips.
I have treasured up the words of his
mouth more than my necessary
food.
13 But he stands alone, and who can
oppose him?
What his soul desires, even that he
does.
14 For he performs that which is
appointed for me.
Many such things are with him.
15 Therefore I am terrified at his presence.
When I consider, I am afraid of him.
16 For God has made my heart faint.
The Almighty has terrified me.
17 Because I was not cut off before the
darkness,
neither did he cover the thick
darkness from my face.

24

1 "Why aren't times laid up by the
Almighty?
Why don't those who know him see
his days?

2 There are people who remove the landmarks.
They violently take away flocks, and feed them.
3 They drive away the donkey of the fatherless,
and they take the widow's ox for a pledge.
4 They turn the needy out of the way.
The poor of the earth all hide themselves.
5 Behold, as wild donkeys in the desert,
they go out to their work, seeking diligently for food.
The wilderness yields them bread for their children.
6 They cut their food in the field.
They glean the vineyard of the wicked.
7 They lie all night naked without clothing,
and have no covering in the cold.
8 They are wet with the showers of the mountains,
and embrace the rock for lack of a shelter.
9 There are those who pluck the fatherless from the breast,
and take a pledge of the poor,
10 so that they go around naked without clothing.
Being hungry, they carry the sheaves.
11 They make oil within the walls of these men.
They tread wine presses, and suffer thirst.
12 From out of the populous city, men groan.
The soul of the wounded cries out,
yet God doesn't regard the folly.

13 "These are of those who rebel against the light.
They don't know its ways,
nor stay in its paths.
14 The murderer rises with the light.
He kills the poor and needy.
In the night he is like a thief.
15 The eye also of the adulterer waits for the twilight,
saying, 'No eye will see me.'
He disguises his face.
16 In the dark they dig through houses.
They shut themselves up in the daytime.
They don't know the light.
17 For the morning is to all of them like thick darkness,
for they know the terrors of the thick darkness.

18 "They are foam on the surface of the waters.
Their portion is cursed on the earth.
They don't turn into the way of the vineyards.
19 Drought and heat consume the snow waters,
so does Sheol† those who have sinned.
20 The womb will forget him.
The worm will feed sweetly on him.
He will be no more remembered.
Unrighteousness will be broken as a tree.
21 He devours the barren who don't bear.
He shows no kindness to the widow.
22 Yet God preserves the mighty by his power.
He rises up who has no assurance of life.
23 God gives them security, and they rest in it.
His eyes are on their ways.
24 They are exalted; yet a little while, and they are gone.
Yes, they are brought low, they are taken out of the way as all others,
and are cut off as the tops of the ears of grain.
25 If it isn't so now, who will prove me a liar,
and make my speech worth nothing?"

25

1 Then Bildad the Shuhite answered,
2 "Dominion and fear are with him.
He makes peace in his high places.
3 Can his armies be counted?
On whom does his light not arise?
4 How then can man be just with God?
Or how can he who is born of a woman be clean?
5 Behold, even the moon has no brightness,
and the stars are not pure in his sight;

† **24:19** Sheol is the place of the dead.

6 How much less man, who is a worm,
and the son of man, who is a worm!”

26

1 Then Job answered,
2 “How have you helped him who is
without power!
How have you saved the arm that has
no strength!
3 How have you counseled him who has
no wisdom,
and plentifully declared sound
knowledge!
4 To whom have you uttered words?
Whose spirit came out of you?

5 “The departed spirits tremble,
those beneath the waters and all that
live in them.
6 Sheol† is naked before God,
and Abaddon‡ has no covering.
7 He stretches out the north over empty
space,
and hangs the earth on nothing.
8 He binds up the waters in his thick
clouds,
and the cloud is not burst under them.
9 He encloses the face of his throne,
and spreads his cloud on it.
10 He has described a boundary on the
surface of the waters,
and to the confines of light and
darkness.
11 The pillars of heaven tremble
and are astonished at his rebuke.
12 He stirs up the sea with his power,
and by his understanding he strikes
through Rahab.
13 By his Spirit the heavens are garnished.
His hand has pierced the swift
serpent.
14 Behold, these are but the outskirts of his
ways.
How small a whisper do we hear of
him!
But the thunder of his power who can
understand?”

27

1 Job again took up his parable, and said,
2 “As God lives, who has taken away my
right,
the Almighty, who has made my soul
bitter
3 (for the length of my life is still in me,
and the spirit of God is in my nostrils);
4 surely my lips will not speak
unrighteousness,
neither will my tongue utter deceit.
5 Far be it from me that I should justify
you.
Until I die I will not put away my
integrity from me.
6 I hold fast to my righteousness, and will
not let it go.
My heart will not reproach me so long
as I live.

7 “Let my enemy be as the wicked.
Let him who rises up against me be as
the unrighteous.

8 For what is the hope of the godless, when
he is cut off,
when God takes away his life?
9 Will God hear his cry when trouble
comes on him?
10 Will he delight himself in the Almighty,
and call on God at all times?
11 I will teach you about the hand of God.
I will not conceal that which is with
the Almighty.
12 Behold, all of you have seen it
yourselves;
why then have you become
altogether vain?

13 “This is the portion of a wicked man
with God,
the heritage of oppressors, which
they receive from the Almighty.
14 If his children are multiplied, it is for
the sword.
His offspring will not be satisfied with
bread.
15 Those who remain of him will be buried
in death.
His widows will make no
lamentation.
16 Though he heap up silver as the dust,
and prepare clothing as the clay;
17 he may prepare it, but the just will put it
on,

† **26:6** Sheol is the place of the dead. ‡ **26:6** Abaddon means Destroyer.

and the innocent will divide the
silver.
18 He builds his house as the moth,
as a booth which the watchman
makes.
19 He lies down rich, but he will not do so
again.
He opens his eyes, and he is not.
20 Terrors overtake him like waters.
A storm steals him away in the night.
21 The east wind carries him away, and he
departs.
It sweeps him out of his place.
22 For it hurls at him, and does not spare,
as he flees away from his hand.
23 Men will clap their hands at him,
and will hiss him out of his place.

28

1 "Surely there is a mine for silver,
and a place for gold which they refine.
2 Iron is taken out of the earth,
and copper is smelted out of the ore.
3 Man sets an end to darkness,
and searches out, to the furthest
bound,
the stones of obscurity and of thick
darkness.
4 He breaks open a shaft away from where
people live.
They are forgotten by the foot.
They hang far from men, they swing
back and forth.
5 As for the earth, out of it comes bread.
Underneath it is turned up as it were
by fire.
6 Sapphires come from its rocks.
It has dust of gold.
7 That path no bird of prey knows,
neither has the falcon's eye seen it.
8 The proud animals have not trodden it,
nor has the fierce lion passed by
there.
9 He puts his hand on the flinty rock,
and he overturns the mountains by
the roots.
10 He cuts out channels among the rocks.
His eye sees every precious thing.
11 He binds the streams that they don't
trickle.
The thing that is hidden he brings out
to light.

12 "But where will wisdom be found?
Where is the place of understanding?
13 Man doesn't know its price,
and it isn't found in the land of the
living.
14 The deep says, 'It isn't in me.'
The sea says, 'It isn't with me.'
15 It can't be gotten for gold,
neither will silver be weighed for its
price.
16 It can't be valued with the gold of Ophir,
with the precious onyx, or the
sapphire.†
17 Gold and glass can't equal it,
neither will it be exchanged for
jewels of fine gold.
18 No mention will be made of coral or of
crystal.
Yes, the price of wisdom is above
rubies.
19 The topaz of Ethiopia will not equal it.
It won't be valued with pure gold.
20 Where then does wisdom come from?
Where is the place of understanding?
21 Seeing it is hidden from the eyes of all
living,
and kept close from the birds of the
sky.
22 Destruction and Death say,
'We have heard a rumor of it with our
ears.'

23 "God understands its way,
and he knows its place.
24 For he looks to the ends of the earth,
and sees under the whole sky.
25 He establishes the force of the wind.
Yes, he measures out the waters by
measure.
26 When he made a decree for the rain,
and a way for the lightning of the
thunder,
27 then he saw it, and declared it.
He established it, yes, and searched it
out.
28 To man he said,

† **28:16** or, lapis lazuli ‡ **28:28** The word translated "Lord" is "Adonai."

‘Behold, the fear of the Lord,‡ that is wisdom.
To depart from evil is understanding.’ ”

29

1 Job again took up his parable, and said,
2 “Oh that I were as in the months of old,
as in the days when God watched over me;
3 when his lamp shone on my head,
and by his light I walked through darkness,
4 as I was in my prime,
when the friendship of God was in my tent,
5 when the Almighty was yet with me,
and my children were around me,
6 when my steps were washed with butter,
and the rock poured out streams of oil for me,
7 when I went out to the city gate,
when I prepared my seat in the street.
8 The young men saw me and hid themselves.
The aged rose up and stood.
9 The princes refrained from talking,
and laid their hand on their mouth.
10 The voice of the nobles was hushed,
and their tongue stuck to the roof of their mouth.
11 For when the ear heard me, then it blessed me,
and when the eye saw me, it commended me,
12 because I delivered the poor who cried,
and the fatherless also, who had no one to help him,
13 the blessing of him who was ready to perish came on me,
and I caused the widow’s heart to sing for joy.
14 I put on righteousness, and it clothed me.
My justice was as a robe and a diadem.
15 I was eyes to the blind,
and feet to the lame.
16 I was a father to the needy.
I researched the cause of him whom I didn’t know.
17 I broke the jaws of the unrighteous
and plucked the prey out of his teeth.
18 Then I said, ‘I will die in my own house,
I will count my days as the sand.
19 My root is spread out to the waters.
The dew lies all night on my branch.
20 My glory is fresh in me.
My bow is renewed in my hand.’

21 “Men listened to me, waited,
and kept silence for my counsel.
22 After my words they didn’t speak again.
My speech fell on them.
23 They waited for me as for the rain.
Their mouths drank as with the spring rain.
24 I smiled on them when they had no confidence.
They didn’t reject the light of my face.
25 I chose out their way, and sat as chief.
I lived as a king in the army,
as one who comforts the mourners.

30

1 “But now those who are younger than I have me in derision,
whose fathers I considered unworthy to put with my sheep dogs.
2 Of what use is the strength of their hands to me,
men in whom ripe age has perished?
3 They are gaunt from lack and famine.
They gnaw the dry ground, in the gloom of waste and desolation.
4 They pluck salt herbs by the bushes.
The roots of the broom tree are their food.
5 They are driven out from among men.
They cry after them as after a thief,
6 so that they live in frightful valleys,
and in holes of the earth and of the rocks.
7 They bray among the bushes.
They are gathered together under the nettles.
8 They are children of fools, yes, children of wicked men.
They were flogged out of the land.

9 “Now I have become their song.
Yes, I am a byword to them.

10 They abhor me, they stand aloof from me,
and don't hesitate to spit in my face.
11 For he has untied his cord, and afflicted me;
and they have thrown off restraint before me.
12 On my right hand rise the rabble.
They thrust aside my feet.
They cast their ways of destruction up against me.
13 They mar my path.
They promote my destruction without anyone's help.
14 As through a wide breach they come.
They roll themselves in amid the ruin.
15 Terrors have turned on me.
They chase my honor as the wind.
My welfare has passed away as a cloud.

16 "Now my soul is poured out within me.
Days of affliction have taken hold of me.
17 In the night season my bones are pierced in me,
and the pains that gnaw me take no rest.
18 My garment is disfigured by great force.
It binds me about as the collar of my tunic.
19 He has cast me into the mire.
I have become like dust and ashes.
20 I cry to you, and you do not answer me.
I stand up, and you gaze at me.
21 You have turned to be cruel to me.
With the might of your hand you persecute me.
22 You lift me up to the wind, and drive me with it.
You dissolve me in the storm.
23 For I know that you will bring me to death,
to the house appointed for all living.

24 "However doesn't one stretch out a hand in his fall?
Or in his calamity therefore cry for help?
25 Didn't I weep for him who was in trouble?
Wasn't my soul grieved for the needy?
26 When I looked for good, then evil came.
When I waited for light, darkness came.
27 My heart is troubled, and doesn't rest.
Days of affliction have come on me.
28 I go mourning without the sun.
I stand up in the assembly, and cry for help.
29 I am a brother to jackals,
and a companion to ostriches.
30 My skin grows black and peels from me.
My bones are burned with heat.
31 Therefore my harp has turned to mourning,
and my pipe into the voice of those who weep.

31

1 "I made a covenant with my eyes;
how then should I look lustfully at a young woman?
2 For what is the portion from God above,
and the heritage from the Almighty on high?
3 Is it not calamity to the unrighteous,
and disaster to the workers of iniquity?
4 Doesn't he see my ways,
and count all my steps?

5 "If I have walked with falsehood,
and my foot has hurried to deceit
6 (let me be weighed in an even balance,
that God may know my integrity);
7 if my step has turned out of the way,
if my heart walked after my eyes,
if any defilement has stuck to my hands,
8 then let me sow, and let another eat.
Yes, let the produce of my field be rooted out.

9 "If my heart has been enticed to a woman,
and I have laid wait at my neighbor's door,
10 then let my wife grind for another,
and let others sleep with her.
11 For that would be a heinous crime.
Yes, it would be an iniquity to be punished by the judges,

12 for it is a fire that consumes to
destruction,
and would root out all my increase.
13 “If I have despised the cause of my male
servant
or of my female servant,
when they contended with me,
14 what then will I do when God rises up?
When he visits, what will I answer
him?
15 Didn’t he who made me in the womb
make him?
Didn’t one fashion us in the womb?
16 “If I have withheld the poor from their
desire,
or have caused the eyes of the widow
to fail,
17 or have eaten my morsel alone,
and the fatherless has not eaten of it
18 (no, from my youth he grew up with me
as with a father,
I have guided her from my mother’s
womb);
19 if I have seen any perish for want of
clothing,
or that the needy had no covering;
20 if his heart hasn’t blessed me,
if he hasn’t been warmed with my
sheep’s fleece;
21 if I have lifted up my hand against the
fatherless,
because I saw my help in the gate;
22 then let my shoulder fall from the
shoulder blade,
and my arm be broken from the bone.
23 For calamity from God is a terror to me.
Because of his majesty, I can do
nothing.
24 “If I have made gold my hope,
and have said to the fine gold, ‘You
are my confidence;’
25 If I have rejoiced because my wealth
was great,
and because my hand had gotten
much;
26 if I have seen the sun when it shined,
or the moon moving in splendor,
27 and my heart has been secretly enticed,
and my hand threw a kiss from my
mouth;
28 this also would be an iniquity to be
punished by the judges,
for I would have denied the God who
is above.
29 “If I have rejoiced at the destruction of
him who hated me,
or lifted up myself when evil found
him
30 (I have certainly not allowed my mouth
to sin
by asking his life with a curse);
31 if the men of my tent have not said,
‘Who can find one who has not been
filled with his meat?’
32 (the foreigner has not camped in the
street,
but I have opened my doors to the
traveler);
33 if like Adam I have covered my
transgressions,
by hiding my iniquity in my heart,
34 because I feared the great multitude,
and the contempt of families terrified
me,
so that I kept silence, and didn’t go out
of the door—
35 oh that I had one to hear me!
Behold, here is my signature! Let the
Almighty answer me!
Let the accuser write my indictment!
36 Surely I would carry it on my shoulder,
and I would bind it to me as a crown.
37 I would declare to him the number of
my steps.
I would go near to him like a prince.
38 If my land cries out against me,
and its furrows weep together;
39 if I have eaten its fruits without money,
or have caused its owners to lose
their life,
40 let briers grow instead of wheat,
and stinkweed instead of barley.”

The words of Job are ended.

32

1 So these three men ceased to answer
Job, because he was righteous in his own
eyes.
2 Then the wrath of Elihu the son of
Barachel, the Buzite, of the family of Ram,
was kindled against Job. His wrath was
kindled because he justified himself
rather than God.

3 Also his wrath was kindled against his
three friends, because they had found no
answer, and yet had condemned Job.
4 Now Elihu had waited to speak to Job,
because they were older than he.
5 When Elihu saw that there was no
answer in the mouth of these three men,
his wrath was kindled.

6 Elihu the son of Barachel the Buzite
answered,
"I am young, and you are very old.
Therefore I held back, and didn't dare
show you my opinion.
7 I said, 'Days should speak,
and multitude of years should teach
wisdom.'
8 But there is a spirit in man,
and the Spirit† of the Almighty gives
them understanding.
9 It is not the great who are wise,
nor the aged who understand justice.
10 Therefore I said, 'Listen to me;
I also will show my opinion.'

11 "Behold, I waited for your words,
and I listened for your reasoning,
while you searched out what to say.
12 Yes, I gave you my full attention,
but there was no one who convinced
Job,
or who answered his words, among
you.
13 Beware lest you say, 'We have found
wisdom.
God may refute him, not man;'
14 for he has not directed his words
against me;
neither will I answer him with your
speeches.

15 "They are amazed. They answer no
more.
They don't have a word to say.
16 Shall I wait, because they don't speak,
because they stand still, and answer
no more?
17 I also will answer my part,
and I also will show my opinion.
18 For I am full of words.
The spirit within me constrains me.
19 Behold, my breast is as wine which has
no vent;
like new wineskins it is ready to burst.
20 I will speak, that I may be refreshed.
I will open my lips and answer.
21 Please don't let me respect any man's
person,
neither will I give flattering titles to
any man.
22 For I don't know how to give flattering
titles,
or else my Maker would soon take me
away.

33

1 "However, Job, please hear my speech,
and listen to all my words.
2 See now, I have opened my mouth.
My tongue has spoken in my mouth.
3 My words will utter the uprightness of
my heart.
That which my lips know they will
speak sincerely.
4 The Spirit of God has made me,
and the breath of the Almighty gives
me life.
5 If you can, answer me.
Set your words in order before me,
and stand up.
6 Behold, I am toward God even as you are.
I am also formed out of the clay.
7 Behold, my terror will not make you
afraid,
neither will my pressure be heavy on
you.

8 "Surely you have spoken in my hearing,
I have heard the voice of your words,
saying,
9 'I am clean, without disobedience.
I am innocent, neither is there
iniquity in me.
10 Behold, he finds occasions against me.
He counts me for his enemy.
11 He puts my feet in the stocks.
He marks all my paths.'

12 "Behold, I will answer you. In this you
are not just,

† **32:8** or, breath

for God is greater than man.
13 Why do you strive against him,
because he doesn't give account of
any of his matters?
14 For God speaks once,
yes twice, though man pays no
attention.
15 In a dream, in a vision of the night,
when deep sleep falls on men,
in slumbering on the bed,
16 then he opens the ears of men,
and seals their instruction,
17 that he may withdraw man from his
purpose,
and hide pride from man.
18 He keeps back his soul from the pit,
and his life from perishing by the
sword.

19 "He is chastened also with pain on his
bed,
with continual strife in his bones,
20 so that his life abhors bread,
and his soul dainty food.
21 His flesh is so consumed away that it
can't be seen.
His bones that were not seen stick out.
22 Yes, his soul draws near to the pit,
and his life to the destroyers.

23 "If there is beside him an angel,
an interpreter, one among a
thousand,
to show to man what is right for him,
24 then God is gracious to him, and says,
'Deliver him from going down to the
pit,
I have found a ransom.'
25 His flesh will be fresher than a child's.
He returns to the days of his youth.
26 He prays to God, and he is favorable to
him,
so that he sees his face with joy.
He restores to man his righteousness.
27 He sings before men, and says,
'I have sinned, and perverted that
which was right,
and it didn't profit me.
28 He has redeemed my soul from going
into the pit.
My life will see the light.'
29 "Behold, God does all these things,
twice, yes three times, with a man,
30 to bring back his soul from the pit,
that he may be enlightened with the
light of the living.
31 Mark well, Job, and listen to me.
Hold your peace, and I will speak.
32 If you have anything to say, answer me.
Speak, for I desire to justify you.
33 If not, listen to me.
Hold your peace, and I will teach you
wisdom."

34

1 Moreover Elihu answered,
2 "Hear my words, you wise men.
Give ear to me, you who have
knowledge.
3 For the ear tries words,
as the palate tastes food.
4 Let us choose for us that which is right.
Let us know among ourselves what is
good.
5 For Job has said, 'I am righteous,
God has taken away my right.
6 Notwithstanding my right I am
considered a liar.
My wound is incurable, though I am
without disobedience.'
7 What man is like Job,
who drinks scorn like water,
8 who goes in company with the workers
of iniquity,
and walks with wicked men?
9 For he has said, 'It profits a man nothing
that he should delight himself with
God.'

10 "Therefore listen to me, you men of
understanding:
far be it from God, that he should do
wickedness,
from the Almighty, that he should
commit iniquity.
11 For the work of a man he will give to
him,
and cause every man to find
according to his ways.
12 Yes surely, God will not do wickedly,
neither will the Almighty pervert
justice.

13 Who put him in charge of the earth?
Or who has appointed him over the whole world?
14 If he set his heart on himself,
if he gathered to himself his spirit and his breath,
15 all flesh would perish together,
and man would turn again to dust.

16 "If now you have understanding, hear this.
Listen to the voice of my words.
17 Should even one who hates justice govern?
Will you condemn him who is righteous and mighty,
18 who says to a king, 'Vile!'
or to nobles, 'Wicked!'?
19 He doesn't respect the persons of princes,
nor respect the rich more than the poor,
for they all are the work of his hands.
20 In a moment they die, even at midnight.
The people are shaken and pass away.
The mighty are taken away without a hand.

21 "For his eyes are on the ways of a man.
He sees all his goings.
22 There is no darkness, nor thick gloom,
where the workers of iniquity may hide themselves.
23 For he doesn't need to consider a man further,
that he should go before God in judgment.
24 He breaks mighty men in pieces in ways past finding out,
and sets others in their place.
25 Therefore he takes knowledge of their works.
He overturns them in the night, so that they are destroyed.
26 He strikes them as wicked men
in the open sight of others;
27 because they turned away from following him,
and wouldn't pay attention to any of his ways,
28 so that they caused the cry of the poor to come to him.
He heard the cry of the afflicted.
29 When he gives quietness, who then can condemn?
When he hides his face, who then can see him?
He is over a nation or a man alike,
30 that the godless man may not reign,
that there be no one to ensnare the people.

31 "For has any said to God,
'I am guilty, but I will not offend any more.
32 Teach me that which I don't see.
If I have done iniquity, I will do it no more'?
33 Shall his recompense be as you desire,
that you refuse it?
For you must choose, and not I.
Therefore speak what you know.
34 Men of understanding will tell me,
yes, every wise man who hears me:
35 'Job speaks without knowledge.
His words are without wisdom.'
36 I wish that Job were tried to the end,
because of his answering like wicked men.
37 For he adds rebellion to his sin.
He claps his hands among us,
and multiplies his words against God."

35

1 Moreover Elihu answered,
2 "Do you think this to be your right,
or do you say, 'My righteousness is more than God's,'
3 that you ask, 'What advantage will it be to you?
What profit will I have, more than if I had sinned?'
4 I will answer you,
and your companions with you.
5 Look to the skies, and see.
See the skies, which are higher than you.
6 If you have sinned, what effect do you have against him?
If your transgressions are multiplied, what do you do to him?
7 If you are righteous, what do you give him?

Or what does he receive from your hand?
8 Your wickedness may hurt a man as you are,
and your righteousness may profit a son of man.

9 "By reason of the multitude of oppressions they cry out.
They cry for help by reason of the arm of the mighty.
10 But no one says, 'Where is God my Maker,
who gives songs in the night,
11 who teaches us more than the animals of the earth,
and makes us wiser than the birds of the sky?'
12 There they cry, but no one answers,
because of the pride of evil men.
13 Surely God will not hear an empty cry,
neither will the Almighty regard it.
14 How much less when you say you don't see him.
The cause is before him, and you wait for him!
15 But now, because he has not visited in his anger,
neither does he greatly regard arrogance,
16 therefore Job opens his mouth with empty talk,
and he multiplies words without knowledge."

36

1 Elihu also continued, and said,
2 "Bear with me a little, and I will show you;
for I still have something to say on God's behalf.
3 I will get my knowledge from afar,
and will ascribe righteousness to my Maker.
4 For truly my words are not false.
One who is perfect in knowledge is with you.

5 "Behold, God is mighty, and doesn't despise anyone.
He is mighty in strength of understanding.
6 He doesn't preserve the life of the wicked,
but gives justice to the afflicted.
7 He doesn't withdraw his eyes from the righteous,
but with kings on the throne,
he sets them forever, and they are exalted.
8 If they are bound in fetters,
and are taken in the cords of afflictions,
9 then he shows them their work,
and their transgressions, that they have behaved themselves proudly.
10 He also opens their ears to instruction,
and commands that they return from iniquity.
11 If they listen and serve him,
they will spend their days in prosperity,
and their years in pleasures.
12 But if they don't listen, they will perish by the sword;
they will die without knowledge.

13 "But those who are godless in heart lay up anger.
They don't cry for help when he binds them.
14 They die in youth.
Their life perishes among the unclean.
15 He delivers the afflicted by their affliction,
and opens their ear in oppression.
16 Yes, he would have allured you out of distress,
into a wide place, where there is no restriction.
That which is set on your table would be full of fatness.

17 "But you are full of the judgment of the wicked.
Judgment and justice take hold of you.
18 Don't let riches entice you to wrath,
neither let the great size of a bribe turn you aside.
19 Would your wealth sustain you in distress,
or all the might of your strength?
20 Don't desire the night,

when people are cut off in their place.
21 Take heed, don't regard iniquity;
for you have chosen this rather than affliction.
22 Behold, God is exalted in his power.
Who is a teacher like him?
23 Who has prescribed his way for him?
Or who can say, 'You have committed unrighteousness'?

24 "Remember that you magnify his work,
about which men have sung.
25 All men have looked on it.
Man sees it afar off.
26 Behold, God is great, and we don't know him.
The number of his years is unsearchable.
27 For he draws up the drops of water,
which distill in rain from his vapor,
28 which the skies pour down
and which drop on man abundantly.
29 Indeed, can anyone understand the spreading of the clouds
and the thunderings of his pavilion?
30 Behold, he spreads his light around him.
He covers the bottom of the sea.
31 For by these he judges the people.
He gives food in abundance.
32 He covers his hands with the lightning,
and commands it to strike the mark.
33 Its noise tells about him,
and the livestock also, concerning the storm that comes up.

37

1 "Yes, at this my heart trembles,
and is moved out of its place.
2 Hear, oh, hear the noise of his voice,
the sound that goes out of his mouth.
3 He sends it out under the whole sky,
and his lightning to the ends of the earth.
4 After it a voice roars.
He thunders with the voice of his majesty.
He doesn't hold back anything when his voice is heard.
5 God thunders marvelously with his voice.
He does great things, which we can't comprehend.
6 For he says to the snow, 'Fall on the earth,'
likewise to the shower of rain,
and to the showers of his mighty rain.
7 He seals up the hand of every man,
that all men whom he has made may know it.
8 Then the animals take cover,
and remain in their dens.
9 Out of its room comes the storm,
and cold out of the north.
10 By the breath of God, ice is given,
and the width of the waters is frozen.
11 Yes, he loads the thick cloud with moisture.
He spreads abroad the cloud of his lightning.
12 It is turned around by his guidance,
that they may do whatever he commands them
on the surface of the habitable world,
13 whether it is for correction, or for his land,
or for loving kindness, that he causes it to come.

14 "Listen to this, Job.
Stand still, and consider the wondrous works of God.
15 Do you know how God controls them,
and causes the lightning of his cloud to shine?
16 Do you know the workings of the clouds,
the wondrous works of him who is perfect in knowledge?
17 You whose clothing is warm
when the earth is still by reason of the south wind?
18 Can you, with him, spread out the sky,
which is strong as a cast metal mirror?
19 Teach us what we will tell him,
for we can't make our case by reason of darkness.
20 Will it be told him that I would speak?
Or should a man wish that he were swallowed up?

21 Now men don't see the light which is bright in the skies,
but the wind passes, and clears them.
22 Out of the north comes golden splendor.
With God is awesome majesty.
23 We can't reach the Almighty.

He is exalted in power.
In justice and great righteousness, he will not oppress.
24 Therefore men revere him.
He doesn't regard any who are wise of heart."

38

1 Then the LORD answered Job out of the whirlwind,
2 "Who is this who darkens counsel
by words without knowledge?
3 Brace yourself like a man,
for I will question you, then you answer me!

4 "Where were you when I laid the foundations of the earth?
Declare, if you have understanding.
5 Who determined its measures, if you know?
Or who stretched the line on it?
6 What were its foundations fastened on?
Or who laid its cornerstone,
7 when the morning stars sang together,
and all the sons of God shouted for joy?

8 "Or who shut up the sea with doors,
when it broke out of the womb,
9 when I made clouds its garment,
and wrapped it in thick darkness,
10 marked out for it my bound,
set bars and doors,
11 and said, 'You may come here, but no further.
Your proud waves shall be stopped here'?

12 "Have you commanded the morning in your days,
and caused the dawn to know its place,
13 that it might take hold of the ends of the earth,
and shake the wicked out of it?
14 It is changed as clay under the seal,
and presented as a garment.
15 From the wicked, their light is withheld.
The high arm is broken.

16 "Have you entered into the springs of the sea?
Or have you walked in the recesses of the deep?
17 Have the gates of death been revealed to you?
Or have you seen the gates of the shadow of death?
18 Have you comprehended the earth in its width?
Declare, if you know it all.

19 "What is the way to the dwelling of light?
As for darkness, where is its place,
20 that you should take it to its bound,
that you should discern the paths to its house?
21 Surely you know, for you were born then,
and the number of your days is great!
22 Have you entered the storehouses of the snow,
or have you seen the storehouses of the hail,
23 which I have reserved against the time of trouble,
against the day of battle and war?
24 By what way is the lightning distributed,
or the east wind scattered on the earth?

25 Who has cut a channel for the flood water,
or the path for the thunderstorm,
26 to cause it to rain on a land where there is no man,
on the wilderness, in which there is no man,
27 to satisfy the waste and desolate ground,
to cause the tender grass to grow?
28 Does the rain have a father?
Or who fathers the drops of dew?
29 Whose womb did the ice come out of?
Who has given birth to the gray frost of the sky?
30 The waters become hard like stone,
when the surface of the deep is frozen.

31 "Can you bind the cluster of the Pleiades,
or loosen the cords of Orion?

32 Can you lead the constellations out in their season?
Or can you guide the Bear with her cubs?
33 Do you know the laws of the heavens?
Can you establish its dominion over the earth?

34 "Can you lift up your voice to the clouds,
that abundance of waters may cover you?
35 Can you send out lightnings, that they may go?
Do they report to you, 'Here we are'?
36 Who has put wisdom in the inward parts?
Or who has given understanding to the mind?
37 Who can count the clouds by wisdom?
Or who can pour out the containers of the sky,
38 when the dust runs into a mass,
and the clods of earth stick together?

39 "Can you hunt the prey for the lioness,
or satisfy the appetite of the young lions,
40 when they crouch in their dens,
and lie in wait in the thicket?
41 Who provides for the raven his prey,
when his young ones cry to God,
and wander for lack of food?

39

1 "Do you know the time when the mountain goats give birth?
Do you watch when the doe bears fawns?
2 Can you count the months that they fulfill?
Or do you know the time when they give birth?
3 They bow themselves. They bear their young.
They end their labor pains.
4 Their young ones become strong.
They grow up in the open field.
They go out, and don't return again.

5 "Who has set the wild donkey free?
Or who has loosened the bonds of the swift donkey,
6 whose home I have made the wilderness,
and the salt land his dwelling place?
7 He scorns the tumult of the city,
neither does he hear the shouting of the driver.
8 The range of the mountains is his pasture.
He searches after every green thing.

9 "Will the wild ox be content to serve you?
Or will he stay by your feeding trough?
10 Can you hold the wild ox in the furrow with his harness?
Or will he till the valleys after you?
11 Will you trust him, because his strength is great?
Or will you leave to him your labor?
12 Will you confide in him, that he will bring home your seed,
and gather the grain of your threshing floor?

13 "The wings of the ostrich wave proudly,
but are they the feathers and plumage of love?
14 For she leaves her eggs on the earth,
warms them in the dust,
15 and forgets that the foot may crush them,
or that the wild animal may trample them.
16 She deals harshly with her young ones, as if they were not hers.
Though her labor is in vain, she is without fear,
17 because God has deprived her of wisdom,
neither has he imparted to her understanding.
18 When she lifts up herself on high,
she scorns the horse and his rider.

19 "Have you given the horse might?
Have you clothed his neck with a quivering mane?
20 Have you made him to leap as a locust?
The glory of his snorting is awesome.
21 He paws in the valley, and rejoices in his strength.
He goes out to meet the armed men.
22 He mocks at fear, and is not dismayed,

neither does he turn back from the sword.
23 The quiver rattles against him,
the flashing spear and the javelin.
24 He eats up the ground with fierceness and rage,
neither does he stand still at the sound of the trumpet.
25 As often as the trumpet sounds he snorts, ‘Aha!’
He smells the battle afar off,
the thunder of the captains, and the shouting.

26 “Is it by your wisdom that the hawk soars,
and stretches her wings toward the south?
27 Is it at your command that the eagle mounts up,
and makes his nest on high?
28 On the cliff he dwells and makes his home,
on the point of the cliff and the stronghold.
29 From there he spies out the prey.
His eyes see it afar off.
30 His young ones also suck up blood.
Where the slain are, there he is.”

40

1 Moreover the LORD answered Job,
2 “Shall he who argues contend with the Almighty?
He who argues with God, let him answer it.”

3 Then Job answered the LORD,
4 “Behold, I am of small account. What will I answer you?
I lay my hand on my mouth.
5 I have spoken once, and I will not answer;
Yes, twice, but I will proceed no further.”

6 Then the LORD answered Job out of the whirlwind:
7 “Now brace yourself like a man.
I will question you, and you will answer me.
8 Will you even annul my judgment?
Will you condemn me, that you may be justified?
9 Or do you have an arm like God?
Can you thunder with a voice like him?

10 “Now deck yourself with excellency and dignity.
Array yourself with honor and majesty.
11 Pour out the fury of your anger.
Look at everyone who is proud, and bring him low.
12 Look at everyone who is proud, and humble him.
Crush the wicked in their place.
13 Hide them in the dust together.
Bind their faces in the hidden place.
14 Then I will also admit to you
that your own right hand can save you.

15 “See now behemoth, which I made as well as you.
He eats grass as an ox.
16 Look now, his strength is in his thighs.
His force is in the muscles of his belly.
17 He moves his tail like a cedar.
The sinews of his thighs are knit together.
18 His bones are like tubes of bronze.
His limbs are like bars of iron.

19 He is the chief of the ways of God.
He who made him gives him his sword.
20 Surely the mountains produce food for him,
where all the animals of the field play.
21 He lies under the lotus trees,
in the covert of the reed, and the marsh.
22 The lotuses cover him with their shade.
The willows of the brook surround him.
23 Behold, if a river overflows, he doesn’t tremble.
He is confident, though the Jordan swells even to his mouth.
24 Shall any take him when he is on the watch,
or pierce through his nose with a snare?

41

1 “Can you draw out Leviathan† with a fish hook,
or press down his tongue with a cord?
2 Can you put a rope into his nose,
or pierce his jaw through with a hook?
3 Will he make many petitions to you,
or will he speak soft words to you?
4 Will he make a covenant with you,
that you should take him for a servant forever?
5 Will you play with him as with a bird?
Or will you bind him for your girls?
6 Will traders barter for him?
Will they part him among the merchants?
7 Can you fill his skin with barbed irons,
or his head with fish spears?
8 Lay your hand on him.
Remember the battle, and do so no more.
9 Behold, the hope of him is in vain.
Won’t one be cast down even at the sight of him?

10 None is so fierce that he dare stir him up.
Who then is he who can stand before me?
11 Who has first given to me, that I should repay him?
Everything under the heavens is mine.

12 “I will not keep silence concerning his limbs,
nor his mighty strength, nor his goodly frame.
13 Who can strip off his outer garment?
Who will come within his jaws?
14 Who can open the doors of his face?
Around his teeth is terror.
15 Strong scales are his pride,
shut up together with a close seal.

16 One is so near to another,
that no air can come between them.
17 They are joined to one another.
They stick together, so that they can’t be pulled apart.
18 His sneezing flashes out light.
His eyes are like the eyelids of the morning.
19 Out of his mouth go burning torches.
Sparks of fire leap out.
20 Out of his nostrils a smoke goes,
as of a boiling pot over a fire of reeds.
21 His breath kindles coals.
A flame goes out of his mouth.
22 There is strength in his neck.
Terror dances before him.
23 The flakes of his flesh are joined together.
They are firm on him.
They can’t be moved.
24 His heart is as firm as a stone,
yes, firm as the lower millstone.
25 When he raises himself up, the mighty are afraid.
They retreat before his thrashing.
26 If one attacks him with the sword, it can’t prevail;
nor the spear, the dart, nor the pointed shaft.
27 He counts iron as straw,
and bronze as rotten wood.
28 The arrow can’t make him flee.
Sling stones are like chaff to him.
29 Clubs are counted as stubble.
He laughs at the rushing of the javelin.
30 His undersides are like sharp potsherds,
leaving a trail in the mud like a threshing sledge.
31 He makes the deep to boil like a pot.
He makes the sea like a pot of ointment.
32 He makes a path shine after him.
One would think the deep had white hair.
33 On earth there is not his equal,
that is made without fear.
34 He sees everything that is high.
He is king over all the sons of pride.”

42

1 Then Job answered the LORD:
2 “I know that you can do all things,
and that no purpose of yours can be restrained.

† **41:1** Leviathan is a name for a crocodile or similar creature.

3 You asked, ‘Who is this who hides
counsel without knowledge?’
therefore I have uttered that which I
didn’t understand,
things too wonderful for me, which I
didn’t know.
4 You said, ‘Listen, now, and I will speak;
I will question you, and you will
answer me.’
5 I had heard of you by the hearing of the
ear,
but now my eye sees you.
6 Therefore I abhor myself,
and repent in dust and ashes.”

7 It was so, that after the LORD had spoken these words to Job, the LORD said to Eliphaz the Temanite, “My wrath is kindled against you, and against your two friends; for you have not spoken of me the thing that is right, as my servant Job has.
8 Now therefore, take to yourselves seven bulls and seven rams, and go to my servant Job, and offer up for yourselves a burnt offering; and my servant Job shall pray for you, for I will accept him, that I not deal with you according to your folly. For you have not spoken of me the thing that is right, as my servant Job has.”
9 So Eliphaz the Temanite and Bildad the Shuhite and Zophar the Naamathite went and did what the LORD commanded them, and the LORD accepted Job.
10 The LORD restored Job’s prosperity when he prayed for his friends. The LORD gave Job twice as much as he had before.
11 Then all his brothers, all his sisters, and all those who had been of his acquaintance before, came to him and ate bread with him in his house. They comforted him, and consoled him concerning all the evil that the LORD had brought on him. Everyone also gave him a piece of money,† and everyone a ring of gold.
12 So the LORD blessed the latter end of Job more than his beginning. He had fourteen thousand sheep, six thousand camels, one thousand yoke of oxen, and a thousand female donkeys.
13 He had also seven sons and three daughters.
14 He called the name of the first, Jemimah; and the name of the second, Keziah; and the name of the third, Keren Happuch.
15 In all the land were no women found so beautiful as the daughters of Job. Their father gave them an inheritance among their brothers.
16 After this Job lived one hundred forty years, and saw his sons, and his sons’ sons, to four generations.
17 So Job died, being old and full of days.

† **42:11** literally, kesitah, a unit of money, probably silver

The Psalms
BOOK 1

1

1 Blessed is the man who doesn't walk in
the counsel of the wicked,
nor stand on the path of sinners,
nor sit in the seat of scoffers;
2 but his delight is in the LORD's† law.
On his law he meditates day and
night.
3 He will be like a tree planted by the
streams of water,
that produces its fruit in its season,
whose leaf also does not wither.
Whatever he does shall prosper.
4 The wicked are not so,
but are like the chaff which the wind
drives away.
5 Therefore the wicked shall not stand in
the judgment,
nor sinners in the congregation of the
righteous.
6 For the LORD knows the way of the
righteous,
but the way of the wicked shall perish.

2

1 Why do the nations rage,
and the peoples plot a vain thing?
2 The kings of the earth take a stand,
and the rulers take counsel together,
against the LORD, and against his
Anointed,† saying,
3 "Let's break their bonds apart,
and cast their cords from us."
4 He who sits in the heavens will laugh.
The Lord‡ will have them in derision.
5 Then he will speak to them in his anger,
and terrify them in his wrath:
6 "Yet I have set my King on my holy hill of
Zion."
7 I will tell of the decree:
The LORD said to me, "You are my son.
Today I have become your father.
8 Ask of me, and I will give the nations for
your inheritance,
the uttermost parts of the earth for
your possession.
9 You shall break them with a rod of iron.
You shall dash them in pieces like a
potter's vessel."
10 Now therefore be wise, you kings.
Be instructed, you judges of the earth.
11 Serve the LORD with fear,
and rejoice with trembling.
12 Give sincere homage to the Son,§ lest he
be angry, and you perish on the
way,
for his wrath will soon be kindled.
Blessed are all those who take refuge
in him.

3

A Psalm by David, when he fled from
Absalom his son.
1 LORD, how my adversaries have
increased!
Many are those who rise up against
me.
2 Many there are who say of my soul,
"There is no help for him in God."†
Selah.
3 But you, LORD, are a shield around me,
my glory, and the one who lifts up my
head.
4 I cry to the LORD with my voice,
and he answers me out of his holy hill.
Selah.
5 I laid myself down and slept.
I awakened, for the LORD sustains
me.
6 I will not be afraid of tens of thousands
of people
who have set themselves against me
on every side.
7 Arise, LORD!
Save me, my God!
For you have struck all of my enemies on
the cheek bone.
You have broken the teeth of the
wicked.
8 Salvation belongs to the LORD.
May your blessing be on your people.
Selah.

† **1:2** When rendered in ALL CAPITAL LETTERS, "LORD" or "GOD" is the translation of God's Proper Name (Hebrew "יהוה", usually pronounced Yahweh). † **2:2** The word "Anointed" is the same as the word for "Messiah" or "Christ" ‡ **2:4** The word translated "Lord" is "Adonai." § **2:12** or, Kiss the son † **3:2** The Hebrew word rendered "God" is "אֱלֹהִים" (Elohim).

4

For the Chief Musician; on stringed instruments. A Psalm by David.

1 Answer me when I call, God of my righteousness.
Give me relief from my distress.
Have mercy on me, and hear my prayer.
2 You sons of men, how long shall my glory be turned into dishonor?
Will you love vanity and seek after falsehood?
Selah.
3 But know that the LORD has set apart for himself him who is godly;
The LORD will hear when I call to him.
4 Stand in awe, and don't sin.
Search your own heart on your bed, and be still.
Selah.
5 Offer the sacrifices of righteousness.
Put your trust in the LORD.
6 Many say, "Who will show us any good?"
LORD, let the light of your face shine on us.
7 You have put gladness in my heart,
more than when their grain and their new wine are increased.
8 In peace I will both lay myself down and sleep,
for you alone, LORD, make me live in safety.

5

For the Chief Musician, with the flutes. A Psalm by David.

1 Give ear to my words, LORD.
Consider my meditation.
2 Listen to the voice of my cry, my King and my God,
for I pray to you.
3 LORD, in the morning you will hear my voice.
In the morning I will lay my requests before you, and will watch expectantly.
4 For you are not a God who has pleasure in wickedness.
Evil can't live with you.
5 The arrogant will not stand in your sight.
You hate all workers of iniquity.
6 You will destroy those who speak lies.
The LORD abhors the bloodthirsty and deceitful man.
7 But as for me, in the abundance of your loving kindness I will come into your house.
I will bow toward your holy temple in reverence of you.
8 Lead me, LORD, in your righteousness because of my enemies.
Make your way straight before my face.
9 For there is no faithfulness in their mouth.
Their heart is destruction.
Their throat is an open tomb.
They flatter with their tongue.
10 Hold them guilty, God.
Let them fall by their own counsels.
Thrust them out in the multitude of their transgressions,
for they have rebelled against you.
11 But let all those who take refuge in you rejoice.
Let them always shout for joy, because you defend them.
Let them also who love your name be joyful in you.
12 For you will bless the righteous.
LORD, you will surround him with favor as with a shield.

6

For the Chief Musician; on stringed instruments, upon the eight-stringed lyre. A Psalm by David.

1 LORD, don't rebuke me in your anger, neither discipline me in your wrath.
2 Have mercy on me, LORD, for I am faint.
LORD, heal me, for my bones are troubled.
3 My soul is also in great anguish.
But you, LORD—how long?
4 Return, LORD. Deliver my soul,
and save me for your loving kindness' sake.
5 For in death there is no memory of you.
In Sheol,† who shall give you thanks?
6 I am weary with my groaning.
Every night I flood my bed.
I drench my couch with my tears.

† **6:5** Sheol is the place of the dead.

7 My eye wastes away because of grief.
It grows old because of all my adversaries.
8 Depart from me, all you workers of iniquity,
for the LORD has heard the voice of my weeping.
9 The LORD has heard my supplication.
The LORD accepts my prayer.
10 May all my enemies be ashamed and dismayed.
They shall turn back, they shall be disgraced suddenly.

7

A meditation by David, which he sang to the LORD, concerning the words of Cush, the Benjamite.
1 LORD, my God, I take refuge in you.
Save me from all those who pursue me, and deliver me,
2 lest they tear apart my soul like a lion,
ripping it in pieces, while there is no one to deliver.
3 LORD, my God, if I have done this,
if there is iniquity in my hands,
4 if I have rewarded evil to him who was at peace with me
(yes, I have plundered him who without cause was my adversary),
5 let the enemy pursue my soul, and overtake it;
yes, let him tread my life down to the earth,
and lay my glory in the dust.
Selah.
6 Arise, LORD, in your anger.
Lift up yourself against the rage of my adversaries.
Awake for me. You have commanded judgment.
7 Let the congregation of the peoples surround you.
Rule over them on high.
8 The LORD administers judgment to the peoples.
Judge me, LORD, according to my righteousness,
and to my integrity that is in me.
9 Oh let the wickedness of the wicked come to an end,
but establish the righteous;
their minds and hearts are searched by the righteous God.
10 My shield is with God,
who saves the upright in heart.
11 God is a righteous judge,
yes, a God who has indignation every day.
12 If a man doesn't repent, he will sharpen his sword;
he has bent and strung his bow.
13 He has also prepared for himself the instruments of death.
He makes ready his flaming arrows.
14 Behold,† he travails with iniquity.
Yes, he has conceived mischief,
and brought out falsehood.
15 He has dug a hole,
and has fallen into the pit which he made.
16 The trouble he causes shall return to his own head.
His violence shall come down on the crown of his own head.
17 I will give thanks to the LORD according to his righteousness,
and will sing praise to the name of the LORD Most High.

8

For the Chief Musician; on an instrument of Gath. A Psalm by David.
1 LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!
You have set your glory above the heavens!
2 From the lips of babes and infants you have established strength,
because of your adversaries, that you might silence the enemy and the avenger.
3 When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars, which you have ordained,
4 what is man, that you think of him?
What is the son of man, that you care for him?

† **7:14** "Behold", from "הִנֵּה", means look at, take notice, observe, see, or gaze at. It is often used as an interjection.

5 For you have made him a little lower than the angels,†
and crowned him with glory and honor.
6 You make him ruler over the works of your hands.
You have put all things under his feet:
7 All sheep and cattle,
yes, and the animals of the field,
8 the birds of the sky, the fish of the sea,
and whatever passes through the paths of the seas.
9 LORD, our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!

9

For the Chief Musician. Set to "The Death of the Son." A Psalm by David.

1 I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart.
I will tell of all your marvelous works.
2 I will be glad and rejoice in you.
I will sing praise to your name, O Most High.
3 When my enemies turn back,
they stumble and perish in your presence.
4 For you have maintained my just cause.
You sit on the throne judging righteously.
5 You have rebuked the nations.
You have destroyed the wicked.
You have blotted out their name forever and ever.
6 The enemy is overtaken by endless ruin.
The very memory of the cities which you have overthrown has perished.
7 But the LORD reigns forever.
He has prepared his throne for judgment.
8 He will judge the world in righteousness.
He will administer judgment to the peoples in uprightness.
9 The LORD will also be a high tower for the oppressed;
a high tower in times of trouble.
10 Those who know your name will put their trust in you,
for you, LORD, have not forsaken those who seek you.
11 Sing praises to the LORD, who dwells in Zion,
and declare among the people what he has done.
12 For he who avenges blood remembers them.
He doesn't forget the cry of the afflicted.
13 Have mercy on me, LORD.
See my affliction by those who hate me,
and lift me up from the gates of death,
14 that I may show all of your praise.
I will rejoice in your salvation in the gates of the daughter of Zion.
15 The nations have sunk down in the pit that they made.
In the net which they hid, their own foot is taken.
16 The LORD has made himself known.
He has executed judgment.
The wicked is snared by the work of his own hands.
Meditation. Selah.
17 The wicked shall be turned back to Sheol,†
even all the nations that forget God.
18 For the needy shall not always be forgotten,
nor the hope of the poor perish forever.
19 Arise, LORD! Don't let man prevail.
Let the nations be judged in your sight.
20 Put them in fear, LORD.
Let the nations know that they are only men.
Selah.

10

1 Why do you stand far off, LORD?
Why do you hide yourself in times of trouble?
2 In arrogance, the wicked hunt down the weak.

† **8:5** Hebrew: Elohim. The word Elohim, used here, usually means "God", but can also mean "gods", "princes", or "angels". The Septuagint reads "angels" here. See also the quote from the Septuagint in Hebrews 2:7. † **9:17** Sheol is the place of the dead.

They are caught in the schemes that they devise.
3 For the wicked boasts of his heart's cravings.
He blesses the greedy and condemns the LORD.
4 The wicked, in the pride of his face,
has no room in his thoughts for God.
5 His ways are prosperous at all times.
He is arrogant, and your laws are far from his sight.
As for all his adversaries, he sneers at them.
6 He says in his heart, "I shall not be shaken.
For generations I shall have no trouble."
7 His mouth is full of cursing, deceit, and oppression.
Under his tongue is mischief and iniquity.
8 He lies in wait near the villages.
From ambushes, he murders the innocent.
His eyes are secretly set against the helpless.
9 He lurks in secret as a lion in his ambush.
He lies in wait to catch the helpless.
He catches the helpless when he draws him in his net.
10 The helpless are crushed.
They collapse.
They fall under his strength.
11 He says in his heart, "God has forgotten.
He hides his face.
He will never see it."

12 Arise, LORD!
God, lift up your hand!
Don't forget the helpless.
13 Why does the wicked person condemn God,
and say in his heart, "God won't call me into account"?
14 But you do see trouble and grief.
You consider it to take it into your hand.
You help the victim and the fatherless.
15 Break the arm of the wicked.
As for the evil man, seek out his wickedness until you find none.
16 The LORD is King forever and ever!
The nations will perish out of his land.
17 LORD, you have heard the desire of the humble.
You will prepare their heart.
You will cause your ear to hear,
18 to judge the fatherless and the oppressed,
that man who is of the earth may terrify no more.

11

For the Chief Musician. By David.
1 In the LORD, I take refuge.
How can you say to my soul, "Flee as a bird to your mountain"?
2 For, behold, the wicked bend their bows.
They set their arrows on the strings,
that they may shoot in darkness at the upright in heart.
3 If the foundations are destroyed,
what can the righteous do?
4 The LORD is in his holy temple.
The LORD is on his throne in heaven.
His eyes observe.
His eyes examine the children of men.
5 The LORD examines the righteous,
but his soul hates the wicked and him who loves violence.
6 On the wicked he will rain blazing coals;
fire, sulfur, and scorching wind shall be the portion of their cup.
7 For the LORD is righteous.
He loves righteousness.
The upright shall see his face.

12

For the Chief Musician; upon an eight-stringed lyre. A Psalm of David.
1 Help, LORD; for the godly man ceases.
For the faithful fail from among the children of men.
2 Everyone lies to his neighbor.
They speak with flattering lips, and with a double heart.
3 May the LORD cut off all flattering lips,
and the tongue that boasts,
4 who have said, "With our tongue we will prevail.
Our lips are our own.
Who is lord over us?"
5 "Because of the oppression of the weak and because of the groaning of the needy,

I will now arise," says the LORD;
"I will set him in safety from those who
malign him."
6 The LORD's words are flawless words,
as silver refined in a clay furnace,
purified seven times.
7 You will keep them, LORD.
You will preserve them from this
generation forever.
8 The wicked walk on every side,
when what is vile is exalted among
the sons of men.

13

For the Chief Musician. A Psalm by David.
1 How long, LORD?
Will you forget me forever?
How long will you hide your face
from me?
2 How long shall I take counsel in my soul,
having sorrow in my heart every day?
How long shall my enemy triumph
over me?
3 Behold, and answer me, LORD, my God.
Give light to my eyes, lest I sleep in
death;
4 lest my enemy say, "I have prevailed
against him;"
lest my adversaries rejoice when I
fall.

5 But I trust in your loving kindness.
My heart rejoices in your salvation.
6 I will sing to the LORD,
because he has been good to me.

14

For the Chief Musician. By David.
1 The fool has said in his heart, "There is
no God."
They are corrupt.
They have done abominable deeds.
There is no one who does good.
2 The LORD looked down from heaven on
the children of men,
to see if there were any who
understood,
who sought after God.
3 They have all gone aside.
They have together become corrupt.
There is no one who does good, no,
not one.
4 Have all the workers of iniquity no
knowledge,
who eat up my people as they eat
bread,
and don't call on the LORD?
5 There they were in great fear,
for God is in the generation of the
righteous.
6 You frustrate the plan of the poor,
because the LORD is his refuge.
7 Oh that the salvation of Israel would
come out of Zion!
When the LORD restores the fortunes
of his people,
then Jacob shall rejoice, and Israel
shall be glad.

15

A Psalm by David.
1 LORD, who shall dwell in your
sanctuary?
Who shall live on your holy hill?
2 He who walks blamelessly and does
what is right,
and speaks truth in his heart;
3 he who doesn't slander with his tongue,
nor does evil to his friend,
nor casts slurs against his fellow man;
4 in whose eyes a vile man is despised,
but who honors those who fear the
LORD;
he who keeps an oath even when it
hurts, and doesn't change;
5 he who doesn't lend out his money for
usury,
nor take a bribe against the innocent.

He who does these things shall never be
shaken.

16

A Poem by David.
1 Preserve me, God, for I take refuge in
you.
2 My soul, you have said to the LORD, "You
are my Lord.
Apart from you I have no good thing."
3 As for the saints who are on the earth,
they are the excellent ones in whom
is all my delight.

4 Their sorrows shall be multiplied who
give gifts to another god.

Their drink offerings of blood I will
not offer,
nor take their names on my lips.
5 The LORD assigned my portion and my
cup.
You made my lot secure.

6 The lines have fallen to me in pleasant
places.
Yes, I have a good inheritance.
7 I will bless the LORD, who has given me
counsel.
Yes, my heart instructs me in the
night seasons.
8 I have set the LORD always before me.
Because he is at my right hand, I shall
not be moved.
9 Therefore my heart is glad, and my
tongue rejoices.
My body shall also dwell in safety.
10 For you will not leave my soul in Sheol,†
neither will you allow your holy one
to see corruption.
11 You will show me the path of life.
In your presence is fullness of joy.
In your right hand there are pleasures
forever more.

17

A Prayer by David.
1 Hear, LORD, my righteous plea.
Give ear to my prayer that doesn't go
out of deceitful lips.
2 Let my sentence come out of your
presence.
Let your eyes look on equity.
3 You have proved my heart.
You have visited me in the night.
You have tried me, and found
nothing.
I have resolved that my mouth shall
not disobey.
4 As for the deeds of men, by the word of
your lips,
I have kept myself from the ways of
the violent.
5 My steps have held fast to your paths.
My feet have not slipped.
6 I have called on you, for you will answer
me, God.
Turn your ear to me.
Hear my speech.
7 Show your marvelous loving kindness,
you who save those who take refuge
by your right hand from their
enemies.
8 Keep me as the apple of your eye.
Hide me under the shadow of your
wings,
9 from the wicked who oppress me,
my deadly enemies, who surround
me.
10 They close up their callous hearts.
With their mouth they speak proudly.
11 They have now surrounded us in our
steps.
They set their eyes to cast us down to
the earth.
12 He is like a lion that is greedy of his
prey,
as it were a young lion lurking in
secret places.
13 Arise, LORD, confront him.
Cast him down.
Deliver my soul from the wicked by your
sword,
14 from men by your hand, LORD,
from men of the world, whose
portion is in this life.
You fill the belly of your cherished ones.
Your sons have plenty,
and they store up wealth for their
children.
15 As for me, I shall see your face in
righteousness.
I shall be satisfied, when I awake,
with seeing your form.

18

For the Chief Musician. By David the servant of the LORD, who spoke to the LORD the words of this song in the day that the LORD delivered him from the hand of all his enemies, and from the hand of Saul. He said,
1 I love you, LORD, my strength.
2 The LORD is my rock, my fortress, and
my deliverer;
my God, my rock, in whom I take
refuge;
my shield, and the horn of my
salvation, my high tower.

† **16:10** Sheol is the place of the dead.

3 I call on the LORD, who is worthy to be
praised;
and I am saved from my enemies.
4 The cords of death surrounded me.
The floods of ungodliness made me
afraid.
5 The cords of Sheol† were around me.
The snares of death came on me.
6 In my distress I called on the LORD,
and cried to my God.
He heard my voice out of his temple.
My cry before him came into his ears.
7 Then the earth shook and trembled.
The foundations also of the
mountains quaked and were
shaken,
because he was angry.
8 Smoke went out of his nostrils.
Consuming fire came out of his
mouth.
Coals were kindled by it.
9 He bowed the heavens also, and came
down.
Thick darkness was under his feet.
10 He rode on a cherub, and flew.
Yes, he soared on the wings of the
wind.
11 He made darkness his hiding place, his
pavilion around him,
darkness of waters, thick clouds of
the skies.
12 At the brightness before him his thick
clouds passed,
hailstones and coals of fire.
13 The LORD also thundered in the sky.
The Most High uttered his voice:
hailstones and coals of fire.
14 He sent out his arrows, and scattered
them.
He routed them with great lightning
bolts.
15 Then the channels of waters appeared.
The foundations of the world were
laid bare at your rebuke, LORD,
at the blast of the breath of your
nostrils.
16 He sent from on high.
He took me.
He drew me out of many waters.
17 He delivered me from my strong enemy,
from those who hated me; for they
were too mighty for me.
18 They came on me in the day of my
calamity,
but the LORD was my support.
19 He brought me out also into a large
place.
He delivered me, because he
delighted in me.
20 The LORD has rewarded me according
to my righteousness.
According to the cleanness of my
hands, he has recompensed me.
21 For I have kept the ways of the LORD,
and have not wickedly departed from
my God.
22 For all his ordinances were before me.
I didn't put away his statutes from me.
23 I was also blameless with him.
I kept myself from my iniquity.
24 Therefore the LORD has rewarded me
according to my righteousness,
according to the cleanness of my
hands in his eyesight.
25 With the merciful you will show
yourself merciful.
With the perfect man, you will show
yourself perfect.
26 With the pure, you will show yourself
pure.
With the crooked you will show
yourself shrewd.
27 For you will save the afflicted people,
but the arrogant eyes you will bring
down.
28 For you will light my lamp, LORD.
My God will light up my darkness.
29 For by you, I advance through a troop.
By my God, I leap over a wall.
30 As for God, his way is perfect.
The LORD's word is tried.
He is a shield to all those who take
refuge in him.
31 For who is God, except the LORD?
Who is a rock, besides our God,
32 the God who arms me with
strength, and makes my way
perfect?
33 He makes my feet like deer's feet,
and sets me on my high places.
34 He teaches my hands to war,

† **18:5** Sheol is the place of the dead.

so that my arms bend a bow of
bronze.
35 You have also given me the shield of
your salvation.
Your right hand sustains me.
Your gentleness has made me great.
36 You have enlarged my steps under me,
My feet have not slipped.
37 I will pursue my enemies, and overtake
them.
I won't turn away until they are
consumed.
38 I will strike them through, so that they
will not be able to rise.
They shall fall under my feet.
39 For you have armed me with strength to
the battle.
You have subdued under me those
who rose up against me.
40 You have also made my enemies turn
their backs to me,
that I might cut off those who hate me.
41 They cried, but there was no one to
save;
even to the LORD, but he didn't
answer them.
42 Then I beat them small as the dust
before the wind.
I cast them out as the mire of the
streets.
43 You have delivered me from the
strivings of the people.
You have made me the head of the
nations.
A people whom I have not known shall
serve me.
44 As soon as they hear of me they
shall obey me.
The foreigners shall submit
themselves to me.
45 The foreigners shall fade away,
and shall come trembling out of their
strongholds.
46 The LORD lives! Blessed be my rock.
Exalted be the God of my salvation,
47 even the God who executes vengeance
for me,
and subdues peoples under me.
48 He rescues me from my enemies.
Yes, you lift me up above those who
rise up against me.
You deliver me from the violent man.
49 Therefore I will give thanks to you,
LORD, among the nations,
and will sing praises to your name.
50 He gives great deliverance to his king,
and shows loving kindness to his
anointed,
to David and to his offspring,‡ forever
more.

19

For the Chief Musician. A Psalm by David.
1 The heavens declare the glory of God.
The expanse shows his handiwork.
2 Day after day they pour out speech,
and night after night they display
knowledge.
3 There is no speech nor language
where their voice is not heard.
4 Their voice has gone out through all the
earth,
their words to the end of the world.
In them he has set a tent for the sun,
5 which is as a bridegroom coming out
of his room,
like a strong man rejoicing to run his
course.
6 His going out is from the end of the
heavens,
his circuit to its ends.
There is nothing hidden from its heat.

7 The LORD's law is perfect, restoring the
soul.
The LORD's covenant is sure, making
wise the simple.
8 The LORD's precepts are right, rejoicing
the heart.
The LORD's commandment is pure,
enlightening the eyes.
9 The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring
forever.
The LORD's ordinances are true, and
righteous altogether.
10 They are more to be desired than gold,
yes, than much fine gold,
sweeter also than honey and the
extract of the honeycomb.
11 Moreover your servant is warned by
them.
In keeping them there is great
reward.
12 Who can discern his errors?

‡ **18:50** or, seed

Forgive me from hidden errors.

13 Keep back your servant also from
presumptuous sins.
Let them not have dominion over me.
Then I will be upright.
I will be blameless and innocent of
great transgression.
14 Let the words of my mouth and the
meditation of my heart
be acceptable in your sight,
LORD, my rock, and my redeemer.

20

For the Chief Musician. A Psalm by David.
1 May the LORD answer you in the day of
trouble.
May the name of the God of Jacob set
you up on high,
2 send you help from the sanctuary,
grant you support from Zion,
3 remember all your offerings,
and accept your burned sacrifice.
Selah.
4 May he grant you your heart's desire,
and fulfill all your counsel.
5 We will triumph in your salvation.
In the name of our God, we will set up
our banners.
May the LORD grant all your requests.
6 Now I know that the LORD saves his
anointed.
He will answer him from his holy
heaven,
with the saving strength of his right
hand.
7 Some trust in chariots, and some in
horses,
but we trust in the name of the LORD
our God.
8 They are bowed down and fallen,
but we rise up, and stand upright.
9 Save, LORD!
Let the King answer us when we call!

21

For the Chief Musician. A Psalm by David.
1 The king rejoices in your strength, LORD!
How greatly he rejoices in your
salvation!
2 You have given him his heart's desire,
and have not withheld the request of
his lips.
Selah.
3 For you meet him with the blessings of
goodness.
You set a crown of fine gold on his
head.
4 He asked life of you and you gave it to
him,
even length of days forever and ever.
5 His glory is great in your salvation.
You lay honor and majesty on him.
6 For you make him most blessed forever.
You make him glad with joy in your
presence.
7 For the king trusts in the LORD.
Through the loving kindness of the
Most High, he shall not be moved.
8 Your hand will find out all of your
enemies.
Your right hand will find out those
who hate you.
9 You will make them as a fiery furnace in
the time of your anger.
The LORD will swallow them up in his
wrath.
The fire shall devour them.
10 You will destroy their descendants from
the earth,
their posterity from among the
children of men.
11 For they intended evil against you.
They plotted evil against you which
cannot succeed.
12 For you will make them turn their back,
when you aim drawn bows at their
face.
13 Be exalted, LORD, in your strength,
so we will sing and praise your power.

22

For the Chief Musician; set to "The Doe of
the Morning." A Psalm by David.
1 My God, my God, why have you forsaken
me?
Why are you so far from helping me,
and from the words of my
groaning?
2 My God, I cry in the daytime, but you
don't answer;
in the night season, and am not silent.
3 But you are holy,
you who inhabit the praises of Israel.
4 Our fathers trusted in you.

They trusted, and you delivered them.
5 They cried to you, and were delivered.
They trusted in you, and were not disappointed.
6 But I am a worm, and no man;
a reproach of men, and despised by the people.
7 All those who see me mock me.
They insult me with their lips. They shake their heads, saying,
8 “He trusts in the LORD.
Let him deliver him.
Let him rescue him, since he delights in him.”
9 But you brought me out of the womb.
You made me trust while at my mother’s breasts.
10 I was thrown on you from my mother’s womb.
You are my God since my mother bore me.
11 Don’t be far from me, for trouble is near.
For there is no one to help.
12 Many bulls have surrounded me.
Strong bulls of Bashan have encircled me.
13 They open their mouths wide against me,
lions tearing prey and roaring.
14 I am poured out like water.
All my bones are out of joint.
My heart is like wax.
It is melted within me.
15 My strength is dried up like a potsherd.
My tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth.
You have brought me into the dust of death.
16 For dogs have surrounded me.
A company of evildoers have enclosed me.
They have pierced my hands and feet.†
17 I can count all of my bones.
They look and stare at me.
18 They divide my garments among them.
They cast lots for my clothing.

19 But don’t be far off, LORD.
You are my help. Hurry to help me!
20 Deliver my soul from the sword,
my precious life from the power of the dog.
21 Save me from the lion’s mouth!
Yes, you have rescued me from the horns of the wild oxen.

22 I will declare your name to my brothers.
Among the assembly, I will praise you.
23 You who fear the LORD, praise him!
All you descendants of Jacob, glorify him!
Stand in awe of him, all you descendants of Israel!
24 For he has not despised nor abhorred the affliction of the afflicted,
neither has he hidden his face from him;
but when he cried to him, he heard.

25 My praise of you comes in the great assembly.
I will pay my vows before those who fear him.
26 The humble shall eat and be satisfied.
They shall praise the LORD who seek after him.
Let your hearts live forever.
27 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD.
All the relatives of the nations shall worship before you.
28 For the kingdom is the LORD’s.
He is the ruler over the nations.
29 All the rich ones of the earth shall eat and worship.
All those who go down to the dust shall bow before him,
even he who can’t keep his soul alive.
30 Posterity shall serve him.
Future generations shall be told about the Lord.
31 They shall come and shall declare his righteousness to a people that shall be born,
for he has done it.

23

A Psalm by David.
1 The LORD is my shepherd;
I shall lack nothing.
2 He makes me lie down in green pastures.

† **22:16** So Dead Sea Scrolls. Masoretic Text reads, “Like a lion, they pin my hands and feet.”

He leads me beside still waters.
3 He restores my soul.
He guides me in the paths of
righteousness for his name's sake.
4 Even though I walk through the valley of
the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil, for you are with me.
Your rod and your staff,
they comfort me.
5 You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies.
You anoint my head with oil.
My cup runs over.
6 Surely goodness and loving kindness
shall follow me all the days of my
life,
and I will dwell in the LORD's house
forever.

24

A Psalm by David.
1 The earth is the LORD's, with its fullness;
the world, and those who dwell in it.
2 For he has founded it on the seas,
and established it on the floods.

3 Who may ascend to the LORD's hill?
Who may stand in his holy place?
4 He who has clean hands and a pure
heart;
who has not lifted up his soul to
falsehood,
and has not sworn deceitfully.
5 He shall receive a blessing from the
LORD,
righteousness from the God of his
salvation.
6 This is the generation of those who seek
Him,
who seek your face—even Jacob.
Selah.

7 Lift up your heads, you gates!
Be lifted up, you everlasting doors,
and the King of glory will come in.
8 Who is the King of glory?
The LORD strong and mighty,
the LORD mighty in battle.
9 Lift up your heads, you gates;
yes, lift them up, you everlasting
doors,
and the King of glory will come in.
10 Who is this King of glory?
The LORD of Armies is the King of
glory!
Selah.

25

By David.
1 To you, LORD, I lift up my soul.
2 My God, I have trusted in you.
Don't let me be shamed.
Don't let my enemies triumph over
me.
3 Yes, no one who waits for you will be
shamed.
They will be shamed who deal
treacherously without cause.

4 Show me your ways, LORD.
Teach me your paths.
5 Guide me in your truth, and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation.
I wait for you all day long.
6 LORD, remember your tender mercies
and your loving kindness,
for they are from old times.
7 Don't remember the sins of my youth,
nor my transgressions.
Remember me according to your
loving kindness,
for your goodness' sake, LORD.
8 Good and upright is the LORD,
therefore he will instruct sinners in
the way.
9 He will guide the humble in justice.
He will teach the humble his way.
10 All the paths of the LORD are loving
kindness and truth
to such as keep his covenant and his
testimonies.
11 For your name's sake, LORD,
pardon my iniquity, for it is great.
12 What man is he who fears the LORD?
He shall instruct him in the way that
he shall choose.
13 His soul will dwell at ease.
His offspring will inherit the land.
14 The friendship of the LORD is with
those who fear him.
He will show them his covenant.

15 My eyes are ever on the LORD,
for he will pluck my feet out of the net.
16 Turn to me, and have mercy on me,
for I am desolate and afflicted.

17 The troubles of my heart are enlarged.
Oh bring me out of my distresses.
18 Consider my affliction and my travail.
Forgive all my sins.
19 Consider my enemies, for they are many.
They hate me with cruel hatred.
20 Oh keep my soul, and deliver me.
Let me not be disappointed, for I take refuge in you.
21 Let integrity and uprightness preserve me,
for I wait for you.
22 God, redeem Israel
out of all his troubles.

26

By David.
1 Judge me, LORD, for I have walked in my integrity.
I have trusted also in the LORD without wavering.
2 Examine me, LORD, and prove me.
Try my heart and my mind.
3 For your loving kindness is before my eyes.
I have walked in your truth.
4 I have not sat with deceitful men,
neither will I go in with hypocrites.
5 I hate the assembly of evildoers,
and will not sit with the wicked.
6 I will wash my hands in innocence,
so I will go about your altar, LORD,
7 that I may make the voice of thanksgiving to be heard
and tell of all your wondrous deeds.
8 LORD, I love the habitation of your house,
the place where your glory dwells.
9 Don't gather my soul with sinners,
nor my life with bloodthirsty men
10 in whose hands is wickedness;
their right hand is full of bribes.

11 But as for me, I will walk in my integrity.
Redeem me, and be merciful to me.
12 My foot stands in an even place.
In the congregations I will bless the LORD.

27

By David.
1 The LORD is my light and my salvation.
Whom shall I fear?
The LORD is the strength of my life.
Of whom shall I be afraid?
2 When evildoers came at me to eat up my flesh,
even my adversaries and my foes,
they stumbled and fell.
3 Though an army should encamp against me,
my heart shall not fear.
Though war should rise against me,
even then I will be confident.
4 One thing I have asked of the LORD, that I will seek after:
that I may dwell in the LORD's house all the days of my life,
to see the LORD's beauty,
and to inquire in his temple.
5 For in the day of trouble, he will keep me secretly in his pavilion.
In the secret place of his tabernacle, he will hide me.
He will lift me up on a rock.
6 Now my head will be lifted up above my enemies around me.
I will offer sacrifices of joy in his tent.
I will sing, yes, I will sing praises to the LORD.

7 Hear, LORD, when I cry with my voice.
Have mercy also on me, and answer me.
8 When you said, "Seek my face,"
my heart said to you, "I will seek your face, LORD."
9 Don't hide your face from me.
Don't put your servant away in anger.
You have been my help.
Don't abandon me,
neither forsake me, God of my salvation.
10 When my father and my mother forsake me,
then the LORD will take me up.
11 Teach me your way, LORD.
Lead me in a straight path, because of my enemies.
12 Don't deliver me over to the desire of my adversaries,
for false witnesses have risen up against me,
such as breathe out cruelty.

13 I am still confident of this:
I will see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living.
14 Wait for the LORD.
Be strong, and let your heart take courage.
Yes, wait for the LORD.

28

By David.
1 To you, LORD, I call.
My rock, don't be deaf to me,
lest, if you are silent to me,
I would become like those who go down into the pit.
2 Hear the voice of my petitions, when I cry to you,
when I lift up my hands toward your Most Holy Place.
3 Don't draw me away with the wicked,
with the workers of iniquity who speak peace with their neighbors,
but mischief is in their hearts.
4 Give them according to their work, and according to the wickedness of their doings.
Give them according to the operation of their hands.
Bring back on them what they deserve.
5 Because they don't respect the works of the LORD,
nor the operation of his hands,
he will break them down and not build them up.

6 Blessed be the LORD,
because he has heard the voice of my petitions.
7 The LORD is my strength and my shield.
My heart has trusted in him, and I am helped.
Therefore my heart greatly rejoices.
With my song I will thank him.
8 The LORD is their strength.
He is a stronghold of salvation to his anointed.
9 Save your people,
and bless your inheritance.
Be their shepherd also,
and bear them up forever.

29

A Psalm by David.
1 Ascribe to the LORD, you sons of the mighty,
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.
2 Ascribe to the LORD the glory due to his name.
Worship the LORD in holy array.

3 The LORD's voice is on the waters.
The God of glory thunders, even the LORD on many waters.
4 The LORD's voice is powerful.
The LORD's voice is full of majesty.
5 The LORD's voice breaks the cedars.
Yes, the LORD breaks in pieces the cedars of Lebanon.
6 He makes them also to skip like a calf;
Lebanon and Sirion like a young, wild ox.
7 The LORD's voice strikes with flashes of lightning.
8 The LORD's voice shakes the wilderness.
The LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.
9 The LORD's voice makes the deer calve,
and strips the forests bare.
In his temple everything says,
"Glory!"

10 The LORD sat enthroned at the Flood.
Yes, the LORD sits as King forever.
11 The LORD will give strength to his people.
The LORD will bless his people with peace.

30

A Psalm. A Song for the Dedication of the Temple. By David.
1 I will extol you, LORD, for you have raised me up,
and have not made my foes to rejoice over me.
2 LORD my God, I cried to you,
and you have healed me.
3 LORD, you have brought up my soul from Sheol.†
You have kept me alive, that I should not go down to the pit.
4 Sing praise to the LORD, you saints of his.

† **30:3** Sheol is the place of the dead.

Give thanks to his holy name.
5 For his anger is but for a moment.
His favor is for a lifetime.
Weeping may stay for the night,
but joy comes in the morning.
6 As for me, I said in my prosperity,
"I shall never be moved."
7 You, LORD, when you favored me, made
my mountain stand strong;
but when you hid your face, I was
troubled.
8 I cried to you, LORD.
I made supplication to the Lord:
9 "What profit is there in my destruction,
if I go down to the pit?
Shall the dust praise you?
Shall it declare your truth?
10 Hear, LORD, and have mercy on me.
LORD, be my helper."
11 You have turned my mourning into
dancing for me.
You have removed my sackcloth, and
clothed me with gladness,
12 to the end that my heart may sing
praise to you, and not be silent.
LORD my God, I will give thanks to you
forever!

31

For the Chief Musician. A Psalm by David.
1 In you, LORD, I take refuge.
Let me never be disappointed.
Deliver me in your righteousness.
2 Bow down your ear to me.
Deliver me speedily.
Be to me a strong rock,
a house of defense to save me.
3 For you are my rock and my fortress,
therefore for your name's sake lead
me and guide me.
4 Pluck me out of the net that they have
laid secretly for me,
for you are my stronghold.
5 Into your hand I commend my spirit.
You redeem me, LORD, God of truth.
6 I hate those who regard lying vanities,
but I trust in the LORD.
7 I will be glad and rejoice in your loving
kindness,
for you have seen my affliction.
You have known my soul in
adversities.
8 You have not shut me up into the hand of
the enemy.
You have set my feet in a large place.
9 Have mercy on me, LORD, for I am in
distress.
My eye, my soul, and my body waste
away with grief.
10 For my life is spent with sorrow,
my years with sighing.
My strength fails because of my iniquity.
My bones are wasted away.
11 Because of all my adversaries I have
become utterly contemptible to my
neighbors,
a horror to my acquaintances.
Those who saw me on the street fled
from me.
12 I am forgotten from their hearts like a
dead man.
I am like broken pottery.
13 For I have heard the slander of many,
terror on every side,
while they conspire together against
me,
they plot to take away my life.
14 But I trust in you, LORD.
I said, "You are my God."
15 My times are in your hand.
Deliver me from the hand of my
enemies, and from those who
persecute me.
16 Make your face to shine on your
servant.
Save me in your loving kindness.
17 Let me not be disappointed, LORD, for I
have called on you.
Let the wicked be disappointed.
Let them be silent in Sheol.†
18 Let the lying lips be mute,
which speak against the righteous
insolently, with pride and
contempt.
19 Oh how great is your goodness,
which you have laid up for those who
fear you,
which you have worked for those
who take refuge in you,
before the sons of men!

† **31:17** Sheol is the place of the dead.

20 In the shelter of your presence you will
hide them from the plotting of man.
You will keep them secretly in a
dwelling away from the strife of
tongues.
21 Praise be to the LORD,
for he has shown me his marvelous
loving kindness in a strong city.
22 As for me, I said in my haste, “I am cut
off from before your eyes.”
Nevertheless you heard the voice of
my petitions when I cried to you.
23 Oh love the LORD, all you his saints!
The LORD preserves the faithful,
and fully recompenses him who behaves
arrogantly.
24 Be strong, and let your heart take
courage,
all you who hope in the LORD.

32

By David. A contemplative psalm.
1 Blessed is he whose disobedience is
forgiven,
whose sin is covered.
2 Blessed is the man to whom the LORD
doesn’t impute iniquity,
in whose spirit there is no deceit.
3 When I kept silence, my bones wasted
away through my groaning all day
long.
4 For day and night your hand was heavy
on me.
My strength was sapped in the heat of
summer.
Selah.
5 I acknowledged my sin to you.
I didn’t hide my iniquity.
I said, I will confess my transgressions to
the LORD,
and you forgave the iniquity of my
sin.
Selah.
6 For this, let everyone who is godly pray
to you in a time when you may be
found.
Surely when the great waters
overflow, they shall not reach to
him.
7 You are my hiding place.
You will preserve me from trouble.
You will surround me with songs of
deliverance.
Selah.
8 I will instruct you and teach you in the
way which you shall go.
I will counsel you with my eye on you.
9 Don’t be like the horse, or like the mule,
which have no understanding,
who are controlled by bit and bridle,
or else they will not come near to
you.
10 Many sorrows come to the wicked,
but loving kindness shall surround
him who trusts in the LORD.
11 Be glad in the LORD, and rejoice, you
righteous!
Shout for joy, all you who are upright
in heart!

33

1 Rejoice in the LORD, you righteous!
Praise is fitting for the upright.
2 Give thanks to the LORD with the lyre.
Sing praises to him with the harp of
ten strings.
3 Sing to him a new song.
Play skillfully with a shout of joy!
4 For the LORD’s word is right.
All his work is done in faithfulness.
5 He loves righteousness and justice.
The earth is full of the loving
kindness of the LORD.
6 By the LORD’s word, the heavens were
made:
all their army by the breath of his
mouth.
7 He gathers the waters of the sea together
as a heap.
He lays up the deeps in storehouses.
8 Let all the earth fear the LORD.
Let all the inhabitants of the world
stand in awe of him.
9 For he spoke, and it was done.
He commanded, and it stood firm.
10 The LORD brings the counsel of the
nations to nothing.
He makes the thoughts of the peoples
to be of no effect.
11 The counsel of the LORD stands fast
forever,
the thoughts of his heart to all
generations.
12 Blessed is the nation whose God is the
LORD,

the people whom he has chosen for
his own inheritance.
13 The LORD looks from heaven.
He sees all the sons of men.
14 From the place of his habitation he
looks out on all the inhabitants of
the earth,
15 he who fashions all of their hearts;
and he considers all of their works.
16 There is no king saved by the multitude
of an army.
A mighty man is not delivered by
great strength.
17 A horse is a vain thing for safety,
neither does he deliver any by his
great power.
18 Behold, the LORD's eye is on those who
fear him,
on those who hope in his loving
kindness,
19 to deliver their soul from death,
to keep them alive in famine.
20 Our soul has waited for the LORD.
He is our help and our shield.
21 For our heart rejoices in him,
because we have trusted in his holy
name.
22 Let your loving kindness be on us,
LORD,
since we have hoped in you.

34

By David; when he pretended to be insane before Abimelech, who drove him away, and he departed.

1 †I will bless the LORD at all times.
His praise will always be in my
mouth.
2 My soul shall boast in the LORD.
The humble shall hear of it and be
glad.
3 Oh magnify the LORD with me.
Let's exalt his name together.
4 I sought the LORD, and he answered me,
and delivered me from all my fears.
5 They looked to him, and were radiant.
Their faces shall never be covered
with shame.
6 This poor man cried, and the LORD
heard him,
and saved him out of all his troubles.
7 The LORD's angel encamps around those
who fear him,
and delivers them.
8 Oh taste and see that the LORD is good.
Blessed is the man who takes refuge
in him.
9 Oh fear the LORD, you his saints,
for there is no lack with those who
fear him.
10 The young lions do lack, and suffer
hunger,
but those who seek the LORD shall
not lack any good thing.

11 Come, you children, listen to me.
I will teach you the fear of the LORD.
12 Who is someone who desires life,
and loves many days, that he may see
good?
13 Keep your tongue from evil,
and your lips from speaking lies.
14 Depart from evil, and do good.
Seek peace, and pursue it.
15 The LORD's eyes are toward the
righteous.
His ears listen to their cry.
16 The LORD's face is against those who do
evil,
to cut off their memory from the
earth.
17 The righteous cry, and the LORD hears,
and delivers them out of all their
troubles.
18 The LORD is near to those who have a
broken heart,
and saves those who have a crushed
spirit.
19 Many are the afflictions of the
righteous,
but the LORD delivers him out of
them all.
20 He protects all of his bones.
Not one of them is broken.
21 Evil shall kill the wicked.
Those who hate the righteous shall be
condemned.
22 The LORD redeems the soul of his
servants.
None of those who take refuge in him
shall be condemned.

† **34:1** Psalm 34 is an acrostic poem, with each verse starting with a letter of the alphabet (ordered from Alef to Tav).

35

By David.

1 Contend, LORD, with those who contend with me.
Fight against those who fight against me.
2 Take hold of shield and buckler,
and stand up for my help.
3 Brandish the spear and block those who pursue me.
Tell my soul, "I am your salvation."
4 Let those who seek after my soul be disappointed and brought to dishonor.
Let those who plot my ruin be turned back and confounded.
5 Let them be as chaff before the wind,
the LORD's angel driving them on.
6 Let their way be dark and slippery,
the LORD's angel pursuing them.
7 For without cause they have hidden their net in a pit for me.
Without cause they have dug a pit for my soul.
8 Let destruction come on him unawares.
Let his net that he has hidden catch himself.
Let him fall into that destruction.

9 My soul shall be joyful in the LORD.
It shall rejoice in his salvation.
10 All my bones shall say, "LORD, who is like you,
who delivers the poor from him who is too strong for him;
yes, the poor and the needy from him who robs him?"
11 Unrighteous witnesses rise up.
They ask me about things that I don't know about.
12 They reward me evil for good,
to the bereaving of my soul.

13 But as for me, when they were sick, my clothing was sackcloth.
I afflicted my soul with fasting.
My prayer returned into my own bosom.
14 I behaved myself as though it had been my friend or my brother.
I bowed down mourning, as one who mourns his mother.
15 But in my adversity, they rejoiced, and gathered themselves together.
The attackers gathered themselves together against me, and I didn't know it.
They tore at me, and didn't cease.
16 Like the profane mockers in feasts,
they gnashed their teeth at me.
17 Lord, how long will you look on?
Rescue my soul from their destruction,
my precious life from the lions.
18 I will give you thanks in the great assembly.
I will praise you among many people.
19 Don't let those who are my enemies wrongfully rejoice over me;
neither let those who hate me without a cause wink their eyes.
20 For they don't speak peace,
but they devise deceitful words against those who are quiet in the land.
21 Yes, they opened their mouth wide against me.
They said, "Aha! Aha! Our eye has seen it!"
22 You have seen it, LORD. Don't keep silent.
Lord, don't be far from me.
23 Wake up! Rise up to defend me, my God!
My Lord, contend for me!
24 Vindicate me, LORD my God, according to your righteousness.
Don't let them gloat over me.
25 Don't let them say in their heart, "Aha! That's the way we want it!"
Don't let them say, "We have swallowed him up!"
26 Let them be disappointed and confounded together who rejoice at my calamity.
Let them be clothed with shame and dishonor who magnify themselves against me.

27 Let those who favor my righteous cause shout for joy and be glad.
Yes, let them say continually, "May the LORD be magnified,

who has pleasure in the prosperity of
his servant!”
28 My tongue shall talk about your
righteousness and about your
praise all day long.

36

For the Chief Musician. By David, the
servant of the LORD.
1 A revelation is within my heart about the
disobedience of the wicked:
There is no fear of God before his
eyes.
2 For he flatters himself in his own eyes,
too much to detect and hate his sin.
3 The words of his mouth are iniquity and
deceit.
He has ceased to be wise and to do
good.
4 He plots iniquity on his bed.
He sets himself in a way that is not
good.
He doesn’t abhor evil.

5 Your loving kindness, LORD, is in the
heavens.
Your faithfulness reaches to the skies.
6 Your righteousness is like the mountains
of God.
Your judgments are like a great deep.
LORD, you preserve man and animal.
7 How precious is your loving kindness,
God!
The children of men take refuge
under the shadow of your wings.
8 They shall be abundantly satisfied with
the abundance of your house.
You will make them drink of the river
of your pleasures.
9 For with you is the spring of life.
In your light we will see light.
10 Oh continue your loving kindness to
those who know you,
your righteousness to the upright in
heart.
11 Don’t let the foot of pride come against
me.
Don’t let the hand of the wicked drive
me away.
12 There the workers of iniquity are fallen.
They are thrust down, and shall not
be able to rise.

37

By David.
1 Don’t fret because of evildoers,
neither be envious against those who
work unrighteousness.
2 For they shall soon be cut down like the
grass,
and wither like the green herb.
3 Trust in the LORD, and do good.
Dwell in the land, and enjoy safe
pasture.
4 Also delight yourself in the LORD,
and he will give you the desires of
your heart.
5 Commit your way to the LORD.
Trust also in him, and he will do this:
6 he will make your righteousness shine
out like light,
and your justice as the noon day sun.
7 Rest in the LORD, and wait patiently for
him.
Don’t fret because of him who
prospers in his way,
because of the man who makes
wicked plots happen.
8 Cease from anger, and forsake wrath.
Don’t fret; it leads only to evildoing.
9 For evildoers shall be cut off,
but those who wait for the LORD shall
inherit the land.
10 For yet a little while, and the wicked
will be no more.
Yes, though you look for his place, he
isn’t there.
11 But the humble shall inherit the land,
and shall delight themselves in the
abundance of peace.
12 The wicked plots against the just,
and gnashes at him with his teeth.
13 The Lord will laugh at him,
for he sees that his day is coming.
14 The wicked have drawn out the sword,
and have bent their bow,
to cast down the poor and needy,
to kill those who are upright on the
path.
15 Their sword shall enter into their own
heart.
Their bows shall be broken.
16 Better is a little that the righteous has,
than the abundance of many wicked.
17 For the arms of the wicked shall be
broken,

but the LORD upholds the righteous.
18 The LORD knows the days of the perfect.
Their inheritance shall be forever.
19 They shall not be disappointed in the time of evil.
In the days of famine they shall be satisfied.

20 But the wicked shall perish.
The enemies of the LORD shall be like the beauty of the fields.
They will vanish—
vanish like smoke.
21 The wicked borrow, and don't pay back,
but the righteous give generously.
22 For such as are blessed by him shall inherit the land.
Those who are cursed by him shall be cut off.
23 A man's steps are established by the LORD.
He delights in his way.
24 Though he stumble, he shall not fall,
for the LORD holds him up with his hand.
25 I have been young, and now am old,
yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken,
nor his children begging for bread.
26 All day long he deals graciously, and lends.
His offspring is blessed.
27 Depart from evil, and do good.
Live securely forever.
28 For the LORD loves justice,
and doesn't forsake his saints.
They are preserved forever,
but the children of the wicked shall be cut off.
29 The righteous shall inherit the land,
and live in it forever.

30 The mouth of the righteous talks of wisdom.
His tongue speaks justice.
31 The law of his God is in his heart.
None of his steps shall slide.
32 The wicked watch the righteous,
and seek to kill him.
33 The LORD will not leave him in his hand,
nor condemn him when he is judged.
34 Wait for the LORD, and keep his way,
and he will exalt you to inherit the land.
When the wicked are cut off, you shall see it.

35 I have seen the wicked in great power,
spreading himself like a green tree in its native soil.
36 But he passed away, and behold, he was not.
Yes, I sought him, but he could not be found.
37 Mark the perfect man, and see the upright,
for there is a future for the man of peace.
38 As for transgressors, they shall be destroyed together.
The future of the wicked shall be cut off.
39 But the salvation of the righteous is from the LORD.
He is their stronghold in the time of trouble.
40 The LORD helps them and rescues them.
He rescues them from the wicked and saves them,
because they have taken refuge in him.

38

A Psalm by David, for a memorial.
1 LORD, don't rebuke me in your wrath,
neither chasten me in your hot displeasure.
2 For your arrows have pierced me,
your hand presses hard on me.
3 There is no soundness in my flesh because of your indignation,
neither is there any health in my bones because of my sin.
4 For my iniquities have gone over my head.
As a heavy burden, they are too heavy for me.
5 My wounds are loathsome and corrupt because of my foolishness.
6 I am in pain and bowed down greatly.
I go mourning all day long.
7 For my waist is filled with burning.
There is no soundness in my flesh.
8 I am faint and severely bruised.

I have groaned by reason of the
anguish of my heart.
9 Lord, all my desire is before you.
My groaning is not hidden from you.
10 My heart throbs.
My strength fails me.
As for the light of my eyes, it has also
left me.
11 My lovers and my friends stand aloof
from my plague.
My kinsmen stand far away.
12 They also who seek after my life lay
snares.
Those who seek my hurt speak
mischievous things,
and meditate deceits all day long.
13 But I, as a deaf man, don't hear.
I am as a mute man who doesn't open
his mouth.
14 Yes, I am as a man who doesn't hear,
in whose mouth are no reproofs.
15 For I hope in you, LORD.
You will answer, Lord my God.
16 For I said, "Don't let them gloat over me,
or exalt themselves over me when my
foot slips."
17 For I am ready to fall.
My pain is continually before me.
18 For I will declare my iniquity.
I will be sorry for my sin.
19 But my enemies are vigorous and many.
Those who hate me without reason
are numerous.
20 They who give evil for good are also
adversaries to me,
because I follow what is good.
21 Don't forsake me, LORD.
My God, don't be far from me.
22 Hurry to help me,
Lord, my salvation.

39

For the Chief Musician. For Jeduthun. A
Psalm by David.
1 I said, "I will watch my ways, so that I
don't sin with my tongue.
I will keep my mouth with a bridle
while the wicked is before me."
2 I was mute with silence.
I held my peace, even from good.
My sorrow was stirred.
3 My heart was hot within me.
While I meditated, the fire burned.
I spoke with my tongue:
4 "LORD, show me my end,
what is the measure of my days.
Let me know how frail I am.
5 Behold, you have made my days hand
widths.
My lifetime is as nothing before you.
Surely every man stands as a breath."
Selah.
6 "Surely every man walks like a shadow.
Surely they busy themselves in vain.
He heaps up, and doesn't know who
shall gather.
7 Now, Lord, what do I wait for?
My hope is in you.
8 Deliver me from all my transgressions.
Don't make me the reproach of the
foolish.
9 I was mute.
I didn't open my mouth,
because you did it.
10 Remove your scourge away from me.
I am overcome by the blow of your
hand.
11 When you rebuke and correct man for
iniquity,
you consume his wealth like a moth.
Surely every man is but a breath."
Selah.
12 "Hear my prayer, LORD, and give ear to
my cry.
Don't be silent at my tears.
For I am a stranger with you,
a foreigner, as all my fathers were.
13 Oh spare me, that I may recover
strength,
before I go away and exist no more."

40

For the Chief Musician. A Psalm by David.
1 I waited patiently for the LORD.
He turned to me, and heard my cry.
2 He brought me up also out of a horrible
pit,
out of the miry clay.
He set my feet on a rock,
and gave me a firm place to stand.
3 He has put a new song in my mouth,
even praise to our God.
Many shall see it, and fear, and shall
trust in the LORD.

4 Blessed is the man who makes the LORD his trust,
and doesn't respect the proud, nor such as turn away to lies.
5 Many, LORD, my God, are the wonderful works which you have done,
and your thoughts which are toward us.
They can't be declared back to you.
If I would declare and speak of them, they are more than can be counted.
6 Sacrifice and offering you didn't desire.
You have opened my ears.
You have not required burnt offering and sin offering.
7 Then I said, "Behold, I have come.
It is written about me in the book in the scroll.
8 I delight to do your will, my God.
Yes, your law is within my heart."
9 I have proclaimed glad news of righteousness in the great assembly.
Behold, I will not seal my lips, LORD, you know.
10 I have not hidden your righteousness within my heart.
I have declared your faithfulness and your salvation.
I have not concealed your loving kindness and your truth from the great assembly.
11 Don't withhold your tender mercies from me, LORD.
Let your loving kindness and your truth continually preserve me.
12 For innumerable evils have surrounded me.
My iniquities have overtaken me, so that I am not able to look up.
They are more than the hairs of my head.
My heart has failed me.
13 Be pleased, LORD, to deliver me.
Hurry to help me, LORD.
14 Let them be disappointed and confounded together who seek after my soul to destroy it.
Let them be turned backward and brought to dishonor who delight in my hurt.
15 Let them be desolate by reason of their shame that tell me, "Aha! Aha!"
16 Let all those who seek you rejoice and be glad in you.
Let such as love your salvation say continually, "Let the LORD be exalted!"
17 But I am poor and needy.
May the Lord think about me.
You are my help and my deliverer.
Don't delay, my God.

41

For the Chief Musician. A Psalm by David.
1 Blessed is he who considers the poor.
The LORD will deliver him in the day of evil.
2 The LORD will preserve him, and keep him alive.
He shall be blessed on the earth,
and he will not surrender him to the will of his enemies.
3 The LORD will sustain him on his sickbed,
and restore him from his bed of illness.
4 I said, "LORD, have mercy on me!
Heal me, for I have sinned against you."
5 My enemies speak evil against me:
"When will he die, and his name perish?"
6 If he comes to see me, he speaks falsehood.
His heart gathers iniquity to itself.
When he goes abroad, he tells it.
7 All who hate me whisper together against me.
They imagine the worst for me.
8 "An evil disease", they say, "has afflicted him.
Now that he lies he shall rise up no more."
9 Yes, my own familiar friend, in whom I trusted,
who ate bread with me,
has lifted up his heel against me.

10 But you, LORD, have mercy on me, and raise me up,
that I may repay them.
11 By this I know that you delight in me,
because my enemy doesn't triumph over me.

12 As for me, you uphold me in my
integrity,
and set me in your presence forever.

13 Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel,
from everlasting and to everlasting!
Amen and amen.

BOOK 2

42

For the Chief Musician. A contemplation
by the sons of Korah.
1 As the deer pants for the water brooks,
so my soul pants after you, God.†
2 My soul thirsts for God, for the living
God.
When shall I come and appear before
God?
3 My tears have been my food day and
night,
while they continually ask me,
"Where is your God?"
4 These things I remember, and pour out
my soul within me,
how I used to go with the crowd, and
led them to God's house,
with the voice of joy and praise, a
multitude keeping a holy day.
5 Why are you in despair, my soul?
Why are you disturbed within me?
Hope in God!
For I shall still praise him for the
saving help of his presence.
6 My God, my soul is in despair within me.
Therefore I remember you from the
land of the Jordan,
the heights of Hermon, from the hill
Mizar.
7 Deep calls to deep at the noise of your
waterfalls.
All your waves and your billows have
swept over me.

8 The LORD‡ will command his loving
kindness in the daytime.
In the night his song shall be with me:
a prayer to the God of my life.
9 I will ask God, my rock, "Why have you
forgotten me?
Why do I go mourning because of the
oppression of the enemy?"
10 As with a sword in my bones, my
adversaries reproach me,
while they continually ask me,
"Where is your God?"
11 Why are you in despair, my soul?
Why are you disturbed within me?
Hope in God! For I shall still praise him,
the saving help of my countenance,
and my God.

43

1 Vindicate me, God, and plead my cause
against an ungodly nation.
Oh, deliver me from deceitful and
wicked men.
2 For you are the God of my strength. Why
have you rejected me?
Why do I go mourning because of the
oppression of the enemy?
3 Oh, send out your light and your truth.
Let them lead me.
Let them bring me to your holy hill,
to your tents.
4 Then I will go to the altar of God,
to God, my exceeding joy.
I will praise you on the harp, God, my God.
5 Why are you in despair, my soul?
Why are you disturbed within me?
Hope in God!
For I shall still praise him:
my Savior, my helper, and my God.

44

For the Chief Musician. By the sons of
Korah. A contemplative psalm.
1 We have heard with our ears, God;
our fathers have told us what work
you did in their days,
in the days of old.
2 You drove out the nations with your
hand,
but you planted them.
You afflicted the peoples,
but you spread them abroad.
3 For they didn't get the land in possession
by their own sword,
neither did their own arm save them;

† **42:1** The Hebrew word rendered "God" is "אֱלֹהִים" (Elohim). ‡ **42:8** When rendered in ALL CAPITAL LETTERS, "LORD" or "GOD" is the translation of God's Proper Name (Hebrew "יהוה", usually pronounced Yahweh).

but your right hand, your arm, and the
light of your face,
because you were favorable to them.
4 God, you are my King.
Command victories for Jacob!
5 Through you, we will push down our
adversaries.
Through your name, we will tread
down those who rise up against us.
6 For I will not trust in my bow,
neither will my sword save me.
7 But you have saved us from our
adversaries,
and have shamed those who hate us.
8 In God we have made our boast all day
long.
We will give thanks to your name
forever.
Selah.

9 But now you rejected us, and brought us
to dishonor,
and don't go out with our armies.
10 You make us turn back from the
adversary.
Those who hate us take plunder for
themselves.
11 You have made us like sheep for food,
and have scattered us among the
nations.
12 You sell your people for nothing,
and have gained nothing from their
sale.
13 You make us a reproach to our
neighbors,
a scoffing and a derision to those who
are around us.
14 You make us a byword among the
nations,
a shaking of the head among the
peoples.
15 All day long my dishonor is before me,
and shame covers my face,
16 at the taunt of one who reproaches
and verbally abuses,
because of the enemy and the
avenger.
17 All this has come on us,
yet we haven't forgotten you.
We haven't been false to your
covenant.
18 Our heart has not turned back,
neither have our steps strayed from
your path,
19 though you have crushed us in the
haunt of jackals,
and covered us with the shadow of
death.
20 If we have forgotten the name of our
God,
or spread out our hands to a strange
god,
21 won't God search this out?
For he knows the secrets of the heart.
22 Yes, for your sake we are killed all day
long.
We are regarded as sheep for the
slaughter.
23 Wake up!
Why do you sleep, Lord?†
Arise!
Don't reject us forever.
24 Why do you hide your face,
and forget our affliction and our
oppression?
25 For our soul is bowed down to the dust.
Our body clings to the earth.
26 Rise up to help us.
Redeem us for your loving kindness'
sake.

45

For the Chief Musician. Set to "The Lilies."
A contemplation by the sons of Korah. A
wedding song.
1 My heart overflows with a noble theme.
I recite my verses for the king.
My tongue is like the pen of a skillful
writer.
2 You are the most excellent of the sons of
men.
Grace has anointed your lips,
therefore God has blessed you
forever.
3 Strap your sword on your thigh, O
mighty one,
in your splendor and your majesty.
4 In your majesty ride on victoriously on
behalf of truth, humility, and
righteousness.
Let your right hand display awesome
deeds.
5 Your arrows are sharp.

† **44:23** The word translated "Lord" is "Adonai."

The nations fall under you, with
arrows in the heart of the king's
enemies.
6 Your throne, God, is forever and ever.
A scepter of equity is the scepter of
your kingdom.
7 You have loved righteousness, and hated
wickedness.
Therefore God, your God, has
anointed you with the oil of
gladness above your fellows.
8 All your garments smell like myrrh,
aloes, and cassia.
Out of ivory palaces stringed
instruments have made you glad.
9 Kings' daughters are among your
honorable women.
At your right hand the queen stands
in gold of Ophir.
10 Listen, daughter, consider, and turn
your ear.
Forget your own people, and also
your father's house.
11 So the king will desire your beauty,
honor him, for he is your lord.
12 The daughter of Tyre comes with a gift.
The rich among the people entreat
your favor.
13 The princess inside is all glorious.
Her clothing is interwoven with gold.
14 She shall be led to the king in
embroidered work.
The virgins, her companions who
follow her, shall be brought to you.
15 With gladness and rejoicing they shall
be led.
They shall enter into the king's palace.
16 Your sons will take the place of your
fathers.
You shall make them princes in all the
earth.
17 I will make your name to be
remembered in all generations.
Therefore the peoples shall give you
thanks forever and ever.

46

For the Chief Musician. By the sons of Korah. According to Alamoth.†
1 God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.
2 Therefore we won't be afraid, though the
earth changes,
though the mountains are shaken
into the heart of the seas;
3 though its waters roar and are
troubled,
though the mountains tremble with
their swelling.
Selah.

4 There is a river, the streams of which
make the city of God glad,
the holy place of the tents of the Most
High.
5 God is within her. She shall not be
moved.
God will help her at dawn.
6 The nations raged. The kingdoms were
moved.
He lifted his voice and the earth
melted.
7 The LORD of Armies is with us.
The God of Jacob is our refuge.
Selah.

8 Come, see the LORD's works,
what desolations he has made on the
earth.
9 He makes wars cease to the end of the
earth.
He breaks the bow, and shatters the
spear.
He burns the chariots in the fire.
10 "Be still, and know that I am God.
I will be exalted among the nations.
I will be exalted on the earth."
11 The LORD of Armies is with us.
The God of Jacob is our refuge.
Selah.

47

For the Chief Musician. A Psalm by the sons of Korah.
1 Oh clap your hands, all you nations.
Shout to God with the voice of
triumph!
2 For the LORD Most High is awesome.
He is a great King over all the earth.
3 He subdues nations under us,
and peoples under our feet.
4 He chooses our inheritance for us,
the glory of Jacob whom he loved.
Selah.

† **46:** Alamoth is a musical term.

5 God has gone up with a shout,
the LORD with the sound of a trumpet.
6 Sing praises to God! Sing praises!
Sing praises to our King! Sing praises!
7 For God is the King of all the earth.
Sing praises with understanding.
8 God reigns over the nations.
God sits on his holy throne.
9 The princes of the peoples are gathered together,
the people of the God of Abraham.
For the shields of the earth belong to God.
He is greatly exalted!

48

A Song. A Psalm by the sons of Korah.
1 Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised,
in the city of our God, in his holy mountain.
2 Beautiful in elevation, the joy of the whole earth,
is Mount Zion, on the north sides,
the city of the great King.
3 God has shown himself in her citadels as a refuge.
4 For, behold, the kings assembled themselves,
they passed by together.
5 They saw it, then they were amazed.
They were dismayed.
They hurried away.
6 Trembling took hold of them there,
pain, as of a woman in travail.
7 With the east wind, you break the ships of Tarshish.
8 As we have heard, so we have seen,
in the city of the LORD of Armies, in the city of our God.
God will establish it forever.
Selah.
9 We have thought about your loving kindness, God,
in the middle of your temple.
10 As is your name, God,
so is your praise to the ends of the earth.
Your right hand is full of righteousness.
11 Let Mount Zion be glad!
Let the daughters of Judah rejoice because of your judgments.
12 Walk about Zion, and go around her.
Number its towers.
13 Notice her bulwarks.
Consider her palaces,
that you may tell it to the next generation.
14 For this God is our God forever and ever.
He will be our guide even to death.

49

For the Chief Musician. A Psalm by the sons of Korah.
1 Hear this, all you peoples.
Listen, all you inhabitants of the world,
2 both low and high,
rich and poor together.
3 My mouth will speak words of wisdom.
My heart will utter understanding.
4 I will incline my ear to a proverb.
I will solve my riddle on the harp.
5 Why should I fear in the days of evil,
when iniquity at my heels surrounds me?
6 Those who trust in their wealth,
and boast in the multitude of their riches—
7 none of them can by any means redeem his brother,
nor give God a ransom for him.
8 For the redemption of their life is costly,
no payment is ever enough,
9 that he should live on forever,
that he should not see corruption.
10 For he sees that wise men die;
likewise the fool and the senseless perish,
and leave their wealth to others.
11 Their inward thought is that their houses will endure forever,
and their dwelling places to all generations.
They name their lands after themselves.
12 But man, despite his riches, doesn't endure.
He is like the animals that perish.

13 This is the destiny of those who are foolish,

and of those who approve their
sayings.
Selah.
14 They are appointed as a flock for Sheol.†
Death shall be their shepherd.
The upright shall have dominion over
them in the morning.
Their beauty shall decay in Sheol,‡
far from their mansion.
15 But God will redeem my soul from the
power of Sheol,§
for he will receive me.
Selah.
16 Don't be afraid when a man is made
rich,
when the glory of his house is
increased;
17 for when he dies he will carry nothing
away.
His glory won't descend after him.
18 Though while he lived he blessed his
soul—
and men praise you when you do well
for yourself—
19 he shall go to the generation of his
fathers.
They shall never see the light.
20 A man who has riches without
understanding,
is like the animals that perish.

50

A Psalm by Asaph.
1 The Mighty One, God, the LORD, speaks,
and calls the earth from sunrise to
sunset.
2 Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty,
God shines out.
3 Our God comes, and does not keep silent.
A fire devours before him.
It is very stormy around him.
4 He calls to the heavens above,
to the earth, that he may judge his
people:
5 "Gather my saints together to me,
those who have made a covenant
with me by sacrifice."
6 The heavens shall declare his
righteousness,
for God himself is judge.
Selah.
7 "Hear, my people, and I will speak.
Israel, I will testify against you.
I am God, your God.
8 I don't rebuke you for your sacrifices.
Your burnt offerings are continually
before me.
9 I have no need for a bull from your stall,
nor male goats from your pens.
10 For every animal of the forest is mine,
and the livestock on a thousand hills.
11 I know all the birds of the mountains.
The wild animals of the field are
mine.
12 If I were hungry, I would not tell you,
for the world is mine, and all that is in
it.
13 Will I eat the meat of bulls,
or drink the blood of goats?
14 Offer to God the sacrifice of
thanksgiving.
Pay your vows to the Most High.
15 Call on me in the day of trouble.
I will deliver you, and you will honor
me."

16 But to the wicked God says,
"What right do you have to declare
my statutes,
that you have taken my covenant on
your lips,
17 since you hate instruction,
and throw my words behind you?
18 When you saw a thief, you consented
with him,
and have participated with
adulterers.

19 "You give your mouth to evil.
Your tongue frames deceit.
20 You sit and speak against your brother.
You slander your own mother's son.
21 You have done these things, and I kept
silent.
You thought that I was just like you.
I will rebuke you, and accuse you in
front of your eyes.

22 "Now consider this, you who forget God,
lest I tear you into pieces, and there
be no one to deliver.

† **49:14** Sheol is the place of the dead. ‡ **49:14** Sheol is the place of the dead. § **49:15** Sheol is the place of the dead.

23 Whoever offers the sacrifice of thanksgiving glorifies me,
and prepares his way so that I will show God's salvation to him."

51

For the Chief Musician. A Psalm by David, when Nathan the prophet came to him, after he had gone in to Bathsheba.

1 Have mercy on me, God, according to your loving kindness.
According to the multitude of your tender mercies, blot out my transgressions.
2 Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity.
Cleanse me from my sin.
3 For I know my transgressions.
My sin is constantly before me.
4 Against you, and you only, I have sinned,
and done that which is evil in your sight,
so you may be proved right when you speak,
and justified when you judge.
5 Behold, I was born in iniquity.
My mother conceived me in sin.
6 Behold, you desire truth in the inward parts.
You teach me wisdom in the inmost place.
7 Purify me with hyssop, and I will be clean.
Wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.
8 Let me hear joy and gladness,
that the bones which you have broken may rejoice.
9 Hide your face from my sins,
and blot out all of my iniquities.
10 Create in me a clean heart, O God.
Renew a right spirit within me.
11 Don't throw me from your presence,
and don't take your Holy Spirit from me.
12 Restore to me the joy of your salvation.
Uphold me with a willing spirit.
13 Then I will teach transgressors your ways.
Sinners will be converted to you.
14 Deliver me from the guilt of bloodshed,
O God, the God of my salvation.
My tongue will sing aloud of your righteousness.
15 Lord, open my lips.
My mouth will declare your praise.
16 For you don't delight in sacrifice, or else I would give it.
You have no pleasure in burnt offering.
17 The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit.
O God, you will not despise a broken and contrite heart.

18 Do well in your good pleasure to Zion.
Build the walls of Jerusalem.
19 Then you will delight in the sacrifices of righteousness,
in burnt offerings and in whole burnt offerings.
Then they will offer bulls on your altar.

52

For the Chief Musician. A contemplation by David, when Doeg the Edomite came and told Saul, "David has come to Ahimelech's house."

1 Why do you boast of mischief, mighty man?
God's loving kindness endures continually.
2 Your tongue plots destruction,
like a sharp razor, working deceitfully.
3 You love evil more than good,
lying rather than speaking the truth.
Selah.
4 You love all devouring words,
you deceitful tongue.
5 God 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.
6 The righteous also will see it, and fear,
and laugh at him, saying,
7 "Behold, this is the man who didn't make God his strength,
but trusted in the abundance of his riches,
and strengthened himself in his wickedness."

8 But as for me, I am like a green olive tree
in God's house.
I trust in God's loving kindness
forever and ever.
9 I will give you thanks forever, because
you have done it.
I will hope in your name, for it is good,
in the presence of your saints.

53

For the Chief Musician. To the tune of "Mahalath." A contemplation by David.
1 The fool has said in his heart, "There is
no God."
They are corrupt, and have done
abominable iniquity.
There is no one who does good.
2 God looks down from heaven on the
children of men,
to see if there are any who
understood,
who seek after God.
3 Every one of them has gone back.
They have become filthy together.
There is no one who does good, no,
not one.
4 Have the workers of iniquity no
knowledge,
who eat up my people as they eat
bread,
and don't call on God?
5 There they were in great fear, where no
fear was,
for God has scattered the bones of
him who encamps against you.
You have put them to shame,
because God has rejected them.
6 Oh that the salvation of Israel would
come out of Zion!
When God brings back his people
from captivity,
then Jacob shall rejoice,
and Israel shall be glad.

54

For the Chief Musician. On stringed instruments. A contemplation by David, when the Ziphites came and said to Saul, "Isn't David hiding himself among us?"
1 Save me, God, by your name.
Vindicate me in your might.
2 Hear my prayer, God.
Listen to the words of my mouth.
3 For strangers have risen up against me.
Violent men have sought after my
soul.
They haven't set God before them.
Selah.
4 Behold, God is my helper.
The Lord is the one who sustains my
soul.
5 He will repay the evil to my enemies.
Destroy them in your truth.
6 With a free will offering, I will sacrifice
to you.
I will give thanks to your name,
LORD, for it is good.
7 For he has delivered me out of all
trouble.
My eye has seen triumph over my
enemies.

55

For the Chief Musician. On stringed instruments. A contemplation by David.
1 Listen to my prayer, God.
Don't hide yourself from my
supplication.
2 Attend to me, and answer me.
I am restless in my complaint,
and moan
3 because of the voice of the enemy,
because of the oppression of the
wicked.
For they bring suffering on me.
In anger they hold a grudge against
me.
4 My heart is severely pained within me.
The terrors of death have fallen on
me.
5 Fearfulness and trembling have come on
me.
Horror has overwhelmed me.
6 I said, "Oh that I had wings like a dove!
Then I would fly away, and be at rest.
7 Behold, then I would wander far off.
I would lodge in the wilderness."
Selah.
8 "I would hurry to a shelter from the
stormy wind and storm."
9 Confuse them, Lord, and confound their
language,
for I have seen violence and strife in
the city.
10 Day and night they prowl around on its
walls.
Malice and abuse are also within her.

11 Destructive forces are within her.
Threats and lies don't depart from her streets.
12 For it was not an enemy who insulted me,
then I could have endured it.
Neither was it he who hated me who raised himself up against me,
then I would have hidden myself from him.
13 But it was you, a man like me,
my companion, and my familiar friend.
14 We took sweet fellowship together.
We walked in God's house with company.
15 Let death come suddenly on them.
Let them go down alive into Sheol.†
For wickedness is among them, in their dwelling.
16 As for me, I will call on God.
The LORD will save me.
17 Evening, morning, and at noon, I will cry out in distress.
He will hear my voice.
18 He has redeemed my soul in peace from the battle that was against me,
although there are many who oppose me.
19 God, who is enthroned forever,
will hear and answer them.
Selah.

They never change
and don't fear God.
20 He raises his hands against his friends.
He has violated his covenant.
21 His mouth was smooth as butter,
but his heart was war.
His words were softer than oil,
yet they were drawn swords.

22 Cast your burden on the LORD and he will sustain you.
He will never allow the righteous to be moved.
23 But you, God, will bring them down into the pit of destruction.
Bloodthirsty and deceitful men shall not live out half their days,
but I will trust in you.

† **55:15** Sheol is the place of the dead.

56

For the Chief Musician. To the tune of "Silent Dove in Distant Lands." A poem by David, when the Philistines seized him in Gath.
1 Be merciful to me, God, for man wants to swallow me up.
All day long, he attacks and oppresses me.
2 My enemies want to swallow me up all day long,
for they are many who fight proudly against me.
3 When I am afraid,
I will put my trust in you.
4 In God, I praise his word.
In God, I put my trust.
I will not be afraid.
What can flesh do to me?
5 All day long they twist my words.
All their thoughts are against me for evil.
6 They conspire and lurk,
watching my steps.
They are eager to take my life.
7 Shall they escape by iniquity?
In anger cast down the peoples, God.
8 You count my wanderings.
You put my tears into your container.
Aren't they in your book?
9 Then my enemies shall turn back in the day that I call.
I know this: that God is for me.
10 In God, I will praise his word.
In the LORD, I will praise his word.
11 I have put my trust in God.
I will not be afraid.
What can man do to me?
12 Your vows are on me, God.
I will give thank offerings to you.
13 For you have delivered my soul from death,
and prevented my feet from falling,
that I may walk before God in the light of the living.

57

For the Chief Musician. To the tune of "Do Not Destroy." A poem by David, when he fled from Saul, in the cave.
1 Be merciful to me, God, be merciful to me,

for my soul takes refuge in you.
Yes, in the shadow of your wings, I will take refuge,
until disaster has passed.
2 I cry out to God Most High,
to God who accomplishes my requests for me.
3 He will send from heaven, and save me,
he rebukes the one who is pursuing me.
Selah.
God will send out his loving kindness and his truth.
4 My soul is among lions.
I lie among those who are set on fire,
even the sons of men, whose teeth are spears and arrows,
and their tongue a sharp sword.
5 Be exalted, God, above the heavens!
Let your glory be above all the earth!

6 They have prepared a net for my steps.
My soul is bowed down.
They dig a pit before me.
They fall into the middle of it themselves.
Selah.
7 My heart is steadfast, God.
My heart is steadfast.
I will sing, yes, I will sing praises.
8 Wake up, my glory! Wake up, lute and harp!
I will wake up the dawn.
9 I will give thanks to you, Lord, among the peoples.
I will sing praises to you among the nations.
10 For your great loving kindness reaches to the heavens,
and your truth to the skies.
11 Be exalted, God, above the heavens.
Let your glory be over all the earth.

58

For the Chief Musician. To the tune of "Do Not Destroy." A poem by David.
1 Do you indeed speak righteousness, silent ones?
Do you judge blamelessly, you sons of men?
2 No, in your heart you plot injustice.
You measure out the violence of your hands on the earth.
3 The wicked go astray from the womb.
They are wayward as soon as they are born, speaking lies.
4 Their poison is like the poison of a snake,
like a deaf cobra that stops its ear,
5 which doesn't listen to the voice of charmers,
no matter how skillful the charmer may be.
6 Break their teeth, God, in their mouth.
Break out the great teeth of the young lions, LORD.
7 Let them vanish like water that flows away.
When they draw the bow, let their arrows be made blunt.
8 Let them be like a snail which melts and passes away,
like the stillborn child, who has not seen the sun.
9 Before your pots can feel the heat of the thorns,
he will sweep away the green and the burning alike.
10 The righteous shall rejoice when he sees the vengeance.
He shall wash his feet in the blood of the wicked,
11 so that men shall say, "Most certainly there is a reward for the righteous.
Most certainly there is a God who judges the earth."

59

For the Chief Musician. To the tune of "Do Not Destroy." A poem by David, when Saul sent, and they watched the house to kill him.
1 Deliver me from my enemies, my God.
Set me on high from those who rise up against me.
2 Deliver me from the workers of iniquity.
Save me from the bloodthirsty men.
3 For, behold, they lie in wait for my soul.
The mighty gather themselves together against me,
not for my disobedience, nor for my sin, LORD.
4 I have done no wrong, yet they are ready to attack me.
Rise up, behold, and help me!
5 You, LORD God of Armies, the God of Israel,

rouse yourself to punish the nations.
Show no mercy to the wicked traitors.
Selah.
6 They return at evening, howling like dogs,
and prowl around the city.
7 Behold, they spew with their mouth.
Swords are in their lips,
"For", they say, "who hears us?"
8 But you, LORD, laugh at them.
You scoff at all the nations.
9 Oh, my Strength, I watch for you,
for God is my high tower.
10 My God will go before me with his loving kindness.
God will let me look at my enemies in triumph.
11 Don't kill them, or my people may forget.
Scatter them by your power, and bring them down, Lord our shield.
12 For the sin of their mouth, and the words of their lips,
let them be caught in their pride,
for the curses and lies which they utter.
13 Consume them in wrath.
Consume them, and they will be no more.
Let them know that God rules in Jacob,
to the ends of the earth.
Selah.
14 At evening let them return.
Let them howl like a dog, and go around the city.
15 They shall wander up and down for food,
and wait all night if they aren't satisfied.

16 But I will sing of your strength.
Yes, I will sing aloud of your loving kindness in the morning.
For you have been my high tower,
a refuge in the day of my distress.
17 To you, my strength, I will sing praises.
For God is my high tower, the God of my mercy.

60

For the Chief Musician. To the tune of "The Lily of the Covenant." A teaching poem by David, when he fought with Aram Naharaim and with Aram Zobah, and Joab returned, and killed twelve thousand of Edom in the Valley of Salt.
1 God, you have rejected us.
You have broken us down.
You have been angry.
Restore us, again.
2 You have made the land tremble.
You have torn it.
Mend its fractures,
for it quakes.
3 You have shown your people hard things.
You have made us drink the wine that makes us stagger.
4 You have given a banner to those who fear you,
that it may be displayed because of the truth.
Selah.

5 So that your beloved may be delivered,
save with your right hand, and answer us.
6 God has spoken from his sanctuary:
"I will triumph.
I will divide Shechem,
and measure out the valley of Succoth.
7 Gilead is mine, and Manasseh is mine.
Ephraim also is the defense of my head.
Judah is my scepter.
8 Moab is my wash basin.
I will throw my sandal on Edom.
I shout in triumph over Philistia."

9 Who will bring me into the strong city?
Who has led me to Edom?
10 Haven't you, God, rejected us?
You don't go out with our armies, God.
11 Give us help against the adversary,
for the help of man is vain.
12 Through God we will do valiantly,
for it is he who will tread down our adversaries.

61

For the Chief Musician. For a stringed instrument. By David.
1 Hear my cry, God.
Listen to my prayer.

2 From the end of the earth, I will call to you when my heart is overwhelmed.
Lead me to the rock that is higher than I.
3 For you have been a refuge for me,
a strong tower from the enemy.
4 I will dwell in your tent forever.
I will take refuge in the shelter of your wings.
Selah.
5 For you, God, have heard my vows.
You have given me the heritage of those who fear your name.
6 You will prolong the king's life.
His years will be for generations.
7 He shall be enthroned in God's presence forever.
Appoint your loving kindness and truth, that they may preserve him.
8 So I will sing praise to your name forever,
that I may fulfill my vows daily.

62

For the Chief Musician. To Jeduthun. A Psalm by David.
1 My soul rests in God alone.
My salvation is from him.
2 He alone is my rock, my salvation, and my fortress.
I will never be greatly shaken.
3 How long will you assault a man?
Would all of you throw him down,
like a leaning wall, like a tottering fence?
4 They fully intend to throw him down from his lofty place.
They delight in lies.
They bless with their mouth, but they curse inwardly.
Selah.
5 My soul, wait in silence for God alone,
for my expectation is from him.
6 He alone is my rock and my salvation, my fortress.
I will not be shaken.
7 My salvation and my honor is with God.
The rock of my strength, and my refuge, is in God.
8 Trust in him at all times, you people.
Pour out your heart before him.
God is a refuge for us.
Selah.
9 Surely men of low degree are just a breath,
and men of high degree are a lie.
In the balances they will go up.
They are together lighter than a breath.
10 Don't trust in oppression.
Don't become vain in robbery.
If riches increase,
don't set your heart on them.
11 God has spoken once;
twice I have heard this,
that power belongs to God.
12 Also to you, Lord, belongs loving kindness,
for you reward every man according to his work.

63

A Psalm by David, when he was in the desert of Judah.
1 God, you are my God.
I will earnestly seek you.
My soul thirsts for you.
My flesh longs for you,
in a dry and weary land, where there is no water.
2 So I have seen you in the sanctuary,
watching your power and your glory.
3 Because your loving kindness is better than life,
my lips shall praise you.
4 So I will bless you while I live.
I will lift up my hands in your name.
5 My soul shall be satisfied as with the richest food.
My mouth shall praise you with joyful lips,
6 when I remember you on my bed,
and think about you in the night watches.
7 For you have been my help.
I will rejoice in the shadow of your wings.
8 My soul stays close to you.
Your right hand holds me up.
9 But those who seek my soul to destroy it shall go into the lower parts of the earth.

10 They shall be given over to the power of
the sword.
They shall be jackal food.
11 But the king shall rejoice in God.
Everyone who swears by him will
praise him,
for the mouth of those who speak lies
shall be silenced.

64

For the Chief Musician. A Psalm by David.
1 Hear my voice, God, in my complaint.
Preserve my life from fear of the
enemy.
2 Hide me from the conspiracy of the
wicked,
from the noisy crowd of the ones
doing evil;
3 who sharpen their tongue like a sword,
and aim their arrows, deadly words,
4 to shoot innocent men from
ambushes.
They shoot at him suddenly and
fearlessly.
5 They encourage themselves in evil plans.
They talk about laying snares secretly.
They say, “Who will see them?”
6 They plot injustice, saying, “We have
made a perfect plan!”
Surely man’s mind and heart are
cunning.
7 But God will shoot at them.
They will be suddenly struck down
with an arrow.
8 Their own tongues shall ruin them.
All who see them will shake their
heads.
9 All mankind shall be afraid.
They shall declare the work of God,
and shall wisely ponder what he has
done.
10 The righteous shall be glad in the LORD,
and shall take refuge in him.
All the upright in heart shall praise
him!

65

For the Chief Musician. A Psalm by David.
A song.
1 Praise waits for you, God, in Zion.
Vows shall be performed to you.
2 You who hear prayer,
all men will come to you.
3 Sins overwhelmed me,
but you atoned for our
transgressions.
4 Blessed is the one whom you choose and
cause to come near,
that he may live in your courts.
We will be filled with the goodness of
your house,
your holy temple.
5 By awesome deeds of righteousness, you
answer us,
God of our salvation.
You who are the hope of all the ends of the
earth,
of those who are far away on the sea.
6 By your power, you form the mountains,
having armed yourself with strength.
7 You still the roaring of the seas,
the roaring of their waves,
and the turmoil of the nations.
8 They also who dwell in faraway places
are afraid at your wonders.
You call the morning’s dawn and the
evening with songs of joy.
9 You visit the earth, and water it.
You greatly enrich it.
The river of God is full of water.
You provide them grain, for so you
have ordained it.
10 You drench its furrows.
You level its ridges.
You soften it with showers.
You bless it with a crop.
11 You crown the year with your bounty.
Your carts overflow with abundance.
12 The wilderness grasslands overflow.
The hills are clothed with gladness.
13 The pastures are covered with flocks.
The valleys also are clothed with
grain.
They shout for joy!
They also sing.

66

For the Chief Musician. A song. A Psalm.
1 Make a joyful shout to God, all the earth!
2 Sing to the glory of his name!
Offer glory and praise!
3 Tell God, “How awesome are your deeds!
Through the greatness of your power,
your enemies submit themselves to
you.

4 All the earth will worship you,
and will sing to you;
they will sing to your name.”
Selah.
5 Come, and see God’s deeds—
awesome work on behalf of the children of men.
6 He turned the sea into dry land.
They went through the river on foot.
There, we rejoiced in him.
7 He rules by his might forever.
His eyes watch the nations.
Don’t let the rebellious rise up against him.
Selah.
8 Praise our God, you peoples!
Make the sound of his praise heard,
9 who preserves our life among the living,
and doesn’t allow our feet to be moved.
10 For you, God, have tested us.
You have refined us, as silver is refined.
11 You brought us into prison.
You laid a burden on our backs.
12 You allowed men to ride over our heads.
We went through fire and through water,
but you brought us to the place of abundance.
13 I will come into your temple with burnt offerings.
I will pay my vows to you,
14 which my lips promised,
and my mouth spoke, when I was in distress.
15 I will offer to you burnt offerings of fat animals,
with the offering of rams,
I will offer bulls with goats.
Selah.
16 Come and hear, all you who fear God.
I will declare what he has done for my soul.
17 I cried to him with my mouth.
He was extolled with my tongue.
18 If I cherished sin in my heart,
the Lord wouldn’t have listened.
19 But most certainly, God has listened.
He has heard the voice of my prayer.
20 Blessed be God, who has not turned away my prayer,
nor his loving kindness from me.

67

For the Chief Musician. With stringed instruments. A Psalm. A song.
1 May God be merciful to us, bless us,
and cause his face to shine on us.
Selah.
2 That your way may be known on earth,
and your salvation among all nations,
3 let the peoples praise you, God.
Let all the peoples praise you.
4 Oh let the nations be glad and sing for joy,
for you will judge the peoples with equity,
and govern the nations on earth.
Selah.
5 Let the peoples praise you, God.
Let all the peoples praise you.
6 The earth has yielded its increase.
God, even our own God, will bless us.
7 God will bless us.
All the ends of the earth shall fear him.

68

For the Chief Musician. A Psalm by David. A song.
1 Let God arise!
Let his enemies be scattered!
Let them who hate him also flee before him.
2 As smoke is driven away,
so drive them away.
As wax melts before the fire,
so let the wicked perish at the presence of God.
3 But let the righteous be glad.
Let them rejoice before God.
Yes, let them rejoice with gladness.
4 Sing to God! Sing praises to his name!
Extol him who rides on the clouds:
to the LORD,† his name!
Rejoice before him!
5 A father of the fatherless, and a defender of the widows,
is God in his holy habitation.
6 God sets the lonely in families.
He brings out the prisoners with singing,
but the rebellious dwell in a sun-scorched land.

† **68:4** Hebrew: יה Yah

7 God, when you went out before your
people,
when you marched through the
wilderness...
Selah.
8 The earth trembled.
The sky also poured down rain at the
presence of the God of Sinai—
at the presence of God, the God of
Israel.
9 You, God, sent a plentiful rain.
You confirmed your inheritance
when it was weary.
10 Your congregation lived therein.
You, God, prepared your goodness for
the poor.
11 The Lord announced the word.
The ones who proclaim it are a great
company.
12 "Kings of armies flee! They flee!"
She who waits at home divides the
plunder,
13 while you sleep among the camp
fires,
the wings of a dove sheathed with
silver,
her feathers with shining gold.
14 When the Almighty scattered kings in
her,
it snowed on Zalmon.
15 The mountains of Bashan are majestic
mountains.
The mountains of Bashan are rugged.
16 Why do you look in envy, you rugged
mountains,
at the mountain where God chooses
to reign?
Yes, the LORD‡ will dwell there
forever.
17 The chariots of God are tens of
thousands and thousands of
thousands.
The Lord is among them, from Sinai,
into the sanctuary.
18 You have ascended on high.
You have led away captives.
You have received gifts among people,
yes, among the rebellious also, that
the LORD§ God might dwell there.
19 Blessed be the Lord, who daily bears
our burdens,
even the God who is our salvation.
Selah.
20 God is to us a God of deliverance.
To GOD,† the Lord, belongs escape
from death.
21 But God will strike through the head of
his enemies,
the hairy scalp of such a one as still
continues in his guiltiness.
22 The Lord said, "I will bring you again
from Bashan,
I will bring you again from the depths
of the sea,
23 that you may crush them, dipping your
foot in blood,
that the tongues of your dogs may
have their portion from your
enemies."
24 They have seen your processions, God,
even the processions of my God, my
King, into the sanctuary.
25 The singers went before, the minstrels
followed after,
among the ladies playing with
tambourines,
26 "Bless God in the congregations,
even the Lord in the assembly of
Israel!"
27 There is little Benjamin, their ruler,
the princes of Judah, their council,
the princes of Zebulun, and the
princes of Naphtali.

28 Your God has commanded your
strength.
Strengthen, God, that which you have
done for us.
29 Because of your temple at Jerusalem,
kings will bring presents to you.
30 Rebuke the wild animal of the reeds,
the multitude of the bulls with the
calves of the peoples.
Trample under foot the bars of silver.
Scatter the nations who delight in
war.
31 Princes shall come out of Egypt.

‡ **68:16** LORD or GOD in all caps is from the Hebrew יהוה Yahweh except when otherwise noted as being from the short form יה Yah. § **68:18** Hebrew: יה Yah † **68:20** When rendered in ALL CAPITAL LETTERS, "LORD" or "GOD" is the translation of God's Proper Name (Hebrew "יהוה", usually pronounced Yahweh).

Ethiopia shall hurry to stretch out her
hands to God.
32 Sing to God, you kingdoms of the earth!
Sing praises to the Lord—
Selah—
33 to him who rides on the heaven of
heavens, which are of old;
behold, he utters his voice, a mighty
voice.
34 Ascribe strength to God!
His excellency is over Israel,
his strength is in the skies.
35 You are awesome, God, in your
sanctuaries.
The God of Israel gives strength and
power to his people.
Praise be to God!

69

For the Chief Musician. To the tune of "Lilies." By David.

1 Save me, God,
for the waters have come up to my
neck!
2 I sink in deep mire, where there is no
foothold.
I have come into deep waters, where
the floods overflow me.
3 I am weary with my crying.
My throat is dry.
My eyes fail looking for my God.
4 Those who hate me without a cause are
more than the hairs of my head.
Those who want to cut me off, being
my enemies wrongfully, are
mighty.
I have to restore what I didn't take
away.
5 God, you know my foolishness.
My sins aren't hidden from you.
6 Don't let those who wait for you be
shamed through me, Lord GOD of
Armies.
Don't let those who seek you be
brought to dishonor through me,
God of Israel.
7 Because for your sake, I have borne
reproach.
Shame has covered my face.
8 I have become a stranger to my brothers,
an alien to my mother's children.
9 For the zeal of your house consumes me.
The reproaches of those who
reproach you have fallen on me.
10 When I wept and I fasted,
that was to my reproach.
11 When I made sackcloth my clothing,
I became a byword to them.
12 Those who sit in the gate talk about me.
I am the song of the drunkards.
13 But as for me, my prayer is to you,
LORD, in an acceptable time.
God, in the abundance of your loving
kindness, answer me in the truth of
your salvation.
14 Deliver me out of the mire, and don't let
me sink.
Let me be delivered from those who
hate me, and out of the deep waters.
15 Don't let the flood waters overwhelm
me,
neither let the deep swallow me up.
Don't let the pit shut its mouth on me.
16 Answer me, LORD, for your loving
kindness is good.
According to the multitude of your
tender mercies, turn to me.
17 Don't hide your face from your servant,
for I am in distress.
Answer me speedily!
18 Draw near to my soul and redeem it.
Ransom me because of my enemies.
19 You know my reproach, my shame, and
my dishonor.
My adversaries are all before you.
20 Reproach has broken my heart, and I
am full of heaviness.
I looked for some to take pity, but
there was none;
for comforters, but I found none.
21 They also gave me poison for my food.
In my thirst, they gave me vinegar to
drink.
22 Let their table before them become a
snare.
May it become a retribution and a
trap.
23 Let their eyes be darkened, so that they
can't see.
Let their backs be continually bent.
24 Pour out your indignation on them.
Let the fierceness of your anger
overtake them.
25 Let their habitation be desolate.
Let no one dwell in their tents.

26 For they persecute him whom you have
wounded.
They tell of the sorrow of those whom
you have hurt.
27 Charge them with crime upon crime.
Don't let them come into your
righteousness.
28 Let them be blotted out of the book of
life,
and not be written with the righteous.
29 But I am in pain and distress.
Let your salvation, God, protect me.
30 I will praise the name of God with a
song,
and will magnify him with
thanksgiving.
31 It will please the LORD better than an
ox,
or a bull that has horns and hoofs.
32 The humble have seen it, and are glad.
You who seek after God, let your heart
live.
33 For the LORD hears the needy,
and doesn't despise his captive
people.
34 Let heaven and earth praise him;
the seas, and everything that moves
therein!
35 For God will save Zion, and build the
cities of Judah.
They shall settle there, and own it.
36 The children also of his servants shall
inherit it.
Those who love his name shall dwell
therein.

70

For the Chief Musician. By David. A
reminder.
1 Hurry, God, to deliver me.
Come quickly to help me, LORD.
2 Let them be disappointed and
confounded who seek my soul.
Let those who desire my ruin be
turned back in disgrace.
3 Let them be turned because of their
shame
who say, "Aha! Aha!"
4 Let all those who seek you rejoice and be
glad in you.
Let those who love your salvation
continually say,
"Let God be exalted!"
5 But I am poor and needy.
Come to me quickly, God.
You are my help and my deliverer.
LORD, don't delay.

71

1 In you, LORD, I take refuge.
Never let me be disappointed.
2 Deliver me in your righteousness, and
rescue me.
Turn your ear to me, and save me.
3 Be to me a rock of refuge to which I may
always go.
Give the command to save me,
for you are my rock and my fortress.
4 Rescue me, my God, from the hand of the
wicked,
from the hand of the unrighteous and
cruel man.
5 For you are my hope, Lord GOD,
my confidence from my youth.
6 I have relied on you from the womb.
You are he who took me out of my
mother's womb.
I will always praise you.
7 I am a marvel to many,
but you are my strong refuge.
8 My mouth shall be filled with your
praise,
with your honor all day long.
9 Don't reject me in my old age.
Don't forsake me when my strength
fails.
10 For my enemies talk about me.
Those who watch for my soul
conspire together,
11 saying, "God has forsaken him.
Pursue and take him, for no one will
rescue him."
12 God, don't be far from me.
My God, hurry to help me.
13 Let my accusers be disappointed and
consumed.
Let them be covered with disgrace
and scorn who want to harm me.
14 But I will always hope,
and will add to all of your praise.
15 My mouth will tell about your
righteousness,
and of your salvation all day,
though I don't know its full measure.

16 I will come with the mighty acts of the
Lord GOD.
I will make mention of your
righteousness, even of yours alone.
17 God, you have taught me from my
youth.
Until now, I have declared your
wondrous works.
18 Yes, even when I am old and
gray-haired, God, don't forsake me,
until I have declared your strength to
the next generation,
your might to everyone who is to
come.
19 God, your righteousness also reaches to
the heavens.
You have done great things.
God, who is like you?
20 You, who have shown us many and
bitter troubles,
you will let me live.
You will bring us up again from the
depths of the earth.
21 Increase my honor
and comfort me again.
22 I will also praise you with the harp for
your faithfulness, my God.
I sing praises to you with the lyre,
Holy One of Israel.
23 My lips shall shout for joy!
My soul, which you have redeemed,
sings praises to you!
24 My tongue will also talk about your
righteousness all day long,
for they are disappointed, and they
are confounded,
who want to harm me.

72

By Solomon.
1 God, give the king your justice;
your righteousness to the royal son.
2 He will judge your people with
righteousness,
and your poor with justice.
3 The mountains shall bring prosperity to
the people.
The hills bring the fruit of
righteousness.
4 He will judge the poor of the people.
He will save the children of the needy,
and will break the oppressor in
pieces.
5 They shall fear you while the sun
endures;
and as long as the moon, throughout
all generations.
6 He will come down like rain on the
mown grass,
as showers that water the earth.
7 In his days, the righteous shall flourish,
and abundance of peace, until the
moon is no more.
8 He shall have dominion also from sea to
sea,
from the River to the ends of the
earth.
9 Those who dwell in the wilderness shall
bow before him.
His enemies shall lick the dust.
10 The kings of Tarshish and of the islands
will bring tribute.
The kings of Sheba and Seba shall
offer gifts.
11 Yes, all kings shall fall down before him.
All nations shall serve him.
12 For he will deliver the needy when he
cries;
the poor, who has no helper.
13 He will have pity on the poor and needy.
He will save the souls of the needy.
14 He will redeem their soul from
oppression and violence.
Their blood will be precious in his
sight.
15 He will live; and Sheba's gold will be
given to him.
Men will pray for him continually.
They will bless him all day long.
16 Abundance of grain shall be throughout
the land.
Its fruit sways like Lebanon.
Let it flourish, thriving like the grass
of the field.
17 His name endures forever.
His name continues as long as the sun.
Men shall be blessed by him.
All nations will call him blessed.

18 Praise be to the LORD God, the God of
Israel,
who alone does marvelous deeds.
19 Blessed be his glorious name forever!
Let the whole earth be filled with his
glory!

Amen and amen.

20 This ends the prayers by David, the
son of Jesse.

BOOK 3

73

A Psalm by Asaph.
1 Surely God† is good to Israel,
to those who are pure in heart.
2 But as for me, my feet were almost gone.
My steps had nearly slipped.
3 For I was envious of the arrogant,
when I saw the prosperity of the
wicked.
4 For there are no struggles in their death,
but their strength is firm.
5 They are free from burdens of men,
neither are they plagued like other
men.
6 Therefore pride is like a chain around
their neck.
Violence covers them like a garment.
7 Their eyes bulge with fat.
Their minds pass the limits of conceit.
8 They scoff and speak with malice.
In arrogance, they threaten
oppression.
9 They have set their mouth in the
heavens.
Their tongue walks through the earth.
10 Therefore their people return to them,
and they drink up waters of
abundance.
11 They say, "How does God know?
Is there knowledge in the Most High?"
12 Behold, these are the wicked.
Being always at ease, they increase in
riches.
13 Surely I have cleansed my heart in vain,
and washed my hands in innocence,
14 For all day long I have been plagued,
and punished every morning.
15 If I had said, "I will speak thus",
behold, I would have betrayed the
generation of your children.
16 When I tried to understand this,
it was too painful for me—
17 until I entered God's sanctuary,
and considered their latter end.
18 Surely you set them in slippery places.
You throw them down to destruction.
19 How they are suddenly destroyed!
They are completely swept away with
terrors.
20 As a dream when one wakes up,
so, Lord,‡ when you awake, you will
despise their fantasies.
21 For my soul was grieved.
I was embittered in my heart.
22 I was so senseless and ignorant.
I was a brute beast before you.
23 Nevertheless, I am continually with you.
You have held my right hand.
24 You will guide me with your counsel,
and afterward receive me to glory.
25 Whom do I have in heaven?
There is no one on earth whom I
desire besides you.
26 My flesh and my heart fails,
but God is the strength of my heart
and my portion forever.
27 For, behold, those who are far from you
shall perish.
You have destroyed all those who are
unfaithful to you.
28 But it is good for me to come close to
God.
I have made the Lord GOD§ my
refuge,
that I may tell of all your works.

74

A contemplation by Asaph.
1 God, why have you rejected us forever?
Why does your anger smolder against
the sheep of your pasture?
2 Remember your congregation, which
you purchased of old,
which you have redeemed to be the
tribe of your inheritance:
Mount Zion, in which you have lived.
3 Lift up your feet to the perpetual ruins,
all the evil that the enemy has done in
the sanctuary.
4 Your adversaries have roared in the
middle of your assembly.

† **73:1** The Hebrew word rendered "God" is "אֱלֹהִים" (Elohim). ‡ **73:20** The word translated "Lord" is "Adonai."
§ **73:28** When rendered in ALL CAPITAL LETTERS, "LORD" or "GOD" is the translation of God's Proper Name (Hebrew "יהוה", usually pronounced Yahweh).

They have set up their standards as
signs.
5 They behaved like men wielding axes,
cutting through a thicket of trees.
6 Now they break all its carved work down
with hatchet and hammers.
7 They have burned your sanctuary to
the ground.
They have profaned the dwelling
place of your Name.
8 They said in their heart, “We will crush
them completely.”
They have burned up all the places in
the land where God was worshiped.
9 We see no miraculous signs.
There is no longer any prophet,
neither is there among us anyone
who knows how long.
10 How long, God, shall the adversary
reproach?
Shall the enemy blaspheme your
name forever?
11 Why do you draw back your hand, even
your right hand?
Take it from your chest and consume
them!

12 Yet God is my King of old,
working salvation throughout the
earth.
13 You divided the sea by your strength.
You broke the heads of the sea
monsters in the waters.
14 You broke the heads of Leviathan in
pieces.
You gave him as food to people and
desert creatures.
15 You opened up spring and stream.
You dried up mighty rivers.
16 The day is yours, the night is also yours.
You have prepared the light and the
sun.
17 You have set all the boundaries of the
earth.
You have made summer and winter.

18 Remember this, that the enemy has
mocked you, LORD.
Foolish people have blasphemed your
name.
19 Don’t deliver the soul of your dove to
wild beasts.
Don’t forget the life of your poor
forever.
20 Honor your covenant,
for haunts of violence fill the dark
places of the earth.
21 Don’t let the oppressed return ashamed.
Let the poor and needy praise your
name.
22 Arise, God! Plead your own cause.
Remember how the foolish man
mocks you all day.
23 Don’t forget the voice of your
adversaries.
The tumult of those who rise up
against you ascends continually.

75

For the Chief Musician. To the tune of “Do Not Destroy.” A Psalm by Asaph. A song.
1 We give thanks to you, God.
We give thanks, for your Name is
near.
Men tell about your wondrous works.

2 When I choose the appointed time,
I will judge blamelessly.
3 The earth and all its inhabitants quake.
I firmly hold its pillars.
Selah.
4 I said to the arrogant, “Don’t boast!”
I said to the wicked, “Don’t lift up the
horn.
5 Don’t lift up your horn on high.
Don’t speak with a stiff neck.”
6 For neither from the east, nor from the
west,
nor yet from the south, comes
exaltation.
7 But God is the judge.
He puts down one, and lifts up
another.
8 For in the LORD’s hand there is a cup,
full of foaming wine mixed with
spices.
He pours it out.
Indeed the wicked of the earth drink
and drink it to its very dregs.

9 But I will declare this forever:
I will sing praises to the God of Jacob.
10 I will cut off all the horns of the wicked,
but the horns of the righteous shall be
lifted up.

76

For the Chief Musician. On stringed instruments. A Psalm by Asaph. A song.

1 In Judah, God is known.
His name is great in Israel.
2 His tabernacle is also in Salem.
His dwelling place in Zion.
3 There he broke the flaming arrows of the bow,
the shield, and the sword, and the weapons of war.
Selah.
4 Glorious are you, and excellent,
more than mountains of game.
5 Valiant men lie plundered,
they have slept their last sleep.
None of the men of war can lift their hands.
6 At your rebuke, God of Jacob,
both chariot and horse are cast into a dead sleep.
7 You, even you, are to be feared.
Who can stand in your sight when you are angry?
8 You pronounced judgment from heaven.
The earth feared, and was silent,
9 when God arose to judgment,
to save all the afflicted ones of the earth.
Selah.
10 Surely the wrath of man praises you.
The survivors of your wrath are restrained.
11 Make vows to the LORD your God, and fulfill them!
Let all of his neighbors bring presents to him who is to be feared.
12 He will cut off the spirit of princes.
He is feared by the kings of the earth.

77

For the Chief Musician. To Jeduthun. A Psalm by Asaph.

1 My cry goes to God!
Indeed, I cry to God for help,
and for him to listen to me.
2 In the day of my trouble I sought the Lord.
My hand was stretched out in the night, and didn't get tired.
My soul refused to be comforted.
3 I remember God, and I groan.
I complain, and my spirit is overwhelmed.
Selah.
4 You hold my eyelids open.
I am so troubled that I can't speak.
5 I have considered the days of old,
the years of ancient times.
6 I remember my song in the night.
I consider in my own heart;
my spirit diligently inquires:
7 "Will the Lord reject us forever?
Will he be favorable no more?
8 Has his loving kindness vanished forever?
Does his promise fail for generations?
9 Has God forgotten to be gracious?
Has he, in anger, withheld his compassion?"
Selah.
10 Then I thought, "I will appeal to this:
the years of the right hand of the Most High."
11 I will remember the LORD's deeds;
for I will remember your wonders of old.
12 I will also meditate on all your work,
and consider your doings.
13 Your way, God, is in the sanctuary.
What god is great like God?
14 You are the God who does wonders.
You have made your strength known among the peoples.
15 You have redeemed your people with your arm,
the sons of Jacob and Joseph.
Selah.
16 The waters saw you, God.
The waters saw you, and they writhed.
The depths also convulsed.
17 The clouds poured out water.
The skies resounded with thunder.
Your arrows also flashed around.
18 The voice of your thunder was in the whirlwind.
The lightnings lit up the world.
The earth trembled and shook.
19 Your way was through the sea,
your paths through the great waters.
Your footsteps were not known.
20 You led your people like a flock,
by the hand of Moses and Aaron.

78

A contemplation by Asaph.
1 Hear my teaching, my people.
Turn your ears to the words of my mouth.
2 I will open my mouth in a parable.
I will utter dark sayings of old,
3 which we have heard and known,
and our fathers have told us.
4 We will not hide them from their children,
telling to the generation to come the praises of the LORD,
his strength, and his wondrous deeds that he has done.
5 For he established a covenant in Jacob,
and appointed a teaching in Israel,
which he commanded our fathers,
that they should make them known to their children;
6 that the generation to come might know,
even the children who should be born;
who should arise and tell their children,
7 that they might set their hope in God,
and not forget God's deeds,
but keep his commandments,
8 and might not be as their fathers—
a stubborn and rebellious generation,
a generation that didn't make their hearts loyal,
whose spirit was not steadfast with God.
9 The children of Ephraim, being armed and carrying bows,
turned back in the day of battle.
10 They didn't keep God's covenant,
and refused to walk in his law.
11 They forgot his doings,
his wondrous deeds that he had shown them.
12 He did marvelous things in the sight of their fathers,
in the land of Egypt, in the field of Zoan.
13 He split the sea, and caused them to pass through.
He made the waters stand as a heap.
14 In the daytime he also led them with a cloud,
and all night with a light of fire.
15 He split rocks in the wilderness,
and gave them drink abundantly as out of the depths.
16 He brought streams also out of the rock,
and caused waters to run down like rivers.
17 Yet they still went on to sin against him,
to rebel against the Most High in the desert.
18 They tempted God in their heart
by asking food according to their desire.
19 Yes, they spoke against God.
They said, "Can God prepare a table in the wilderness?
20 Behold, he struck the rock, so that waters gushed out,
and streams overflowed.
Can he give bread also?
Will he provide meat for his people?"
21 Therefore the LORD heard, and was angry.
A fire was kindled against Jacob,
anger also went up against Israel,
22 because they didn't believe in God,
and didn't trust in his salvation.
23 Yet he commanded the skies above,
and opened the doors of heaven.
24 He rained down manna on them to eat,
and gave them food from the sky.
25 Man ate the bread of angels.
He sent them food to the full.
26 He caused the east wind to blow in the sky.
By his power he guided the south wind.
27 He also rained meat on them as the dust,
winged birds as the sand of the seas.
28 He let them fall in the middle of their camp,
around their habitations.
29 So they ate, and were well filled.
He gave them their own desire.
30 They didn't turn from their cravings.
Their food was yet in their mouths,
31 when the anger of God went up against them,
killed some of their strongest,
and struck down the young men of Israel.
32 For all this they still sinned,
and didn't believe in his wondrous works.

33 Therefore he consumed their days in vanity,
and their years in terror.
34 When he killed them, then they inquired after him.
They returned and sought God earnestly.
35 They remembered that God was their rock,
the Most High God, their redeemer.
36 But they flattered him with their mouth,
and lied to him with their tongue.
37 For their heart was not right with him,
neither were they faithful in his covenant.
38 But he, being merciful, forgave iniquity,
and didn't destroy them.
Yes, many times he turned his anger away,
and didn't stir up all his wrath.
39 He remembered that they were but flesh,
a wind that passes away, and doesn't come again.
40 How often they rebelled against him in the wilderness,
and grieved him in the desert!
41 They turned again and tempted God,
and provoked the Holy One of Israel.
42 They didn't remember his hand,
nor the day when he redeemed them from the adversary;
43 how he set his signs in Egypt,
his wonders in the field of Zoan,
44 he turned their rivers into blood,
and their streams, so that they could not drink.
45 He sent among them swarms of flies, which devoured them;
and frogs, which destroyed them.
46 He also gave their increase to the caterpillar,
and their labor to the locust.
47 He destroyed their vines with hail,
their sycamore fig trees with frost.
48 He also gave over their livestock to the hail,
and their flocks to hot thunderbolts.
49 He threw on them the fierceness of his anger,
wrath, indignation, and trouble,
and a band of angels of evil.
50 He made a path for his anger.
He didn't spare their soul from death,
but gave their life over to the pestilence,
51 and struck all the firstborn in Egypt,
the chief of their strength in the tents of Ham.
52 But he led out his own people like sheep,
and guided them in the wilderness like a flock.
53 He led them safely, so that they weren't afraid,
but the sea overwhelmed their enemies.
54 He brought them to the border of his sanctuary,
to this mountain, which his right hand had taken.
55 He also drove out the nations before them,
allotted them for an inheritance by line,
and made the tribes of Israel to dwell in their tents.
56 Yet they tempted and rebelled against the Most High God,
and didn't keep his testimonies,
57 but turned back, and dealt treacherously like their fathers.
They were twisted like a deceitful bow.
58 For they provoked him to anger with their high places,
and moved him to jealousy with their engraved images.
59 When God heard this, he was angry,
and greatly abhorred Israel,
60 so that he abandoned the tent of Shiloh,
the tent which he placed among men,
61 and delivered his strength into captivity,
his glory into the adversary's hand.
62 He also gave his people over to the sword,
and was angry with his inheritance.
63 Fire devoured their young men.
Their virgins had no wedding song.
64 Their priests fell by the sword,
and their widows couldn't weep.
65 Then the Lord awakened as one out of sleep,

like a mighty man who shouts by
reason of wine.
66 He struck his adversaries backward.
He put them to a perpetual reproach.
67 Moreover he rejected the tent of Joseph,
and didn't choose the tribe of
Ephraim,
68 But chose the tribe of Judah,
Mount Zion which he loved.
69 He built his sanctuary like the heights,
like the earth which he has
established forever.
70 He also chose David his servant,
and took him from the sheepfolds;
71 from following the ewes that have their
young,
he brought him to be the shepherd of
Jacob, his people,
and Israel, his inheritance.
72 So he was their shepherd according to
the integrity of his heart,
and guided them by the skillfulness of
his hands.

79

A Psalm by Asaph.
1 God, the nations have come into your
inheritance.
They have defiled your holy temple.
They have laid Jerusalem in heaps.
2 They have given the dead bodies of your
servants to be food for the birds of
the sky,
the flesh of your saints to the animals
of the earth.
3 They have shed their blood like water
around Jerusalem.
There was no one to bury them.
4 We have become a reproach to our
neighbors,
a scoffing and derision to those who
are around us.
5 How long, LORD?
Will you be angry forever?
Will your jealousy burn like fire?
6 Pour out your wrath on the nations that
don't know you,
on the kingdoms that don't call on
your name,
7 for they have devoured Jacob,
and destroyed his homeland.
8 Don't hold the iniquities of our
forefathers against us.
Let your tender mercies speedily
meet us,
for we are in desperate need.
9 Help us, God of our salvation, for the
glory of your name.
Deliver us, and forgive our sins, for
your name's sake.
10 Why should the nations say, "Where is
their God?"
Let it be known among the nations,
before our eyes,
that vengeance for your servants'
blood is being poured out.
11 Let the sighing of the prisoner come
before you.
According to the greatness of your
power, preserve those who are
sentenced to death.
12 Pay back to our neighbors seven times
into their bosom
their reproach with which they have
reproached you, Lord.
13 So we, your people and sheep of your
pasture,
will give you thanks forever.
We will praise you forever, to all
generations.

80

For the Chief Musician. To the tune of "The Lilies of the Covenant." A Psalm by Asaph.
1 Hear us, Shepherd of Israel,
you who lead Joseph like a flock,
you who sit above the cherubim,
shine out.
2 Before Ephraim, Benjamin, and
Manasseh, stir up your might!
Come to save us!
3 Turn us again, God.
Cause your face to shine,
and we will be saved.

4 LORD God of Armies,
how long will you be angry against
the prayer of your people?
5 You have fed them with the bread of
tears,
and given them tears to drink in large
measure.

6 You make us a source of contention to our neighbors.
Our enemies laugh among themselves.
7 Turn us again, God of Armies.
Cause your face to shine,
and we will be saved.

8 You brought a vine out of Egypt.
You drove out the nations, and planted it.
9 You cleared the ground for it.
It took deep root, and filled the land.
10 The mountains were covered with its shadow.
Its boughs were like God's cedars.
11 It sent out its branches to the sea,
its shoots to the River.
12 Why have you broken down its walls,
so that all those who pass by the way pluck it?
13 The boar out of the wood ravages it.
The wild animals of the field feed on it.
14 Turn again, we beg you, God of Armies.
Look down from heaven, and see, and visit this vine,
15 the stock which your right hand planted,
the branch that you made strong for yourself.
16 It's burned with fire.
It's cut down.
They perish at your rebuke.
17 Let your hand be on the man of your right hand,
on the son of man whom you made strong for yourself.
18 So we will not turn away from you.
Revive us, and we will call on your name.
19 Turn us again, LORD God of Armies.
Cause your face to shine, and we will be saved.

81

For the Chief Musician. On an instrument of Gath. By Asaph.
1 Sing aloud to God, our strength!
Make a joyful shout to the God of Jacob!
2 Raise a song, and bring here the tambourine,
the pleasant lyre with the harp.
3 Blow the trumpet at the New Moon,
at the full moon, on our feast day.
4 For it is a statute for Israel,
an ordinance of the God of Jacob.
5 He appointed it in Joseph for a covenant,
when he went out over the land of Egypt,
I heard a language that I didn't know.
6 "I removed his shoulder from the burden.
His hands were freed from the basket.
7 You called in trouble, and I delivered you.
I answered you in the secret place of thunder.
I tested you at the waters of Meribah."
Selah.

8 "Hear, my people, and I will testify to you,
Israel, if you would listen to me!
9 There shall be no strange god in you,
neither shall you worship any foreign god.
10 I am the LORD, your God,
who brought you up out of the land of Egypt.
Open your mouth wide, and I will fill it.
11 But my people didn't listen to my voice.
Israel desired none of me.
12 So I let them go after the stubbornness of their hearts,
that they might walk in their own counsels.
13 Oh that my people would listen to me,
that Israel would walk in my ways!
14 I would soon subdue their enemies,
and turn my hand against their adversaries.
15 The haters of the LORD would cringe before him,
and their punishment would last forever.
16 But he would have also fed them with the finest of the wheat.
I will satisfy you with honey out of the rock."

82

A Psalm by Asaph.
1 God presides in the great assembly.
He judges among the gods.

2 “How long will you judge unjustly,
and show partiality to the wicked?”
Selah.

3 “Defend the weak, the poor, and the
fatherless.
Maintain the rights of the poor and
oppressed.
4 Rescue the weak and needy.
Deliver them out of the hand of the
wicked.”
5 They don’t know, neither do they
understand.
They walk back and forth in darkness.
All the foundations of the earth are
shaken.
6 I said, “You are gods,
all of you are sons of the Most High.
7 Nevertheless you shall die like men,
and fall like one of the rulers.”
8 Arise, God, judge the earth,
for you inherit all of the nations.

83

A song. A Psalm by Asaph.
1 God, don’t keep silent.
Don’t keep silent,
and don’t be still, God.
2 For, behold, your enemies are stirred up.
Those who hate you have lifted up
their heads.
3 They conspire with cunning against your
people.
They plot against your cherished
ones.
4 “Come,” they say, “let’s destroy them as a
nation,
that the name of Israel may be
remembered no more.”
5 For they have conspired together with
one mind.
They form an alliance against you.
6 The tents of Edom and the Ishmaelites;
Moab, and the Hagrites;
7 Gebal, Ammon, and Amalek;
Philistia with the inhabitants of Tyre;
8 Assyria also is joined with them.
They have helped the children of Lot.
Selah.
9 Do to them as you did to Midian,
as to Sisera, as to Jabin, at the river
Kishon;
10 who perished at Endor,
who became as dung for the earth.
11 Make their nobles like Oreb and Zeeb,
yes, all their princes like Zebah and
Zalmunna,
12 who said, “Let’s take possession of
God’s pasture lands.”
13 My God, make them like tumbleweed,
like chaff before the wind.
14 As the fire that burns the forest,
as the flame that sets the mountains
on fire,
15 so pursue them with your tempest,
and terrify them with your storm.
16 Fill their faces with confusion,
that they may seek your name, LORD.
17 Let them be disappointed and dismayed
forever.
Yes, let them be confounded and
perish;
18 that they may know that you alone,
whose name is the LORD,†
are the Most High over all the earth.

84

For the Chief Musician. On an instrument
of Gath. A Psalm by the sons of Korah.
1 How lovely are your dwellings,
LORD of Armies!
2 My soul longs, and even faints for the
courts of the LORD.
My heart and my flesh cry out for the
living God.
3 Yes, the sparrow has found a home,
and the swallow a nest for herself,
where she may have her young,
near your altars, LORD of Armies, my
King, and my God.
4 Blessed are those who dwell in your
house.
They are always praising you.
Selah.
5 Blessed are those whose strength is in
you,
who have set their hearts on a
pilgrimage.
6 Passing through the valley of Weeping,
they make it a place of springs.

† **83:18** LORD or GOD in all caps is from the Hebrew יהוה Yahweh except when otherwise noted as being from the short form יה Yah.

Yes, the autumn rain covers it with
blessings.
7 They go from strength to strength.
Every one of them appears before
God in Zion.
8 LORD, God of Armies, hear my prayer.
Listen, God of Jacob.
Selah.
9 Behold, God our shield,
look at the face of your anointed.
10 For a day in your courts is better than a
thousand.
I would rather be a doorkeeper in the
house of my God,
than to dwell in the tents of
wickedness.
11 For the LORD God is a sun and a shield.
The LORD will give grace and glory.
He withholds no good thing from
those who walk blamelessly.
12 LORD of Armies,
blessed is the man who trusts in you.

85

For the Chief Musician. A Psalm by the sons of Korah.
1 LORD, you have been favorable to your
land.
You have restored the fortunes of
Jacob.
2 You have forgiven the iniquity of your
people.
You have covered all their sin.
Selah.
3 You have taken away all your wrath.
You have turned from the fierceness
of your anger.
4 Turn us, God of our salvation,
and cause your indignation toward us
to cease.
5 Will you be angry with us forever?
Will you draw out your anger to all
generations?
6 Won't you revive us again,
that your people may rejoice in you?
7 Show us your loving kindness, LORD.
Grant us your salvation.
8 I will hear what God, the LORD, will
speak,
for he will speak peace to his people,
his saints;
but let them not turn again to folly.
9 Surely his salvation is near those who
fear him,
that glory may dwell in our land.
10 Mercy and truth meet together.
Righteousness and peace have kissed
each other.
11 Truth springs out of the earth.
Righteousness has looked down from
heaven.
12 Yes, the LORD will give that which is
good.
Our land will yield its increase.
13 Righteousness goes before him,
and prepares the way for his steps.

86

A Prayer by David.
1 Hear, LORD, and answer me,
for I am poor and needy.
2 Preserve my soul, for I am godly.
You, my God, save your servant who
trusts in you.
3 Be merciful to me, Lord,
for I call to you all day long.
4 Bring joy to the soul of your servant,
for to you, Lord, do I lift up my soul.
5 For you, Lord, are good, and ready to
forgive,
abundant in loving kindness to all
those who call on you.
6 Hear, LORD, my prayer.
Listen to the voice of my petitions.
7 In the day of my trouble I will call on you,
for you will answer me.
8 There is no one like you among the gods,
Lord,
nor any deeds like your deeds.
9 All nations you have made will come and
worship before you, Lord.
They shall glorify your name.
10 For you are great, and do wondrous
things.
You are God alone.
11 Teach me your way, LORD.
I will walk in your truth.
Make my heart undivided to fear
your name.
12 I will praise you, Lord my God, with my
whole heart.
I will glorify your name forever more.

13 For your loving kindness is great
toward me.
You have delivered my soul from the
lowest Sheol.†
14 God, the proud have risen up against
me.
A company of violent men have
sought after my soul,
and they don't hold regard for you
before them.
15 But you, Lord, are a merciful and
gracious God,
slow to anger, and abundant in loving
kindness and truth.
16 Turn to me, and have mercy on me!
Give your strength to your servant.
Save the son of your servant.
17 Show me a sign of your goodness,
that those who hate me may see it,
and be shamed,
because you, LORD, have helped me,
and comforted me.

87

A Psalm by the sons of Korah; a Song.

1 His foundation is in the holy mountains.
2 The LORD loves the gates of Zion
more than all the dwellings of
Jacob.
3 Glorious things are spoken about you,
city of God.
Selah.
4 I will record Rahab† and Babylon among
those who acknowledge me.
Behold, Philistia, Tyre, and also
Ethiopia:
"This one was born there."
5 Yes, of Zion it will be said, "This one and
that one was born in her;"
the Most High himself will establish
her.
6 The LORD will count, when he writes up
the peoples,
"This one was born there."
Selah.
7 Those who sing as well as those who
dance say,
"All my springs are in you."

88

A Song. A Psalm by the sons of Korah. For the Chief Musician. To the tune of "The Suffering of Affliction." A contemplation by Heman, the Ezrahite.

1 LORD, the God of my salvation,
I have cried day and night before you.
2 Let my prayer enter into your presence.
Turn your ear to my cry.
3 For my soul is full of troubles.
My life draws near to Sheol.†
4 I am counted among those who go down
into the pit.
I am like a man who has no help,
5 set apart among the dead,
like the slain who lie in the grave,
whom you remember no more.
They are cut off from your hand.
6 You have laid me in the lowest pit,
in the darkest depths.
7 Your wrath lies heavily on me.
You have afflicted me with all your
waves.
Selah.
8 You have taken my friends from me.
You have made me an abomination to
them.
I am confined, and I can't escape.
9 My eyes are dim from grief.
I have called on you daily, LORD.
I have spread out my hands to you.
10 Do you show wonders to the dead?
Do the departed spirits rise up and
praise you?
Selah.
11 Is your loving kindness declared in the
grave?
Or your faithfulness in Destruction?
12 Are your wonders made known in the
dark?
Or your righteousness in the land of
forgetfulness?
13 But to you, LORD, I have cried.
In the morning, my prayer comes
before you.
14 LORD, why do you reject my soul?
Why do you hide your face from me?
15 I am afflicted and ready to die from my
youth up.

† **86:13** Sheol is the place of the dead. † **87:4** Rahab is a reference to Egypt. † **88:3** Sheol is the place of the dead.

While I suffer your terrors, I am
distracted.
16 Your fierce wrath has gone over me.
Your terrors have cut me off.
17 They came around me like water all day
long.
They completely engulfed me.
18 You have put lover and friend far from
me,
and my friends into darkness.

89

A contemplation by Ethan, the Ezrahite.
1 I will sing of the loving kindness of the
LORD forever.
With my mouth, I will make known
your faithfulness to all generations.
2 I indeed declare, “Love stands firm
forever.
You established the heavens.
Your faithfulness is in them.”

3 “I have made a covenant with my chosen
one,
I have sworn to David, my servant,
4 ‘I will establish your offspring forever,
and build up your throne to all
generations.’ ”
Selah.
5 The heavens will praise your wonders,
LORD,
your faithfulness also in the assembly
of the holy ones.
6 For who in the skies can be compared to
the LORD?
Who among the sons of the heavenly
beings is like the LORD,
7 a very awesome God in the council of the
holy ones,
to be feared above all those who are
around him?
8 LORD,† God of Armies, who is a mighty
one, like you?
LORD,‡ your faithfulness is around
you.
9 You rule the pride of the sea.
When its waves rise up, you calm
them.
10 You have broken Rahab in pieces, like
one of the slain.
You have scattered your enemies with
your mighty arm.
11 The heavens are yours.
The earth also is yours,
the world and its fullness.
You have founded them.
12 You have created the north and the
south.
Tabor and Hermon rejoice in your
name.
13 You have a mighty arm.
Your hand is strong, and your right
hand is exalted.
14 Righteousness and justice are the
foundation of your throne.
Loving kindness and truth go before
your face.
15 Blessed are the people who learn to
acclaim you.
They walk in the light of your
presence, LORD.
16 In your name they rejoice all day.
In your righteousness, they are
exalted.
17 For you are the glory of their strength.
In your favor, our horn will be
exalted.
18 For our shield belongs to the LORD,
our king to the Holy One of Israel.

19 Then you spoke in vision to your saints,
and said, “I have given strength to the
warrior.
I have exalted a young man from the
people.
20 I have found David, my servant.
I have anointed him with my holy oil,
21 with whom my hand shall be
established.
My arm will also strengthen him.
22 No enemy will tax him.
No wicked man will oppress him.
23 I will beat down his adversaries before
him,
and strike those who hate him.
24 But my faithfulness and my loving
kindness will be with him.
In my name, his horn will be exalted.
25 I will set his hand also on the sea,
and his right hand on the rivers.
26 He will call to me, ‘You are my Father,

† **89:8** LORD or GOD in all caps is from the Hebrew יהוה Yahweh except when otherwise noted as being from the short form יה Yah. ‡ **89:8** Hebrew: יה Yah

my God, and the rock of my salvation!'
27 I will also appoint him my firstborn,
the highest of the kings of the earth.
28 I will keep my loving kindness for him
forever more.
My covenant will stand firm with
him.
29 I will also make his offspring endure
forever,
and his throne as the days of heaven.
30 If his children forsake my law,
and don't walk in my ordinances;
31 if they break my statutes,
and don't keep my commandments;
32 then I will punish their sin with the rod,
and their iniquity with stripes.
33 But I will not completely take my loving
kindness from him,
nor allow my faithfulness to fail.
34 I will not break my covenant,
nor alter what my lips have uttered.
35 Once I have sworn by my holiness,
I will not lie to David.
36 His offspring will endure forever,
his throne like the sun before me.
37 It will be established forever like the
moon,
the faithful witness in the sky."
Selah.

38 But you have rejected and spurned.
You have been angry with your
anointed.
39 You have renounced the covenant of
your servant.
You have defiled his crown in the
dust.
40 You have broken down all his hedges.
You have brought his strongholds to
ruin.
41 All who pass by the way rob him.
He has become a reproach to his
neighbors.
42 You have exalted the right hand of his
adversaries.
You have made all of his enemies
rejoice.
43 Yes, you turn back the edge of his sword,
and haven't supported him in battle.
44 You have ended his splendor,
and thrown his throne down to the
ground.
45 You have shortened the days of his
youth.
You have covered him with shame.
Selah.
46 How long, LORD?
Will you hide yourself forever?
Will your wrath burn like fire?
47 Remember how short my time is,
for what vanity you have created all
the children of men!
48 What man is he who shall live and not
see death,
who shall deliver his soul from the
power of Sheol?§
Selah.
49 Lord, where are your former loving
kindnesses,
which you swore to David in your
faithfulness?
50 Remember, Lord, the reproach of your
servants,
how I bear in my heart the taunts of
all the mighty peoples,
51 With which your enemies have mocked,
LORD,
with which they have mocked the
footsteps of your anointed one.

52 Blessed be the LORD forever more.
Amen, and Amen.

BOOK 4

90

A Prayer by Moses, the man of God.†
1 Lord,‡ you have been our dwelling place
for all generations.
2 Before the mountains were born,
before you had formed the earth and
the world,
even from everlasting to everlasting,
you are God.
3 You turn man to destruction, saying,
"Return, you children of men."
4 For a thousand years in your sight are
just like yesterday when it is past,
like a watch in the night.
5 You sweep them away as they sleep.
In the morning they sprout like new
grass.

§ **89:48** Sheol is the place of the dead. † **90:** The Hebrew word rendered "God" is "אֱלֹהִים" (Elohim). ‡ **90:1** The word translated "Lord" is "Adonai."

6 In the morning it sprouts and springs up.
By evening, it is withered and dry.
7 For we are consumed in your anger.
We are troubled in your wrath.
8 You have set our iniquities before you,
our secret sins in the light of your presence.
9 For all our days have passed away in your wrath.
We bring our years to an end as a sigh.
10 The days of our years are seventy,
or even by reason of strength eighty years;
yet their pride is but labor and sorrow,
for it passes quickly, and we fly away.
11 Who knows the power of your anger,
your wrath according to the fear that is due to you?
12 So teach us to count our days,
that we may gain a heart of wisdom.
13 Relent, LORD!§
How long?
Have compassion on your servants!
14 Satisfy us in the morning with your loving kindness,
that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.
15 Make us glad for as many days as you have afflicted us,
for as many years as we have seen evil.
16 Let your work appear to your servants,
your glory to their children.
17 Let the favor of the Lord our God be on us.
Establish the work of our hands for us.
Yes, establish the work of our hands.

91

1 He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High
will rest in the shadow of the Almighty.
2 I will say of the LORD, “He is my refuge and my fortress;
my God, in whom I trust.”
3 For he will deliver you from the snare of the fowler,
and from the deadly pestilence.
4 He will cover you with his feathers.
Under his wings you will take refuge.
His faithfulness is your shield and rampart.
5 You shall not be afraid of the terror by night,
nor of the arrow that flies by day,
6 nor of the pestilence that walks in darkness,
nor of the destruction that wastes at noonday.
7 A thousand may fall at your side,
and ten thousand at your right hand;
but it will not come near you.
8 You will only look with your eyes,
and see the recompense of the wicked.
9 Because you have made the LORD your refuge,
and the Most High your dwelling place,
10 no evil shall happen to you,
neither shall any plague come near your dwelling.
11 For he will put his angels in charge of you,
to guard you in all your ways.
12 They will bear you up in their hands,
so that you won’t dash your foot against a stone.
13 You will tread on the lion and cobra.
You will trample the young lion and the serpent underfoot.
14 “Because he has set his love on me, therefore I will deliver him.
I will set him on high, because he has known my name.
15 He will call on me, and I will answer him.
I will be with him in trouble.
I will deliver him, and honor him.
16 I will satisfy him with long life,
and show him my salvation.”

92

A Psalm. A song for the Sabbath day.
1 It is a good thing to give thanks to the LORD,

§ **90:13** When rendered in ALL CAPITAL LETTERS, “LORD” or “GOD” is the translation of God’s Proper Name (Hebrew “יהוה”, usually pronounced Yahweh).

to sing praises to your name, Most
High,
2 to proclaim your loving kindness in the
morning,
and your faithfulness every night,
3 with the ten-stringed lute, with the harp,
and with the melody of the lyre.
4 For you, LORD, have made me glad
through your work.
I will triumph in the works of your
hands.
5 How great are your works, LORD!
Your thoughts are very deep.
6 A senseless man doesn't know,
neither does a fool understand this:
7 though the wicked spring up as the grass,
and all the evildoers flourish,
they will be destroyed forever.
8 But you, LORD, are on high forever more.
9 For behold, your enemies, LORD,
for behold, your enemies shall perish.
All the evildoers will be scattered.
10 But you have exalted my horn like that
of the wild ox.
I am anointed with fresh oil.
11 My eye has also seen my enemies.
My ears have heard of the wicked
enemies who rise up against me.
12 The righteous shall flourish like the
palm tree.
He will grow like a cedar in Lebanon.
13 They are planted in the LORD's house.
They will flourish in our God's courts.
14 They will still produce fruit in old age.
They will be full of sap and green,
15 to show that the LORD is upright.
He is my rock,
and there is no unrighteousness in
him.

93

1 The LORD reigns!
He is clothed with majesty!
The LORD is armed with strength.
The world also is established.
It can't be moved.
2 Your throne is established from long ago.
You are from everlasting.
3 The floods have lifted up, LORD,
the floods have lifted up their voice.
The floods lift up their waves.
4 Above the voices of many waters,
the mighty breakers of the sea,
the LORD on high is mighty.
5 Your statutes stand firm.
Holiness adorns your house,
LORD, forever more.

94

1 LORD,† you God to whom vengeance
belongs,
you God to whom vengeance belongs,
shine out.
2 Rise up, you judge of the earth.
Pay back the proud what they
deserve.
3 LORD, how long will the wicked,
how long will the wicked triumph?
4 They pour out arrogant words.
All the evildoers boast.
5 They break your people in pieces, LORD,
and afflict your heritage.
6 They kill the widow and the alien,
and murder the fatherless.
7 They say, "The LORD‡ will not see,
neither will Jacob's God consider."
8 Consider, you senseless among the
people;
you fools, when will you be wise?
9 He who implanted the ear, won't he
hear?
He who formed the eye, won't he see?
10 He who disciplines the nations, won't
he punish?
He who teaches man knows.
11 The LORD knows the thoughts of man,
that they are futile.
12 Blessed is the man whom you
discipline, LORD,§
and teach out of your law,
13 that you may give him rest from the
days of adversity,
until the pit is dug for the wicked.
14 For the LORD won't reject his people,
neither will he forsake his
inheritance.
15 For judgment will return to
righteousness.
All the upright in heart shall follow it.

† **94:1** LORD or GOD in all caps is from the Hebrew יהוה Yahweh except when otherwise noted as being from the short form יה Yah. ‡ **94:7** Hebrew: יה Yah § **94:12** Hebrew: יה Yah

16 Who will rise up for me against the wicked?
Who will stand up for me against the evildoers?
17 Unless the LORD had been my help,
my soul would have soon lived in silence.
18 When I said, "My foot is slipping!"
Your loving kindness, LORD, held me up.
19 In the multitude of my thoughts within me,
your comforts delight my soul.
20 Shall the throne of wickedness have fellowship with you,
which brings about mischief by statute?
21 They gather themselves together against the soul of the righteous,
and condemn the innocent blood.
22 But the LORD has been my high tower,
my God, the rock of my refuge.
23 He has brought on them their own iniquity,
and will cut them off in their own wickedness.
The LORD, our God, will cut them off.

95

1 Oh come, let's sing to the LORD.
Let's shout aloud to the rock of our salvation!
2 Let's come before his presence with thanksgiving.
Let's extol him with songs!
3 For the LORD is a great God,
a great King above all gods.
4 In his hand are the deep places of the earth.
The heights of the mountains are also his.
5 The sea is his, and he made it.
His hands formed the dry land.
6 Oh come, let's worship and bow down.
Let's kneel before the LORD, our Maker,
7 for he is our God.
We are the people of his pasture,
and the sheep in his care.
Today, oh that you would hear his voice!
8 Don't harden your heart, as at Meribah,
as in the day of Massah in the wilderness,
9 when your fathers tempted me,
tested me, and saw my work.
10 Forty long years I was grieved with that generation,
and said, "They are a people who err in their heart.
They have not known my ways."
11 Therefore I swore in my wrath,
"They won't enter into my rest."

96

1 Sing to the LORD a new song!
Sing to the LORD, all the earth.
2 Sing to the LORD!
Bless his name!
Proclaim his salvation from day to day!
3 Declare his glory among the nations,
his marvelous works among all the peoples.
4 For the LORD is great, and greatly to be praised!
He is to be feared above all gods.
5 For all the gods of the peoples are idols,
but the LORD made the heavens.
6 Honor and majesty are before him.
Strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.
7 Ascribe to the LORD, you families of nations,
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.
8 Ascribe to the LORD the glory due to his name.
Bring an offering, and come into his courts.
9 Worship the LORD in holy array.
Tremble before him, all the earth.
10 Say among the nations, "The LORD reigns."
The world is also established.
It can't be moved.
He will judge the peoples with equity.
11 Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice.
Let the sea roar, and its fullness!
12 Let the field and all that is in it exult!
Then all the trees of the woods shall sing for joy
13 before the LORD; for he comes,

for he comes to judge the earth.
He will judge the world with
righteousness,
the peoples with his truth.

97

1 The LORD reigns!
Let the earth rejoice!
Let the multitude of islands be glad!
2 Clouds and darkness are around him.
Righteousness and justice are the
foundation of his throne.
3 A fire goes before him,
and burns up his adversaries on
every side.
4 His lightning lights up the world.
The earth sees, and trembles.
5 The mountains melt like wax at the
presence of the LORD,
at the presence of the Lord of the
whole earth.
6 The heavens declare his righteousness.
All the peoples have seen his glory.
7 Let all them be shamed who serve
engraved images,
who boast in their idols.
Worship him, all you gods![†]
8 Zion heard and was glad.
The daughters of Judah rejoiced
because of your judgments, LORD.
9 For you, LORD, are most high above all
the earth.
You are exalted far above all gods.
10 You who love the LORD, hate evil!
He preserves the souls of his saints.
He delivers them out of the hand of
the wicked.
11 Light is sown for the righteous,
and gladness for the upright in heart.
12 Be glad in the LORD, you righteous
people!
Give thanks to his holy Name.

98

A Psalm.
1 Sing to the LORD a new song,
for he has done marvelous things!
His right hand and his holy arm have
worked salvation for him.
2 The LORD has made known his
salvation.
He has openly shown his
righteousness in the sight of the
nations.
3 He has remembered his loving kindness
and his faithfulness toward the
house of Israel.
All the ends of the earth have seen the
salvation of our God.
4 Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the
earth!
Burst out and sing for joy, yes, sing
praises!
5 Sing praises to the LORD with the harp,
with the harp and the voice of
melody.
6 With trumpets and sound of the ram's
horn,
make a joyful noise before the King,
the LORD.
7 Let the sea roar with its fullness;
the world, and those who dwell
therein.
8 Let the rivers clap their hands.
Let the mountains sing for joy
together.
9 Let them sing before the LORD,
for he comes to judge the earth.
He will judge the world with
righteousness,
and the peoples with equity.

99

1 The LORD reigns! Let the peoples
tremble.
He sits enthroned among the
cherubim.
Let the earth be moved.
2 The LORD is great in Zion.
He is high above all the peoples.
3 Let them praise your great and awesome
name.
He is Holy!

4 The King's strength also loves justice.
You establish equity.
You execute justice and righteousness
in Jacob.
5 Exalt the LORD our God.
Worship at his footstool.
He is Holy!

[†] **97:7** LXX reads "angels" instead of "gods".

6 Moses and Aaron were among his priests,
Samuel was among those who call on his name.
They called on the LORD, and he answered them.
7 He spoke to them in the pillar of cloud.
They kept his testimonies,
the statute that he gave them.
8 You answered them, LORD our God.
You are a God who forgave them,
although you took vengeance for their doings.
9 Exalt the LORD, our God.
Worship at his holy hill,
for the LORD, our God, is holy!

100

A Psalm of thanksgiving.
1 Shout for joy to the LORD, all you lands!
2 Serve the LORD with gladness.
Come before his presence with singing.
3 Know that the LORD, he is God.
It is he who has made us, and we are his.
We are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.
4 Enter into his gates with thanksgiving,
and into his courts with praise.
Give thanks to him, and bless his name.
5 For the LORD is good.
His loving kindness endures forever,
his faithfulness to all generations.

101

A Psalm by David.
1 I will sing of loving kindness and justice.
To you, LORD, I will sing praises.
2 I will be careful to live a blameless life.
When will you come to me?
I will walk within my house with a blameless heart.
3 I will set no vile thing before my eyes.
I hate the deeds of faithless men.
They will not cling to me.
4 A perverse heart will be far from me.
I will have nothing to do with evil.
5 I will silence whoever secretly slanders his neighbor.
I won't tolerate one who is arrogant and conceited.
6 My eyes will be on the faithful of the land,
that they may dwell with me.
He who walks in a perfect way,
he will serve me.
7 He who practices deceit won't dwell within my house.
He who speaks falsehood won't be established before my eyes.
8 Morning by morning, I will destroy all the wicked of the land,
to cut off all the workers of iniquity from the LORD's city.

102

A Prayer of the afflicted, when he is overwhelmed and pours out his complaint before the LORD.
1 Hear my prayer, LORD![†]
Let my cry come to you.
2 Don't hide your face from me in the day of my distress.
Turn your ear to me.
Answer me quickly in the day when I call.
3 For my days consume away like smoke.
My bones are burned as a torch.
4 My heart is blighted like grass, and withered,
for I forget to eat my bread.
5 By reason of the voice of my groaning,
my bones stick to my skin.
6 I am like a pelican of the wilderness.
I have become as an owl of the waste places.
7 I watch, and have become like a sparrow that is alone on the housetop.
8 My enemies reproach me all day.
Those who are mad at me use my name as a curse.
9 For I have eaten ashes like bread,
and mixed my drink with tears,
10 because of your indignation and your wrath;

[†] **102:1** LORD or GOD in all caps is from the Hebrew יהוה Yahweh except when otherwise noted as being from the short form יה Yah.

for you have taken me up and thrown
me away.
11 My days are like a long shadow.
I have withered like grass.

12 But you, LORD, will remain forever;
your renown endures to all
generations.
13 You will arise and have mercy on Zion,
for it is time to have pity on her.
Yes, the set time has come.
14 For your servants take pleasure in her
stones,
and have pity on her dust.
15 So the nations will fear the LORD's
name,
all the kings of the earth your glory.
16 For the LORD has built up Zion.
He has appeared in his glory.
17 He has responded to the prayer of the
destitute,
and has not despised their prayer.
18 This will be written for the generation
to come.
A people which will be created will
praise the LORD,‡
19 for he has looked down from the height
of his sanctuary.
From heaven, the LORD saw the
earth,
20 to hear the groans of the prisoner,
to free those who are condemned to
death,
21 that men may declare the LORD's name
in Zion,
and his praise in Jerusalem,
22 when the peoples are gathered together,
the kingdoms, to serve the LORD.

23 He weakened my strength along the
course.
He shortened my days.
24 I said, "My God, don't take me away in
the middle of my days.
Your years are throughout all
generations.
25 Of old, you laid the foundation of the
earth.
The heavens are the work of your
hands.
26 They will perish, but you will endure.
Yes, all of them will wear out like a
garment.
You will change them like a cloak, and
they will be changed.
27 But you are the same.
Your years will have no end.
28 The children of your servants will
continue.
Their offspring will be established
before you."

‡ **102:18** Hebrew: יה Yah

103

By David.
1 Praise the LORD, my soul!
All that is within me, praise his holy
name!
2 Praise the LORD, my soul,
and don't forget all his benefits,
3 who forgives all your sins,
who heals all your diseases,
4 who redeems your life from destruction,
who crowns you with loving kindness
and tender mercies,
5 who satisfies your desire with good
things,
so that your youth is renewed like the
eagle's.
6 The LORD executes righteous acts,
and justice for all who are oppressed.
7 He made known his ways to Moses,
his deeds to the children of Israel.
8 The LORD is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger, and abundant in loving
kindness.
9 He will not always accuse;
neither will he stay angry forever.
10 He has not dealt with us according to
our sins,
nor repaid us for our iniquities.
11 For as the heavens are high above the
earth,
so great is his loving kindness toward
those who fear him.
12 As far as the east is from the west,
so far has he removed our
transgressions from us.
13 Like a father has compassion on his
children,
so the LORD has compassion on those
who fear him.
14 For he knows how we are made.

He remembers that we are dust.
15 As for man, his days are like grass.
As a flower of the field, so he flourishes.
16 For the wind passes over it, and it is gone.
Its place remembers it no more.
17 But the LORD's loving kindness is from everlasting to everlasting with those who fear him,
his righteousness to children's children,
18 to those who keep his covenant,
to those who remember to obey his precepts.
19 The LORD has established his throne in the heavens.
His kingdom rules over all.
20 Praise the LORD, you angels of his,
who are mighty in strength, who fulfill his word,
obeying the voice of his word.
21 Praise the LORD, all you armies of his,
you servants of his, who do his pleasure.
22 Praise the LORD, all you works of his,
in all places of his dominion.
Praise the LORD, my soul!

104

1 Bless the LORD,† my soul.
The LORD, my God, you are very great.
You are clothed with honor and majesty.
2 He covers himself with light as with a garment.
He stretches out the heavens like a curtain.
3 He lays the beams of his rooms in the waters.
He makes the clouds his chariot.
He walks on the wings of the wind.
4 He makes his messengers‡ winds,
and his servants flames of fire.
5 He laid the foundations of the earth,
that it should not be moved forever.
6 You covered it with the deep as with a cloak.
The waters stood above the mountains.
7 At your rebuke they fled.
At the voice of your thunder they hurried away.
8 The mountains rose,
the valleys sank down,
to the place which you had assigned to them.
9 You have set a boundary that they may not pass over,
that they don't turn again to cover the earth.
10 He sends springs into the valleys.
They run among the mountains.
11 They give drink to every animal of the field.
The wild donkeys quench their thirst.
12 The birds of the sky nest by them.
They sing among the branches.
13 He waters the mountains from his rooms.
The earth is filled with the fruit of your works.
14 He causes the grass to grow for the livestock,
and plants for man to cultivate,
that he may produce food out of the earth:
15 wine that makes the heart of man glad,
oil to make his face to shine,
and bread that strengthens man's heart.
16 The LORD's trees are well watered,
the cedars of Lebanon, which he has planted,
17 where the birds make their nests.
The stork makes its home in the cypress trees.
18 The high mountains are for the wild goats.
The rocks are a refuge for the rock badgers.
19 He appointed the moon for seasons.
The sun knows when to set.
20 You make darkness, and it is night,
in which all the animals of the forest prowl.
21 The young lions roar after their prey,
and seek their food from God.
22 The sun rises, and they steal away,
and lie down in their dens.
23 Man goes out to his work,
to his labor until the evening.

† **104:1** LORD or GOD in all caps is from the Hebrew יהוה Yahweh except when otherwise noted as being from the short form יה Yah. ‡ **104:4** or, angels

24 LORD, how many are your works!
In wisdom, you have made them all.
The earth is full of your riches.
25 There is the sea, great and wide,
in which are innumerable living things,
both small and large animals.
26 There the ships go,
and leviathan, whom you formed to play there.
27 These all wait for you,
that you may give them their food in due season.
28 You give to them; they gather.
You open your hand; they are satisfied with good.
29 You hide your face; they are troubled.
You take away their breath; they die and return to the dust.
30 You send out your Spirit and they are created.
You renew the face of the ground.
31 Let the LORD's glory endure forever.
Let the LORD rejoice in his works.
32 He looks at the earth, and it trembles.
He touches the mountains, and they smoke.
33 I will sing to the LORD as long as I live.
I will sing praise to my God while I have any being.
34 Let my meditation be sweet to him.
I will rejoice in the LORD.
35 Let sinners be consumed out of the earth.
Let the wicked be no more.
Bless the LORD,§ my soul.
Praise the LORD!†

105

1 Give thanks to the LORD!† Call on his name!
Make his doings known among the peoples.
2 Sing to him, sing praises to him!
Tell of all his marvelous works.
3 Glory in his holy name.
Let the heart of those who seek the LORD rejoice.
4 Seek the LORD and his strength.
Seek his face forever more.
5 Remember his marvelous works that he has done:
his wonders, and the judgments of his mouth,
6 you offspring of Abraham, his servant,
you children of Jacob, his chosen ones.
7 He is the LORD, our God.
His judgments are in all the earth.
8 He has remembered his covenant forever,
the word which he commanded to a thousand generations,
9 the covenant which he made with Abraham,
his oath to Isaac,
10 and confirmed it to Jacob for a statute;
to Israel for an everlasting covenant,
11 saying, "To you I will give the land of Canaan,
the lot of your inheritance,"
12 when they were but a few men in number,
yes, very few, and foreigners in it.
13 They went about from nation to nation,
from one kingdom to another people.
14 He allowed no one to do them wrong.
Yes, he reproved kings for their sakes,
15 "Don't touch my anointed ones!
Do my prophets no harm!"
16 He called for a famine on the land.
He destroyed the food supplies.
17 He sent a man before them.
Joseph was sold for a slave.
18 They bruised his feet with shackles.
His neck was locked in irons,
19 until the time that his word happened,
and the LORD's word proved him true.
20 The king sent and freed him,
even the ruler of peoples, and let him go free.
21 He made him lord of his house,
and ruler of all of his possessions,
22 to discipline his princes at his pleasure,
and to teach his elders wisdom.
23 Israel also came into Egypt.
Jacob lived in the land of Ham.
24 He increased his people greatly,

§ **104:35** LORD or GOD in all caps is from the Hebrew יהוה Yahweh except when otherwise noted as being from the short form יה Yah. † **104:35** Hebrew: יה Yah † **105:1** LORD or GOD in all caps is from the Hebrew יהוה Yahweh except when otherwise noted as being from the short form יה Yah.

and made them stronger than their
adversaries.
25 He turned their heart to hate his people,
to conspire against his servants.
26 He sent Moses, his servant,
and Aaron, whom he had chosen.
27 They performed miracles among them,
and wonders in the land of Ham.
28 He sent darkness, and made it dark.
They didn't rebel against his words.
29 He turned their waters into blood,
and killed their fish.
30 Their land swarmed with frogs,
even in the rooms of their kings.
31 He spoke, and swarms of flies came,
and lice in all their borders.
32 He gave them hail for rain,
with lightning in their land.
33 He struck their vines and also their fig
trees,
and shattered the trees of their
country.
34 He spoke, and the locusts came
with the grasshoppers, without
number.
35 They ate up every plant in their land,
and ate up the fruit of their ground.
36 He struck also all the firstborn in their
land,
the first fruits of all their manhood.
37 He brought them out with silver and
gold.
There was not one feeble person
among his tribes.
38 Egypt was glad when they departed,
for the fear of them had fallen on
them.
39 He spread a cloud for a covering,
fire to give light in the night.
40 They asked, and he brought quails,
and satisfied them with the bread of
the sky.
41 He opened the rock, and waters gushed
out.
They ran as a river in the dry places.
42 For he remembered his holy word,
and Abraham, his servant.
43 He brought his people out with joy,
his chosen with singing.
44 He gave them the lands of the nations.
They took the labor of the peoples in
possession,
45 that they might keep his statutes,
and observe his laws.
Praise the LORD!‡

106

1 Praise the LORD!†
Give thanks to the LORD, for he is
good,
for his loving kindness endures
forever.
2 Who can utter the mighty acts of the
LORD,
or fully declare all his praise?
3 Blessed are those who keep justice.
Blessed is one who does what is right
at all times.
4 Remember me, LORD, with the favor
that you show to your people.
Visit me with your salvation,
5 that I may see the prosperity of your
chosen,
that I may rejoice in the gladness of
your nation,
that I may glory with your
inheritance.

6 We have sinned with our fathers.
We have committed iniquity.
We have done wickedly.
7 Our fathers didn't understand your
wonders in Egypt.
They didn't remember the multitude
of your loving kindnesses,
but were rebellious at the sea, even at
the Red Sea.
8 Nevertheless he saved them for his
name's sake,
that he might make his mighty power
known.
9 He rebuked the Red Sea also, and it was
dried up;
so he led them through the depths, as
through a desert.
10 He saved them from the hand of him
who hated them,
and redeemed them from the hand of
the enemy.
11 The waters covered their adversaries.
There was not one of them left.
12 Then they believed his words.

‡ **105:45** Hebrew: יה Yah † **106:1** LORD or GOD in all caps is from the Hebrew יהוה Yahweh except when otherwise noted as being from the short form יה Yah.

They sang his praise.

13 They soon forgot his works.
They didn't wait for his counsel,
14 but gave in to craving in the desert,
and tested God in the wasteland.
15 He gave them their request,
but sent leanness into their soul.
16 They envied Moses also in the camp,
and Aaron, the LORD's saint.
17 The earth opened and swallowed up
Dathan,
and covered the company of Abiram.
18 A fire was kindled in their company.
The flame burned up the wicked.
19 They made a calf in Horeb,
and worshiped a molten image.
20 Thus they exchanged their glory
for an image of a bull that eats grass.
21 They forgot God, their Savior,
who had done great things in Egypt,
22 wondrous works in the land of
Ham,
and awesome things by the Red Sea.
23 Therefore he said that he would destroy
them,
had Moses, his chosen, not stood
before him in the breach,
to turn away his wrath, so that he
wouldn't destroy them.
24 Yes, they despised the pleasant land.
They didn't believe his word,
25 but murmured in their tents,
and didn't listen to the LORD's voice.
26 Therefore he swore to them
that he would overthrow them in the
wilderness,
27 that he would overthrow their
offspring among the nations,
and scatter them in the lands.
28 They joined themselves also to Baal
Peor,
and ate the sacrifices of the dead.
29 Thus they provoked him to anger with
their deeds.
The plague broke in on them.
30 Then Phinehas stood up and executed
judgment,
so the plague was stopped.
31 That was credited to him for
righteousness,
for all generations to come.
32 They angered him also at the waters of
Meribah,
so that Moses was troubled for their
sakes;
33 because they were rebellious against
his spirit,
he spoke rashly with his lips.
34 They didn't destroy the peoples,
as the LORD commanded them,
35 but mixed themselves with the
nations,
and learned their works.
36 They served their idols,
which became a snare to them.
37 Yes, they sacrificed their sons and their
daughters to demons.
38 They shed innocent blood,
even the blood of their sons and of
their daughters,
whom they sacrificed to the idols of
Canaan.
The land was polluted with blood.
39 Thus they were defiled with their
works,
and prostituted themselves in their
deeds.
40 Therefore the LORD burned with anger
against his people.
He abhorred his inheritance.
41 He gave them into the hand of the
nations.
Those who hated them ruled over
them.
42 Their enemies also oppressed them.
They were brought into subjection
under their hand.
43 He rescued them many times,
but they were rebellious in their
counsel,
and were brought low in their
iniquity.
44 Nevertheless he regarded their distress,
when he heard their cry.
45 He remembered for them his covenant,
and repented according to the
multitude of his loving kindnesses.
46 He made them also to be pitied
by all those who carried them captive.

47 Save us, LORD, our God,
gather us from among the nations,
to give thanks to your holy name,
to triumph in your praise!

48 Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel,
from everlasting even to everlasting!
Let all the people say, “Amen.”
Praise the LORD!‡

BOOK 5

107

1 Give thanks to the LORD,† for he is good,
for his loving kindness endures
forever.
2 Let the redeemed by the LORD say so,
whom he has redeemed from the
hand of the adversary,
3 and gathered out of the lands,
from the east and from the west,
from the north and from the south.

4 They wandered in the wilderness in a
desert way.
They found no city to live in.
5 Hungry and thirsty,
their soul fainted in them.
6 Then they cried to the LORD in their
trouble,
and he delivered them out of their
distresses.
7 He led them also by a straight way,
that they might go to a city to live in.
8 Let them praise the LORD for his loving
kindness,
for his wonderful deeds to the
children of men!

9 For he satisfies the longing soul.
He fills the hungry soul with good.

10 Some sat in darkness and in the shadow
of death,
being bound in affliction and iron,
11 because they rebelled against the
words of God,‡
and condemned the counsel of the
Most High.
12 Therefore he brought down their heart
with labor.
They fell down, and there was no one
to help.
13 Then they cried to the LORD in their
trouble,
and he saved them out of their
distresses.
14 He brought them out of darkness and
the shadow of death,
and broke away their chains.
15 Let them praise the LORD for his loving
kindness,
for his wonderful deeds to the
children of men!

16 For he has broken the gates of bronze,
and cut through bars of iron.

17 Fools are afflicted because of their
disobedience,
and because of their iniquities.
18 Their soul abhors all kinds of food.
They draw near to the gates of death.
19 Then they cry to the LORD in their
trouble,
and he saves them out of their
distresses.
20 He sends his word, and heals them,
and delivers them from their graves.
21 Let them praise the LORD for his loving
kindness,
for his wonderful deeds to the
children of men!

22 Let them offer the sacrifices of
thanksgiving,
and declare his deeds with singing.

23 Those who go down to the sea in ships,
who do business in great waters,
24 these see the LORD’s deeds,
and his wonders in the deep.
25 For he commands, and raises the
stormy wind,
which lifts up its waves.
26 They mount up to the sky; they go down
again to the depths.
Their soul melts away because of
trouble.
27 They reel back and forth, and stagger
like a drunken man,
and are at their wits’ end.
28 Then they cry to the LORD in their
trouble,
and he brings them out of their
distress.
29 He makes the storm a calm,
so that its waves are still.

‡ **106:48** Hebrew: יה Yah † **107:1** When rendered in ALL CAPITAL LETTERS, “LORD” or “GOD” is the translation of God’s Proper Name (Hebrew “יהוה”, usually pronounced Yahweh). ‡ **107:11** The Hebrew word rendered “God” is “אֱלֹהִים” (Elohim).

30 Then they are glad because it is calm,
so he brings them to their desired haven.
31 Let them praise the LORD for his loving kindness,
for his wonderful deeds for the children of men!

32 Let them exalt him also in the assembly of the people,
and praise him in the seat of the elders.

33 He turns rivers into a desert,
water springs into a thirsty ground,
34 and a fruitful land into a salt waste,
for the wickedness of those who dwell in it.
35 He turns a desert into a pool of water,
and a dry land into water springs.
36 There he makes the hungry live,
that they may prepare a city to live in,
37 sow fields, plant vineyards,
and reap the fruits of increase.
38 He blesses them also, so that they are multiplied greatly.
He doesn't allow their livestock to decrease.
39 Again, they are diminished and bowed down
through oppression, trouble, and sorrow.
40 He pours contempt on princes,
and causes them to wander in a trackless waste.
41 Yet he lifts the needy out of their affliction,
and increases their families like a flock.
42 The upright will see it, and be glad.
All the wicked will shut their mouths.
43 Whoever is wise will pay attention to these things.
They will consider the loving kindnesses of the LORD.

108

A Song. A Psalm by David.
1 My heart is steadfast, God.
I will sing and I will make music with my soul.
2 Wake up, harp and lyre!
I will wake up the dawn.
3 I will give thanks to you, LORD, among the nations.
I will sing praises to you among the peoples.
4 For your loving kindness is great above the heavens.
Your faithfulness reaches to the skies.
5 Be exalted, God, above the heavens!
Let your glory be over all the earth.
6 That your beloved may be delivered,
save with your right hand, and answer us.
7 God has spoken from his sanctuary: "In triumph,
I will divide Shechem, and measure out the valley of Succoth.
8 Gilead is mine. Manasseh is mine.
Ephraim also is my helmet.
Judah is my scepter.
9 Moab is my wash pot.
I will toss my sandal on Edom.
I will shout over Philistia."
10 Who will bring me into the fortified city?
Who will lead me to Edom?
11 Haven't you rejected us, God?
You don't go out, God, with our armies.
12 Give us help against the enemy,
for the help of man is vain.
13 Through God, we will do valiantly,
for it is he who will tread down our enemies.

109

For the Chief Musician. A Psalm by David.
1 God of my praise, don't remain silent,
2 for they have opened the mouth of the wicked and the mouth of deceit against me.
They have spoken to me with a lying tongue.
3 They have also surrounded me with words of hatred,
and fought against me without a cause.
4 In return for my love, they are my adversaries;
but I am in prayer.
5 They have rewarded me evil for good,
and hatred for my love.
6 Set a wicked man over him.

Let an adversary stand at his right
hand.
7 When he is judged, let him come out
guilty.
Let his prayer be turned into sin.
8 Let his days be few.
Let another take his office.
9 Let his children be fatherless,
and his wife a widow.
10 Let his children be wandering beggars.
Let them be sought from their ruins.
11 Let the creditor seize all that he has.
Let strangers plunder the fruit of his
labor.
12 Let there be no one to extend kindness
to him,
neither let there be anyone to have
pity on his fatherless children.
13 Let his posterity be cut off.
In the generation following let their
name be blotted out.
14 Let the iniquity of his fathers be
remembered by the LORD.
Don't let the sin of his mother be
blotted out.
15 Let them be before the LORD
continually,
that he may cut off their memory
from the earth;
16 because he didn't remember to show
kindness,
but persecuted the poor and needy
man,
the broken in heart, to kill them.
17 Yes, he loved cursing, and it came to
him.
He didn't delight in blessing, and it
was far from him.
18 He clothed himself also with cursing as
with his garment.
It came into his inward parts like
water,
like oil into his bones.
19 Let it be to him as the clothing with
which he covers himself,
for the belt that is always around him.
20 This is the reward of my adversaries
from the LORD,
of those who speak evil against my
soul.

21 But deal with me, GOD the Lord,† for
your name's sake,
because your loving kindness is good,
deliver me;
22 for I am poor and needy.
My heart is wounded within me.
23 I fade away like an evening shadow.
I am shaken off like a locust.
24 My knees are weak through fasting.
My body is thin and lacks fat.
25 I have also become a reproach to them.
When they see me, they shake their
head.
26 Help me, LORD, my God.
Save me according to your loving
kindness;
27 that they may know that this is your
hand;
that you, LORD, have done it.
28 They may curse, but you bless.
When they arise, they will be shamed,
but your servant shall rejoice.
29 Let my adversaries be clothed with
dishonor.
Let them cover themselves with their
own shame as with a robe.
30 I will give great thanks to the LORD with
my mouth.
Yes, I will praise him among the
multitude.
31 For he will stand at the right hand of the
needy,
to save him from those who judge his
soul.

110

A Psalm by David.
1 The LORD says to my Lord, "Sit at my
right hand,
until I make your enemies your
footstool for your feet."
2 The LORD will send out the rod of your
strength out of Zion.
Rule among your enemies.
3 Your people offer themselves willingly in
the day of your power, in holy
array.
Out of the womb of the morning, you
have the dew of your youth.
4 The LORD has sworn, and will not
change his mind:
"You are a priest forever in the order
of Melchizedek."

† **109:21** The word translated "Lord" is "Adonai."

5 The Lord is at your right hand.
He will crush kings in the day of his wrath.
6 He will judge among the nations.
He will heap up dead bodies.
He will crush the ruler of the whole earth.
7 He will drink of the brook on the way;
therefore he will lift up his head.

111

1 Praise the LORD![†]
I will give thanks to the LORD[‡] with my whole heart,
in the council of the upright, and in the congregation.
2 The LORD's works are great,
pondered by all those who delight in them.
3 His work is honor and majesty.
His righteousness endures forever.
4 He has caused his wonderful works to be remembered.
The LORD is gracious and merciful.
5 He has given food to those who fear him.
He always remembers his covenant.
6 He has shown his people the power of his works,
in giving them the heritage of the nations.
7 The works of his hands are truth and justice.
All his precepts are sure.
8 They are established forever and ever.
They are done in truth and uprightness.
9 He has sent redemption to his people.
He has ordained his covenant forever.
His name is holy and awesome!
10 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom.
All those who do his work have a good understanding.
His praise endures forever!

112

1 Praise the LORD![†]
Blessed is the man who fears the LORD,[‡]
who delights greatly in his commandments.
2 His offspring will be mighty in the land.
The generation of the upright will be blessed.
3 Wealth and riches are in his house.
His righteousness endures forever.
4 Light dawns in the darkness for the upright,
gracious, merciful, and righteous.
5 It is well with the man who deals graciously and lends.
He will maintain his cause in judgment.
6 For he will never be shaken.
The righteous will be remembered forever.
7 He will not be afraid of evil news.
His heart is steadfast, trusting in the LORD.
8 His heart is established.
He will not be afraid in the end when he sees his adversaries.
9 He has dispersed, he has given to the poor.
His righteousness endures forever.
His horn will be exalted with honor.
10 The wicked will see it, and be grieved.
He shall gnash with his teeth, and melt away.
The desire of the wicked will perish.

113

1 Praise the LORD![†]
Praise, you servants of the LORD,[‡]
praise the LORD's name.
2 Blessed be the LORD's name,
from this time forward and forever more.
3 From the rising of the sun to its going down,
the LORD's name is to be praised.
4 The LORD is high above all nations,

[†] **111:1** Hebrew: יה Yah. Psalm 111 is an acrostic poem, with each verse after the initial "Praise the LORD!" starting with a letter of the alphabet (ordered from Alef to Tav). [‡] **111:1** LORD or GOD in all caps is from the Hebrew יהוה Yahweh except when otherwise noted as being from the short form יה Yah. [†] **112:1** Hebrew: יה Yah. Psalm 112 is an acrostic poem, with each verse after the initial "Praise the LORD!" starting with a letter of the alphabet (ordered from Alef to Tav). [‡] **112:1** LORD or GOD in all caps is from the Hebrew יהוה Yahweh except when otherwise noted as being from the short form יה Yah. [†] **113:1** Hebrew: יה Yah [‡] **113:1** LORD or GOD in all caps is from the Hebrew יהוה Yahweh except when otherwise noted as being from the short form יה Yah.

his glory above the heavens.
5 Who is like the LORD, our God,
who has his seat on high,
6 who stoops down to see in heaven
and on the earth?
7 He raises up the poor out of the dust,
and lifts up the needy from the ash
heap,
8 that he may set him with princes,
even with the princes of his people.
9 He settles the barren woman in her
home
as a joyful mother of children.
Praise the LORD!§

114

1 When Israel went out of Egypt,
the house of Jacob from a people of
foreign language,
2 Judah became his sanctuary,
Israel his dominion.
3 The sea saw it, and fled.
The Jordan was driven back.
4 The mountains skipped like rams,
the little hills like lambs.
5 What was it, you sea, that you fled?
You Jordan, that you turned back?
6 You mountains, that you skipped like
rams?
You little hills, like lambs?
7 Tremble, you earth, at the presence of
the Lord,
at the presence of the God of Jacob,
8 who turned the rock into a pool of water,
the flint into a spring of waters.

115

1 Not to us, LORD,† not to us,
but to your name give glory,
for your loving kindness, and for your
truth's sake.
2 Why should the nations say,
"Where is their God, now?"
3 But our God is in the heavens.
He does whatever he pleases.
4 Their idols are silver and gold,
the work of men's hands.
5 They have mouths, but they don't speak.
They have eyes, but they don't see.
6 They have ears, but they don't hear.
They have noses, but they don't smell.
7 They have hands, but they don't feel.
They have feet, but they don't walk,
neither do they speak through their
throat.
8 Those who make them will be like them;
yes, everyone who trusts in them.
9 Israel, trust in the LORD!
He is their help and their shield.
10 House of Aaron, trust in the LORD!
He is their help and their shield.
11 You who fear the LORD, trust in the
LORD!
He is their help and their shield.
12 The LORD remembers us. He will bless
us.
He will bless the house of Israel.
He will bless the house of Aaron.
13 He will bless those who fear the LORD,
both small and great.
14 May the LORD increase you more and
more,
you and your children.
15 Blessed are you by the LORD,
who made heaven and earth.
16 The heavens are the LORD's heavens,
but he has given the earth to the
children of men.
17 The dead don't praise the LORD,‡
nor any who go down into silence,
18 but we will bless the LORD,§
from this time forward and forever
more.
Praise the LORD!†

116

1 I love the LORD,† because he listens to
my voice,
and my cries for mercy.
2 Because he has turned his ear to me,
therefore I will call on him as long as I
live.
3 The cords of death surrounded me,
the pains of Sheol‡ got a hold of me.
I found trouble and sorrow.
4 Then I called on the LORD's name:
"LORD, I beg you, deliver my soul."
5 The LORD is gracious and righteous.

§ **113:9** Hebrew: יה Yah † **115:1** LORD or GOD in all caps is from the Hebrew יהוה Yahweh except when otherwise noted as being from the short form יה Yah. ‡ **115:17** Hebrew: יה Yah § **115:18** Hebrew: יה Yah † **115:18** Hebrew: יה Yah † **116:1** LORD or GOD in all caps is from the Hebrew יהוה Yahweh except when otherwise noted as being from the short form יה Yah. ‡ **116:3** Sheol is the place of the dead.

Yes, our God is merciful.
6 The LORD preserves the simple.
I was brought low, and he saved me.
7 Return to your rest, my soul,
for the LORD has dealt bountifully with you.
8 For you have delivered my soul from death,
my eyes from tears,
and my feet from falling.
9 I will walk before the LORD in the land of the living.
10 I believed, therefore I said,
"I was greatly afflicted."
11 I said in my haste,
"All people are liars."
12 What will I give to the LORD for all his benefits toward me?
13 I will take the cup of salvation, and call on the LORD's name.
14 I will pay my vows to the LORD,
yes, in the presence of all his people.
15 Precious in the LORD's sight is the death of his saints.
16 LORD, truly I am your servant.
I am your servant, the son of your servant girl.
You have freed me from my chains.
17 I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanksgiving,
and will call on the LORD's name.
18 I will pay my vows to the LORD,
yes, in the presence of all his people,
19 in the courts of the LORD's house,
in the middle of you, Jerusalem.
Praise the LORD!§

117

1 Praise the LORD,† all you nations!
Extol him, all you peoples!
2 For his loving kindness is great toward us.
The LORD's faithfulness endures forever.
Praise the LORD!‡

118

1 Give thanks to the LORD,† for he is good,
for his loving kindness endures forever.
2 Let Israel now say
that his loving kindness endures forever.
3 Let the house of Aaron now say
that his loving kindness endures forever.
4 Now let those who fear the LORD say
that his loving kindness endures forever.
5 Out of my distress, I called on the LORD.‡
The LORD§ answered me with freedom.
6 The LORD is on my side. I will not be afraid.
What can man do to me?
7 The LORD is on my side among those who help me.
Therefore I will look in triumph at those who hate me.
8 It is better to take refuge in the LORD,
than to put confidence in man.
9 It is better to take refuge in the LORD,
than to put confidence in princes.
10 All the nations surrounded me,
but in the LORD's name I cut them off.
11 They surrounded me, yes, they surrounded me.
In the LORD's name I indeed cut them off.
12 They surrounded me like bees.
They are quenched like the burning thorns.
In the LORD's name I cut them off.
13 You pushed me back hard, to make me fall,
but the LORD helped me.
14 The LORD† is my strength and song.
He has become my salvation.
15 The voice of rejoicing and salvation is in the tents of the righteous.
"The right hand of the LORD does valiantly.
16 The right hand of the LORD is exalted!
The right hand of the LORD does valiantly!"
17 I will not die, but live,

§ **116:19** Hebrew: יה Yah † **117:1** LORD or GOD in all caps is from the Hebrew יהוה Yahweh except when otherwise noted as being from the short form יה Yah. ‡ **117:2** Hebrew: יה Yah † **118:1** LORD or GOD in all caps is from the Hebrew יהוה Yahweh except when otherwise noted as being from the short form יה Yah. ‡ **118:5** Hebrew: יה Yah § **118:5** Hebrew: יה Yah † **118:14** Hebrew: יה Yah ‡ **118:18** Hebrew: יה Yah

and declare the LORD's works.
18 The LORD‡ has punished me severely,
but he has not given me over to death.
19 Open to me the gates of righteousness.
I will enter into them.
I will give thanks to the LORD.§
20 This is the gate of the LORD;
the righteous will enter into it.
21 I will give thanks to you, for you have answered me,
and have become my salvation.
22 The stone which the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone.†
23 This is the LORD's doing.
It is marvelous in our eyes.
24 This is the day that the LORD has made.
We will rejoice and be glad in it!
25 Save us now, we beg you, LORD!
LORD, we beg you, send prosperity now.
26 Blessed is he who comes in the LORD's name!
We have blessed you out of the LORD's house.
27 The LORD is God, and he has given us light.
Bind the sacrifice with cords, even to the horns of the altar.
28 You are my God, and I will give thanks to you.
You are my God, I will exalt you.
29 Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,
for his loving kindness endures forever.

119

ALEPH
1 Blessed are those whose ways are blameless,
who walk according to the LORD's law.
2 Blessed are those who keep his statutes,
who seek him with their whole heart.
3 Yes, they do nothing wrong.
They walk in his ways.
4 You have commanded your precepts,
that we should fully obey them.
5 Oh that my ways were steadfast to obey your statutes!
6 Then I wouldn't be disappointed,
when I consider all of your commandments.
7 I will give thanks to you with uprightness of heart,
when I learn your righteous judgments.
8 I will observe your statutes.
Don't utterly forsake me.
BETH
9 How can a young man keep his way pure?
By living according to your word.
10 With my whole heart I have sought you.
Don't let me wander from your commandments.
11 I have hidden your word in my heart,
that I might not sin against you.
12 Blessed are you, LORD.
Teach me your statutes.
13 With my lips,
I have declared all the ordinances of your mouth.
14 I have rejoiced in the way of your testimonies,
as much as in all riches.
15 I will meditate on your precepts,
and consider your ways.
16 I will delight myself in your statutes.
I will not forget your word.
GIMEL
17 Do good to your servant.
I will live and I will obey your word.
18 Open my eyes,
that I may see wondrous things out of your law.
19 I am a stranger on the earth.
Don't hide your commandments from me.
20 My soul is consumed with longing for your ordinances at all times.
21 You have rebuked the proud who are cursed,
who wander from your commandments.
22 Take reproach and contempt away from me,
for I have kept your statutes.
23 Though princes sit and slander me,
your servant will meditate on your statutes.
24 Indeed your statutes are my delight,

§ **118:19** Hebrew: יהּ Yah † **118:22** Literally, *head of the corner*

and my counselors.
DALETH
25 My soul is laid low in the dust.
Revive me according to your word!
26 I declared my ways, and you answered me.
Teach me your statutes.
27 Let me understand the teaching of your precepts!
Then I will meditate on your wondrous works.
28 My soul is weary with sorrow;
strengthen me according to your word.
29 Keep me from the way of deceit.
Grant me your law graciously!
30 I have chosen the way of truth.
I have set your ordinances before me.
31 I cling to your statutes, LORD.
Don't let me be disappointed.
32 I run in the path of your commandments,
for you have set my heart free.
HE
33 Teach me, LORD, the way of your statutes.
I will keep them to the end.
34 Give me understanding, and I will keep your law.
Yes, I will obey it with my whole heart.
35 Direct me in the path of your commandments,
for I delight in them.
36 Turn my heart toward your statutes,
not toward selfish gain.
37 Turn my eyes away from looking at worthless things.
Revive me in your ways.
38 Fulfill your promise to your servant,
that you may be feared.
39 Take away my disgrace that I dread,
for your ordinances are good.
40 Behold, I long for your precepts!
Revive me in your righteousness.
VAV
41 Let your loving kindness also come to me, LORD,
your salvation, according to your word.
42 So I will have an answer for him who reproaches me,
for I trust in your word.
43 Don't snatch the word of truth out of my mouth,
for I put my hope in your ordinances.
44 So I will obey your law continually,
forever and ever.
45 I will walk in liberty,
for I have sought your precepts.
46 I will also speak of your statutes before kings,
and will not be disappointed.
47 I will delight myself in your commandments,
because I love them.
48 I reach out my hands for your commandments, which I love.
I will meditate on your statutes.
ZAYIN
49 Remember your word to your servant,
because you gave me hope.
50 This is my comfort in my affliction,
for your word has revived me.
51 The arrogant mock me excessively,
but I don't swerve from your law.
52 I remember your ordinances of old, LORD,
and have comforted myself.
53 Indignation has taken hold on me,
because of the wicked who forsake your law.
54 Your statutes have been my songs in the house where I live.
55 I have remembered your name, LORD, in the night,
and I obey your law.
56 This is my way,
that I keep your precepts.
HETH
57 The LORD is my portion.
I promised to obey your words.
58 I sought your favor with my whole heart.
Be merciful to me according to your word.
59 I considered my ways,
and turned my steps to your statutes.
60 I will hurry, and not delay,
to obey your commandments.
61 The ropes of the wicked bind me,
but I won't forget your law.
62 At midnight I will rise to give thanks to you,

because of your righteous
ordinances.
63 I am a friend of all those who fear you,
of those who observe your precepts.
64 The earth is full of your loving kindness,
LORD.
Teach me your statutes.
TETH
65 You have treated your servant well,
according to your word, LORD.
66 Teach me good judgment and
knowledge,
for I believe in your commandments.
67 Before I was afflicted, I went astray;
but now I observe your word.
68 You are good, and do good.
Teach me your statutes.
69 The proud have smeared a lie upon me.
With my whole heart, I will keep your
precepts.
70 Their heart is as callous as the fat,
but I delight in your law.
71 It is good for me that I have been
afflicted,
that I may learn your statutes.
72 The law of your mouth is better to me
than thousands of pieces of gold
and silver.
YODH
73 Your hands have made me and formed
me.
Give me understanding, that I may
learn your commandments.
74 Those who fear you will see me and be
glad,
because I have put my hope in your
word.
75 LORD, I know that your judgments are
righteous,
that in faithfulness you have afflicted
me.
76 Please let your loving kindness be for
my comfort,
according to your word to your
servant.
77 Let your tender mercies come to me,
that I may live;
for your law is my delight.
78 Let the proud be disappointed, for they
have overthrown me wrongfully.
I will meditate on your precepts.
79 Let those who fear you turn to me.
They will know your statutes.
80 Let my heart be blameless toward your
decrees,
that I may not be disappointed.
KAPF
81 My soul faints for your salvation.
I hope in your word.
82 My eyes fail for your word.
I say, “When will you comfort me?”
83 For I have become like a wineskin in the
smoke.
I don’t forget your statutes.
84 How many are the days of your servant?
When will you execute judgment on
those who persecute me?
85 The proud have dug pits for me,
contrary to your law.
86 All of your commandments are faithful.
They persecute me wrongfully.
Help me!
87 They had almost wiped me from the
earth,
but I didn’t forsake your precepts.
88 Preserve my life according to your
loving kindness,
so I will obey the statutes of your
mouth.
LAMEDH
89 LORD, your word is settled in heaven
forever.
90 Your faithfulness is to all generations.
You have established the earth, and it
remains.
91 Your laws remain to this day,
for all things serve you.
92 Unless your law had been my delight,
I would have perished in my
affliction.
93 I will never forget your precepts,
for with them, you have revived me.
94 I am yours.
Save me, for I have sought your
precepts.
95 The wicked have waited for me, to
destroy me.
I will consider your statutes.
96 I have seen a limit to all perfection,
but your commands are boundless.
MEM
97 How I love your law!
It is my meditation all day.
98 Your commandments make me wiser
than my enemies,

for your commandments are always
with me.
99 I have more understanding than all my
teachers,
for your testimonies are my
meditation.
100 I understand more than the aged,
because I have kept your precepts.
101 I have kept my feet from every evil
way,
that I might observe your word.
102 I have not turned away from your
ordinances,
for you have taught me.
103 How sweet are your promises to my
taste,
more than honey to my mouth!
104 Through your precepts, I get
understanding;
therefore I hate every false way.
NUN
105 Your word is a lamp to my feet,
and a light for my path.
106 I have sworn, and have confirmed it,
that I will obey your righteous
ordinances.
107 I am afflicted very much.
Revive me, LORD, according to your
word.
108 Accept, I beg you, the willing offerings
of my mouth.
LORD, teach me your ordinances.
109 My soul is continually in my hand,
yet I won't forget your law.
110 The wicked have laid a snare for me,
yet I haven't gone astray from your
precepts.
111 I have taken your testimonies as a
heritage forever,
for they are the joy of my heart.
112 I have set my heart to perform your
statutes forever,
even to the end.
SAMEKH
113 I hate double-minded men,
but I love your law.
114 You are my hiding place and my shield.
I hope in your word.
115 Depart from me, you evildoers,
that I may keep the commandments
of my God.
116 Uphold me according to your word,
that I may live.
Let me not be ashamed of my hope.
117 Hold me up, and I will be safe,
and will have respect for your
statutes continually.
118 You reject all those who stray from
your statutes,
for their deceit is in vain.
119 You put away all the wicked of the
earth like dross.
Therefore I love your testimonies.
120 My flesh trembles for fear of you.
I am afraid of your judgments.
AYIN
121 I have done what is just and righteous.
Don't leave me to my oppressors.
122 Ensure your servant's well-being.
Don't let the proud oppress me.
123 My eyes fail looking for your salvation,
for your righteous word.
124 Deal with your servant according to
your loving kindness.
Teach me your statutes.
125 I am your servant. Give me
understanding,
that I may know your testimonies.
126 It is time to act, LORD,
for they break your law.
127 Therefore I love your commandments
more than gold,
yes, more than pure gold.
128 Therefore I consider all of your
precepts to be right.
I hate every false way.
PE
129 Your testimonies are wonderful,
therefore my soul keeps them.
130 The entrance of your words gives light.
It gives understanding to the simple.
131 I opened my mouth wide and panted,
for I longed for your commandments.
132 Turn to me, and have mercy on me,
as you always do to those who love
your name.
133 Establish my footsteps in your word.
Don't let any iniquity have dominion
over me.
134 Redeem me from the oppression of
man,
so I will observe your precepts.
135 Make your face shine on your servant.

Teach me your statutes.
136 Streams of tears run down my eyes,
because they don't observe your law.
TZADHE
137 You are righteous, LORD.
Your judgments are upright.
138 You have commanded your statutes in
righteousness.
They are fully trustworthy.
139 My zeal wears me out,
because my enemies ignore your
words.
140 Your promises have been thoroughly
tested,
and your servant loves them.
141 I am small and despised.
I don't forget your precepts.
142 Your righteousness is an everlasting
righteousness.
Your law is truth.
143 Trouble and anguish have taken hold
of me.
Your commandments are my delight.
144 Your testimonies are righteous forever.
Give me understanding, that I may
live.
QOPH
145 I have called with my whole heart.
Answer me, LORD!
I will keep your statutes.
146 I have called to you. Save me!
I will obey your statutes.
147 I rise before dawn and cry for help.
I put my hope in your words.
148 My eyes stay open through the night
watches,
that I might meditate on your word.
149 Hear my voice according to your
loving kindness.
Revive me, LORD, according to your
ordinances.
150 They draw near who follow after
wickedness.
They are far from your law.
151 You are near, LORD.
All your commandments are truth.
152 Of old I have known from your
testimonies,
that you have founded them forever.
RESH
153 Consider my affliction, and deliver me,
for I don't forget your law.
154 Plead my cause, and redeem me!
Revive me according to your promise.
155 Salvation is far from the wicked,
for they don't seek your statutes.
156 Great are your tender mercies, LORD.
Revive me according to your
ordinances.
157 Many are my persecutors and my
adversaries.
I haven't swerved from your
testimonies.
158 I look at the faithless with loathing,
because they don't observe your
word.
159 Consider how I love your precepts.
Revive me, LORD, according to your
loving kindness.
160 All of your words are truth.
Every one of your righteous
ordinances endures forever.
SIN AND SHIN
161 Princes have persecuted me without a
cause,
but my heart stands in awe of your
words.
162 I rejoice at your word,
as one who finds great plunder.
163 I hate and abhor falsehood.
I love your law.
164 Seven times a day, I praise you,
because of your righteous
ordinances.
165 Those who love your law have great
peace.
Nothing causes them to stumble.
166 I have hoped for your salvation, LORD.
I have done your commandments.
167 My soul has observed your testimonies.
I love them exceedingly.
168 I have obeyed your precepts and your
testimonies,
for all my ways are before you.
TAV
169 Let my cry come before you, LORD.
Give me understanding according to
your word.
170 Let my supplication come before you.
Deliver me according to your word.
171 Let my lips utter praise,
for you teach me your statutes.
172 Let my tongue sing of your word,

for all your commandments are
righteousness.
173 Let your hand be ready to help me,
for I have chosen your precepts.
174 I have longed for your salvation, LORD.
Your law is my delight.
175 Let my soul live, that I may praise you.
Let your ordinances help me.
176 I have gone astray like a lost sheep.
Seek your servant, for I don't forget
your commandments.

120

A Song of Ascents.
1 In my distress, I cried to the LORD.
He answered me.
2 Deliver my soul, LORD, from lying lips,
from a deceitful tongue.
3 What will be given to you, and what will
be done more to you,
you deceitful tongue?
4 Sharp arrows of the mighty,
with coals of juniper.
5 Woe is me, that I live in Meshech,
that I dwell among the tents of Kedar!
6 My soul has had her dwelling too long
with him who hates peace.
7 I am for peace,
but when I speak, they are for war.

121

A Song of Ascents.
1 I will lift up my eyes to the hills.
Where does my help come from?
2 My help comes from the LORD,
who made heaven and earth.

3 He will not allow your foot to be moved.
He who keeps you will not slumber.
4 Behold, he who keeps Israel
will neither slumber nor sleep.
5 The LORD is your keeper.
The LORD is your shade on your right
hand.
6 The sun will not harm you by day,
nor the moon by night.
7 The LORD will keep you from all evil.
He will keep your soul.
8 The LORD will keep your going out and
your coming in,
from this time forward, and forever
more.

122

A Song of Ascents. By David.
1 I was glad when they said to me,
"Let's go to the LORD's house!"
2 Our feet are standing within your gates,
Jerusalem!
3 Jerusalem is built as a city that is
compact together,
4 where the tribes go up, even the LORD's
tribes,
according to an ordinance for Israel,
to give thanks to the LORD's name.
5 For there are set thrones for judgment,
the thrones of David's house.
6 Pray for the peace of Jerusalem.
Those who love you will prosper.
7 Peace be within your walls,
and prosperity within your palaces.
8 For my brothers' and companions' sakes,
I will now say, "Peace be within you."
9 For the sake of the house of the LORD
our God,
I will seek your good.

123

A Song of Ascents.
1 I lift up my eyes to you,
you who sit in the heavens.
2 Behold, as the eyes of servants look to
the hand of their master,
as the eyes of a maid to the hand of
her mistress,
so our eyes look to the LORD, our God,
until he has mercy on us.
3 Have mercy on us, LORD, have mercy on
us,
for we have endured much contempt.
4 Our soul is exceedingly filled with the
scoffing of those who are at ease,
with the contempt of the proud.

124

A Song of Ascents. By David.
1 If it had not been the LORD who was on
our side,
let Israel now say,
2 if it had not been the LORD who was on
our side,
when men rose up against us,

3 then they would have swallowed us up alive,
when their wrath was kindled against us,
4 then the waters would have overwhelmed us,
the stream would have gone over our soul.
5 Then the proud waters would have gone over our soul.
6 Blessed be the LORD,
who has not given us as a prey to their teeth.
7 Our soul has escaped like a bird out of the fowler's snare.
The snare is broken, and we have escaped.
8 Our help is in the LORD's name,
who made heaven and earth.

125

A Song of Ascents.
1 Those who trust in the LORD are as Mount Zion,
which can't be moved, but remains forever.
2 As the mountains surround Jerusalem,
so the LORD surrounds his people from this time forward and forever more.
3 For the scepter of wickedness won't remain over the allotment of the righteous,
so that the righteous won't use their hands to do evil.
4 Do good, LORD, to those who are good,
to those who are upright in their hearts.
5 But as for those who turn away to their crooked ways,
the LORD will lead them away with the workers of iniquity.
Peace be on Israel.

126

A Song of Ascents.
1 When the LORD brought back those who returned to Zion,
we were like those who dream.
2 Then our mouth was filled with laughter,
and our tongue with singing.
Then they said among the nations,
"The LORD has done great things for them."
3 The LORD has done great things for us,
and we are glad.
4 Restore our fortunes again, LORD,
like the streams in the Negev.
5 Those who sow in tears will reap in joy.
6 He who goes out weeping, carrying seed for sowing,
will certainly come again with joy,
carrying his sheaves.

127

A Song of Ascents. By Solomon.
1 Unless the LORD builds the house,
they who build it labor in vain.
Unless the LORD watches over the city,
the watchman guards it in vain.
2 It is vain for you to rise up early,
to stay up late,
eating the bread of toil,
for he gives sleep to his loved ones.
3 Behold, children are a heritage of the LORD.
The fruit of the womb is his reward.
4 As arrows in the hand of a mighty man,
so are the children of youth.
5 Happy is the man who has his quiver full of them.
They won't be disappointed when they speak with their enemies in the gate.

128

A Song of Ascents.
1 Blessed is everyone who fears the LORD,
who walks in his ways.
2 For you will eat the labor of your hands.
You will be happy, and it will be well with you.
3 Your wife will be as a fruitful vine in the innermost parts of your house,
your children like olive shoots around your table.
4 Behold, this is how the man who fears the LORD is blessed.
5 May the LORD bless you out of Zion,
and may you see the good of Jerusalem all the days of your life.
6 Yes, may you see your children's children.
Peace be upon Israel.

129

A Song of Ascents.
1 Many times they have afflicted me from
my youth up.
Let Israel now say:
2 many times they have afflicted me from
my youth up,
yet they have not prevailed against
me.
3 The plowers plowed on my back.
They made their furrows long.
4 The LORD is righteous.
He has cut apart the cords of the
wicked.
5 Let them be disappointed and turned
backward,
all those who hate Zion.
6 Let them be as the grass on the
housetops,
which withers before it grows up,
7 with which the reaper doesn't fill his
hand,
nor he who binds sheaves, his bosom.
8 Neither do those who go by say,
"The blessing of the LORD be on you.
We bless you in the LORD's name."

130

A Song of Ascents.
1 Out of the depths I have cried to you,
LORD.†
2 Lord, hear my voice.
Let your ears be attentive to the voice
of my petitions.
3 If you, LORD,‡ kept a record of sins,
Lord, who could stand?
4 But there is forgiveness with you,
therefore you are feared.
5 I wait for the LORD.
My soul waits.
I hope in his word.
6 My soul longs for the Lord more than
watchmen long for the morning,
more than watchmen for the
morning.
7 Israel, hope in the LORD,
for there is loving kindness with the
LORD.
Abundant redemption is with him.
8 He will redeem Israel from all their sins.

131

A Song of Ascents. By David.
1 LORD, my heart isn't arrogant, nor my
eyes lofty;
nor do I concern myself with great
matters,
or things too wonderful for me.
2 Surely I have stilled and quieted my soul,
like a weaned child with his mother,
like a weaned child is my soul within
me.
3 Israel, hope in the LORD,
from this time forward and forever
more.

132

A Song of Ascents.
1 LORD, remember David and all his
affliction,
2 how he swore to the LORD,
and vowed to the Mighty One of
Jacob:
3 "Surely I will not come into the structure
of my house,
nor go up into my bed;
4 I will not give sleep to my eyes,
or slumber to my eyelids,
5 until I find out a place for the LORD,
a dwelling for the Mighty One of
Jacob."
6 Behold, we heard of it in Ephrathah.
We found it in the field of Jaar.
7 "We will go into his dwelling place.
We will worship at his footstool."
8 Arise, LORD, into your resting place,
you, and the ark of your strength.
9 Let your priests be clothed with
righteousness.
Let your saints shout for joy!
10 For your servant David's sake,
don't turn away the face of your
anointed one.
11 The LORD has sworn to David in truth.
He will not turn from it:
"I will set the fruit of your body on
your throne.
12 If your children will keep my covenant,
my testimony that I will teach them,
their children also will sit on your
throne forever more."

† **130:1** LORD or GOD in all caps is from the Hebrew יהוה Yahweh except when otherwise noted as being from the short form יה Yah. ‡ **130:3** Hebrew: יה Yah

13 For the LORD has chosen Zion.
He has desired it for his habitation.
14 “This is my resting place forever.
I will live here, for I have desired it.
15 I will abundantly bless her provision.
I will satisfy her poor with bread.
16 I will also clothe her priests with
salvation.
Her saints will shout aloud for joy.
17 I will make the horn of David to bud
there.
I have ordained a lamp for my
anointed.
18 I will clothe his enemies with shame,
but on himself, his crown will shine.”

133

A Song of Ascents. By David.
1 See how good and how pleasant it is
for brothers to live together in unity!
2 It is like the precious oil on the head,
that ran down on the beard,
even Aaron’s beard,
that came down on the edge of his
robes,
3 like the dew of Hermon,
that comes down on the hills of Zion;
for there the LORD gives the blessing,
even life forever more.

134

A Song of Ascents.
1 Look! Praise the LORD, all you servants
of the LORD,
who stand by night in the LORD’s
house!
2 Lift up your hands in the sanctuary.
Praise the LORD!
3 May the LORD bless you from Zion,
even he who made heaven and earth.

135

1 Praise the LORD![†]
Praise the LORD’s[‡] name!
Praise him, you servants of the LORD,
2 you who stand in the LORD’s house,
in the courts of our God’s house.
3 Praise the LORD,[§] for the LORD is good.
Sing praises to his name, for that is
pleasant.
4 For the LORD[†] has chosen Jacob for
himself,
Israel for his own possession.
5 For I know that the LORD is great,
that our Lord is above all gods.
6 Whatever the LORD pleased, that he has
done,
in heaven and in earth, in the seas
and in all deeps.
7 He causes the clouds to rise from the
ends of the earth.
He makes lightnings with the rain.
He brings the wind out of his
treasuries.
8 He struck the firstborn of Egypt,
both of man and animal.
9 He sent signs and wonders into the
middle of you, Egypt,
on Pharaoh, and on all his servants.
10 He struck many nations,
and killed mighty kings—
11 Sihon king of the Amorites,
Og king of Bashan,
and all the kingdoms of Canaan—
12 and gave their land for a heritage,
a heritage to Israel, his people.
13 Your name, LORD, endures forever;
your renown, LORD, throughout all
generations.
14 For the LORD will judge his people
and have compassion on his servants.

15 The idols of the nations are silver and
gold,
the work of men’s hands.
16 They have mouths, but they can’t speak.
They have eyes, but they can’t see.
17 They have ears, but they can’t hear,
neither is there any breath in their
mouths.
18 Those who make them will be like them,
yes, everyone who trusts in them.
19 House of Israel, praise the LORD!
House of Aaron, praise the LORD!
20 House of Levi, praise the LORD!
You who fear the LORD, praise the
LORD!
21 Blessed be the LORD from Zion,
who dwells in Jerusalem.

† **135:1** Hebrew: יה Yah ‡ **135:1** LORD or GOD in all caps is from the Hebrew יהוה Yahweh except when otherwise noted as being from the short form יה Yah. § **135:3** Hebrew: יה Yah † **135:4** Hebrew: יה Yah ‡ **135:21** Hebrew: יה Yah

Praise the LORD!‡

136

1 Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,
for his loving kindness endures
forever.
2 Give thanks to the God of gods,
for his loving kindness endures
forever.
3 Give thanks to the Lord of lords,
for his loving kindness endures
forever;
4 to him who alone does great wonders,
for his loving kindness endures
forever;
5 to him who by understanding made the
heavens,
for his loving kindness endures
forever;
6 to him who spread out the earth above
the waters,
for his loving kindness endures
forever;
7 to him who made the great lights,
for his loving kindness endures
forever;
8 the sun to rule by day,
for his loving kindness endures
forever;
9 the moon and stars to rule by night,
for his loving kindness endures
forever;
10 to him who struck down the Egyptian
firstborn,
for his loving kindness endures
forever;
11 and brought out Israel from among
them,
for his loving kindness endures
forever;
12 with a strong hand, and with an
outstretched arm,
for his loving kindness endures
forever;
13 to him who divided the Red Sea apart,
for his loving kindness endures
forever;
14 and made Israel to pass through the
middle of it,
for his loving kindness endures
forever;
15 but overthrew Pharaoh and his army in
the Red Sea,
for his loving kindness endures
forever;
16 to him who led his people through the
wilderness,
for his loving kindness endures
forever;
17 to him who struck great kings,
for his loving kindness endures
forever;
18 and killed mighty kings,
for his loving kindness endures
forever;
19 Sihon king of the Amorites,
for his loving kindness endures
forever;
20 Og king of Bashan,
for his loving kindness endures
forever;
21 and gave their land as an inheritance,
for his loving kindness endures
forever;
22 even a heritage to Israel his servant,
for his loving kindness endures
forever;
23 who remembered us in our low estate,
for his loving kindness endures
forever;
24 and has delivered us from our
adversaries,
for his loving kindness endures
forever;
25 who gives food to every creature,
for his loving kindness endures
forever.
26 Oh give thanks to the God of heaven,
for his loving kindness endures
forever.

137

1 By the rivers of Babylon, there we sat
down.
Yes, we wept, when we remembered
Zion.
2 On the willows in that land,
we hung up our harps.
3 For there, those who led us captive asked
us for songs.
Those who tormented us demanded
songs of joy:
“Sing us one of the songs of Zion!”

4 How can we sing the LORD's song in a
foreign land?
5 If I forget you, Jerusalem,
let my right hand forget its skill.
6 Let my tongue stick to the roof of my
mouth if I don't remember you,
if I don't prefer Jerusalem above my
chief joy.
7 Remember, LORD, against the children
of Edom in the day of Jerusalem,
who said, "Raze it!
Raze it even to its foundation!"
8 Daughter of Babylon, doomed to
destruction,
he will be happy who repays you,
as you have done to us.
9 Happy shall he be,
who takes and dashes your little ones
against the rock.

138

By David.
1 I will give you thanks with my whole
heart.
Before the gods,† I will sing praises to
you.
2 I will bow down toward your holy
temple,
and give thanks to your Name for
your loving kindness and for your
truth;
for you have exalted your Name and
your Word above all.
3 In the day that I called, you answered
me.
You encouraged me with strength in
my soul.
4 All the kings of the earth will give you
thanks, LORD,
for they have heard the words of your
mouth.
5 Yes, they will sing of the ways of the
LORD,
for the LORD's glory is great!
6 For though the LORD is high, yet he looks
after the lowly;
but he knows the proud from afar.
7 Though I walk in the middle of trouble,
you will revive me.
You will stretch out your hand against
the wrath of my enemies.
Your right hand will save me.
8 The LORD will fulfill that which
concerns me.
Your loving kindness, LORD, endures
forever.
Don't forsake the works of your own
hands.

139

For the Chief Musician. A Psalm by David.
1 LORD, you have searched me,
and you know me.
2 You know my sitting down and my rising
up.
You perceive my thoughts from afar.
3 You search out my path and my lying
down,
and are acquainted with all my ways.
4 For there is not a word on my tongue,
but behold, LORD, you know it
altogether.
5 You hem me in behind and before.
You laid your hand on me.
6 This knowledge is beyond me.
It's lofty.
I can't attain it.
7 Where could I go from your Spirit?
Or where could I flee from your
presence?
8 If I ascend up into heaven, you are there.
If I make my bed in Sheol,† behold,
you are there!
9 If I take the wings of the dawn,
and settle in the uttermost parts of
the sea,
10 even there your hand will lead me,
and your right hand will hold me.
11 If I say, "Surely the darkness will
overwhelm me.
The light around me will be night,"
12 even the darkness doesn't hide from
you,
but the night shines as the day.
The darkness is like light to you.
13 For you formed my inmost being.
You knit me together in my mother's
womb.
14 I will give thanks to you,

† **138:1** The word elohim, used here, usually means "God" but can also mean "gods", "princes", or "angels". † **139:8** Sheol is the place of the dead.

for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.
Your works are wonderful.
My soul knows that very well.
15 My frame wasn't hidden from you,
when I was made in secret,
woven together in the depths of the earth.
16 Your eyes saw my body.
In your book they were all written,
the days that were ordained for me,
when as yet there were none of them.
17 How precious to me are your thoughts, God!
How vast is their sum!
18 If I would count them, they are more in number than the sand.
When I wake up, I am still with you.
19 If only you, God, would kill the wicked.
Get away from me, you bloodthirsty men!
20 For they speak against you wickedly.
Your enemies take your name in vain.
21 LORD, don't I hate those who hate you?
Am I not grieved with those who rise up against you?
22 I hate them with perfect hatred.
They have become my enemies.
23 Search me, God, and know my heart.
Try me, and know my thoughts.
24 See if there is any wicked way in me,
and lead me in the everlasting way.

140

For the Chief Musician. A Psalm by David.
1 Deliver me, LORD, from evil men.
Preserve me from violent men:
2 those who devise mischief in their hearts.
They continually gather themselves together for war.
3 They have sharpened their tongues like a serpent.
Viper's poison is under their lips.
Selah.
4 LORD, keep me from the hands of the wicked.
Preserve me from the violent men who have determined to trip my feet.
5 The proud have hidden a snare for me,
they have spread the cords of a net by the path.
They have set traps for me.
Selah.
6 I said to the LORD, "You are my God."
Listen to the cry of my petitions, LORD.
7 LORD, the Lord, the strength of my salvation,
you have covered my head in the day of battle.
8 LORD, don't grant the desires of the wicked.
Don't let their evil plans succeed, or they will become proud.
Selah.
9 As for the head of those who surround me,
let the mischief of their own lips cover them.
10 Let burning coals fall on them.
Let them be thrown into the fire,
into miry pits, from where they never rise.
11 An evil speaker won't be established on the earth.
Evil will hunt the violent man to overthrow him.
12 I know that the LORD will maintain the cause of the afflicted,
and justice for the needy.
13 Surely the righteous will give thanks to your name.
The upright will dwell in your presence.

141

A Psalm by David.
1 LORD, I have called on you.
Come to me quickly!
Listen to my voice when I call to you.
2 Let my prayer be set before you like incense;
the lifting up of my hands like the evening sacrifice.
3 Set a watch, LORD, before my mouth.
Keep the door of my lips.
4 Don't incline my heart to any evil thing,
to practice deeds of wickedness with men who work iniquity.
Don't let me eat of their delicacies.
5 Let the righteous strike me, it is kindness;
let him reprove me, it is like oil on the head;
don't let my head refuse it;

Yet my prayer is always against evil
deeds.
6 Their judges are thrown down by the
sides of the rock.
They will hear my words, for they are
well spoken.
7 “As when one plows and breaks up the
earth,
our bones are scattered at the mouth
of Sheol.”†
8 For my eyes are on you, LORD, the Lord.
I take refuge in you.
Don’t leave my soul destitute.
9 Keep me from the snare which they have
laid for me,
from the traps of the workers of
iniquity.
10 Let the wicked fall together into their
own nets
while I pass by.

142

A contemplation by David, when he was in the cave. A Prayer.
1 I cry with my voice to the LORD.
With my voice, I ask the LORD for
mercy.
2 I pour out my complaint before him.
I tell him my troubles.
3 When my spirit was overwhelmed
within me,
you knew my route.
On the path in which I walk,
they have hidden a snare for me.
4 Look on my right, and see;
for there is no one who is concerned
for me.
Refuge has fled from me.
No one cares for my soul.
5 I cried to you, LORD.
I said, “You are my refuge,
my portion in the land of the living.”
6 Listen to my cry,
for I am in desperate need.
Deliver me from my persecutors,
for they are too strong for me.
7 Bring my soul out of prison,
that I may give thanks to your name.
The righteous will surround me,
for you will be good to me.

† **141:7** Sheol is the place of the dead.

143

A Psalm by David.
1 Hear my prayer, LORD.
Listen to my petitions.
In your faithfulness and
righteousness, relieve me.
2 Don’t enter into judgment with your
servant,
for in your sight no man living is
righteous.
3 For the enemy pursues my soul.
He has struck my life down to the
ground.
He has made me live in dark places,
as those who have been long dead.
4 Therefore my spirit is overwhelmed
within me.
My heart within me is desolate.
5 I remember the days of old.
I meditate on all your doings.
I contemplate the work of your hands.
6 I spread out my hands to you.
My soul thirsts for you, like a parched
land.
Selah.
7 Hurry to answer me, LORD.
My spirit fails.
Don’t hide your face from me,
so that I don’t become like those who
go down into the pit.
8 Cause me to hear your loving kindness in
the morning,
for I trust in you.
Cause me to know the way in which I
should walk,
for I lift up my soul to you.
9 Deliver me, LORD, from my enemies.
I flee to you to hide me.
10 Teach me to do your will,
for you are my God.
Your Spirit is good.
Lead me in the land of uprightness.
11 Revive me, LORD, for your name’s sake.
In your righteousness, bring my soul
out of trouble.
12 In your loving kindness, cut off my
enemies,
and destroy all those who afflict my
soul,
for I am your servant.

144

By David.

1 Blessed be the LORD, my rock,
who trains my hands to war,
and my fingers to battle—
2 my loving kindness, my fortress,
my high tower, my deliverer,
my shield, and he in whom I take refuge,
who subdues my people under me.
3 LORD, what is man, that you care for him?
Or the son of man, that you think of him?
4 Man is like a breath.
His days are like a shadow that passes away.
5 Part your heavens, LORD, and come down.
Touch the mountains, and they will smoke.
6 Throw out lightning, and scatter them.
Send out your arrows, and rout them.
7 Stretch out your hand from above,
rescue me, and deliver me out of great waters,
out of the hands of foreigners,
8 whose mouths speak deceit,
whose right hand is a right hand of falsehood.
9 I will sing a new song to you, God.
On a ten-stringed lyre, I will sing praises to you.
10 You are he who gives salvation to kings,
who rescues David, his servant, from the deadly sword.
11 Rescue me, and deliver me out of the hands of foreigners,
whose mouths speak deceit,
whose right hand is a right hand of falsehood.

12 Then our sons will be like well-nurtured plants,
our daughters like pillars carved to adorn a palace.
13 Our barns are full, filled with all kinds of provision.
Our sheep produce thousands and ten thousands in our fields.
14 Our oxen will pull heavy loads.
There is no breaking in, and no going away,
and no outcry in our streets.
15 Happy are the people who are in such a situation.
Happy are the people whose God is the LORD.

145

A praise psalm by David.†

1 I will exalt you, my God, the King.
I will praise your name forever and ever.
2 Every day I will praise you.
I will extol your name forever and ever.
3 Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised!
His greatness is unsearchable.
4 One generation will commend your works to another,
and will declare your mighty acts.
5 I will meditate on the glorious majesty of your honor,
on your wondrous works.
6 Men will speak of the might of your awesome acts.
I will declare your greatness.
7 They will utter the memory of your great goodness,
and will sing of your righteousness.
8 The LORD is gracious, merciful,
slow to anger, and of great loving kindness.
9 The LORD is good to all.
His tender mercies are over all his works.
10 All your works will give thanks to you, LORD.
Your saints will extol you.
11 They will speak of the glory of your kingdom,
and talk about your power,
12 to make known to the sons of men his mighty acts,
the glory of the majesty of his kingdom.
13 Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom.

† **145:** This is an acrostic psalm, with every verse (including the second half of verse 13) starting with a consecutive letter of the Hebrew alphabet.

Your dominion endures throughout
all generations.
The LORD is faithful in all his words,
and loving in all his deeds.‡
14 The LORD upholds all who fall,
and raises up all those who are
bowed down.
15 The eyes of all wait for you.
You give them their food in due
season.
16 You open your hand,
and satisfy the desire of every living
thing.
17 The LORD is righteous in all his ways,
and gracious in all his works.
18 The LORD is near to all those who call
on him,
to all who call on him in truth.
19 He will fulfill the desire of those who
fear him.
He also will hear their cry, and will
save them.
20 The LORD preserves all those who love
him,
but he will destroy all the wicked.
21 My mouth will speak the praise of the
LORD.
Let all flesh bless his holy name
forever and ever.

146

1 Praise the LORD!†
Praise the LORD,‡ my soul.
2 While I live, I will praise the LORD.
I will sing praises to my God as long as
I exist.
3 Don't put your trust in princes,
in a son of man in whom there is no
help.
4 His spirit departs, and he returns to the
earth.
In that very day, his thoughts perish.
5 Happy is he who has the God of Jacob for
his help,
whose hope is in the LORD, his God,
6 who made heaven and earth,
the sea, and all that is in them;
who keeps truth forever;
7 who executes justice for the oppressed;
who gives food to the hungry.
The LORD frees the prisoners.
8 The LORD opens the eyes of the
blind.
The LORD raises up those who are
bowed down.
The LORD loves the righteous.
9 The LORD preserves the foreigners.
He upholds the fatherless and widow,
but he turns the way of the wicked
upside down.
10 The LORD will reign forever;
your God, O Zion, to all generations.
Praise the LORD!§

147

1 Praise the LORD,†
for it is good to sing praises to our
God;
for it is pleasant and fitting to praise
him.
2 The LORD‡ builds up Jerusalem.
He gathers together the outcasts of
Israel.
3 He heals the broken in heart,
and binds up their wounds.
4 He counts the number of the stars.
He calls them all by their names.
5 Great is our Lord, and mighty in power.
His understanding is infinite.
6 The LORD upholds the humble.
He brings the wicked down to the
ground.
7 Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving.
Sing praises on the harp to our God,
8 who covers the sky with clouds,
who prepares rain for the earth,
who makes grass grow on the
mountains.
9 He provides food for the livestock,
and for the young ravens when they
call.
10 He doesn't delight in the strength of the
horse.
He takes no pleasure in the legs of a
man.

‡ **145:13** Some manuscripts omit these last two lines. † **146:1** Hebrew: יה Yah ‡ **146:1** LORD or GOD in all caps is from the Hebrew יהוה Yahweh except when otherwise noted as being from the short form יה Yah. § **146:10** Hebrew: יה Yah † **147:1** Hebrew: יה Yah ‡ **147:2** LORD or GOD in all caps is from the Hebrew יהוה Yahweh except when otherwise noted as being from the short form יה Yah.

11 The LORD takes pleasure in those who
fear him,
in those who hope in his loving
kindness.
12 Praise the LORD, Jerusalem!
Praise your God, Zion!
13 For he has strengthened the bars of
your gates.
He has blessed your children within
you.
14 He makes peace in your borders.
He fills you with the finest of the
wheat.
15 He sends out his commandment to the
earth.
His word runs very swiftly.
16 He gives snow like wool,
and scatters frost like ashes.
17 He hurls down his hail like pebbles.
Who can stand before his cold?
18 He sends out his word, and melts them.
He causes his wind to blow, and the
waters flow.
19 He shows his word to Jacob,
his statutes and his ordinances to
Israel.
20 He has not done this for just any nation.
They don't know his ordinances.
Praise the LORD!§

148

1 Praise the LORD!†
Praise the LORD‡ from the heavens!
Praise him in the heights!
2 Praise him, all his angels!
Praise him, all his army!
3 Praise him, sun and moon!
Praise him, all you shining stars!
4 Praise him, you heavens of heavens,
you waters that are above the
heavens.
5 Let them praise the LORD's name,
for he commanded, and they were
created.
6 He has also established them forever
and ever.
He has made a decree which will not
pass away.
7 Praise the LORD from the earth,
you great sea creatures, and all
depths,
8 lightning and hail, snow and clouds,
stormy wind, fulfilling his word,
9 mountains and all hills,
fruit trees and all cedars,
10 wild animals and all livestock,
small creatures and flying birds,
11 kings of the earth and all peoples,
princes and all judges of the earth,
12 both young men and maidens,
old men and children.
13 Let them praise the LORD's name,
for his name alone is exalted.
His glory is above the earth and the
heavens.
14 He has lifted up the horn of his people,
the praise of all his saints,
even of the children of Israel, a people
near to him.
Praise the LORD!§

149

1 Praise the LORD!†
Sing to the LORD a new song,
his praise in the assembly of the
saints.
2 Let Israel rejoice in him who made them.
Let the children of Zion be joyful in
their King.
3 Let them praise his name in the dance!
Let them sing praises to him with
tambourine and harp!
4 For the LORD takes pleasure in his
people.
He crowns the humble with salvation.
5 Let the saints rejoice in honor.
Let them sing for joy on their beds.
6 May the high praises of God be in their
mouths,
and a two-edged sword in their hand,
7 to execute vengeance on the nations,
and punishments on the peoples;
8 to bind their kings with chains,
and their nobles with fetters of iron;
9 to execute on them the written
judgment.

§ **147:20** Hebrew: יה Yah † **148:1** Hebrew: יה Yah ‡ **148:1** LORD or GOD in all caps is from the Hebrew יהוה Yahweh except when otherwise noted as being from the short form יה Yah. § **148:14** Hebrew: יה Yah † **149:1** LORD or GOD in all caps is from the Hebrew יהוה Yahweh except when otherwise noted as being from the short form יה Yah. ‡ **149:9** Hebrew: יה Yah

All his saints have this honor.
Praise the LORD!‡

150

1 Praise the LORD!†
Praise God in his sanctuary!
Praise him in his heavens for his acts of power!
2 Praise him for his mighty acts!
Praise him according to his excellent greatness!
3 Praise him with the sounding of the trumpet!
Praise him with harp and lyre!
4 Praise him with tambourine and dancing!
Praise him with stringed instruments and flute!
5 Praise him with loud cymbals!
Praise him with resounding cymbals!
6 Let everything that has breath praise the LORD!‡
Praise the LORD!§

† **150:1** Hebrew: יה Yah ‡ **150:6** Hebrew: יה Yah § **150:6** Hebrew: יה Yah

The Proverbs

1 The proverbs of Solomon, the son of
David, king of Israel:
2 to know wisdom and instruction;
to discern the words of
understanding;
3 to receive instruction in wise dealing,
in righteousness, justice, and equity;
4 to give prudence to the simple,
knowledge and discretion to the
young man—
5 that the wise man may hear, and
increase in learning;
that the man of understanding may
attain to sound counsel;
6 to understand a proverb and parables,
the words and riddles of the wise.

7 The fear of the LORD† is the beginning of
knowledge,
but the foolish despise wisdom and
instruction.
8 My son, listen to your father's
instruction,
and don't forsake your mother's
teaching;
9 for they will be a garland to grace your
head,
and chains around your neck.
10 My son, if sinners entice you,
don't consent.
11 If they say, "Come with us.
Let's lie in wait for blood.
Let's lurk secretly for the innocent
without cause.
12 Let's swallow them up alive like Sheol,‡
and whole, like those who go down
into the pit.
13 We'll find all valuable wealth.
We'll fill our houses with plunder.
14 You shall cast your lot among us.
We'll all have one purse"—
15 my son, don't walk on the path with
them.
Keep your foot from their path,
16 for their feet run to evil.
They hurry to shed blood.
17 For the net is spread in vain in the sight
of any bird;
18 but these lay in wait for their own
blood.
They lurk secretly for their own lives.
19 So are the ways of everyone who is
greedy for gain.
It takes away the life of its owners.

20 Wisdom calls aloud in the street.
She utters her voice in the public
squares.
21 She calls at the head of noisy places.
At the entrance of the city gates, she
utters her words:
22 "How long, you simple ones, will you
love simplicity?
How long will mockers delight
themselves in mockery,
and fools hate knowledge?
23 Turn at my reproof.
Behold,§ I will pour out my spirit on
you.
I will make known my words to you.
24 Because I have called, and you have
refused;
I have stretched out my hand, and no
one has paid attention;
25 but you have ignored all my counsel,
and wanted none of my reproof;
26 I also will laugh at your disaster.
I will mock when calamity overtakes
you,
27 when calamity overtakes you like a
storm,
when your disaster comes on like a
whirlwind,
when distress and anguish come on
you.
28 Then they will call on me, but I will not
answer.
They will seek me diligently, but they
will not find me,
29 because they hated knowledge,
and didn't choose the fear of the
LORD.
30 They wanted none of my counsel.
They despised all my reproof.

† **1:7** When rendered in ALL CAPITAL LETTERS, "LORD" or "GOD" is the translation of God's Proper Name (Hebrew "יהוה", usually pronounced Yahweh). ‡ **1:12** Sheol is the place of the dead. § **1:23** "Behold", from "הִנֵּה", means look at, take notice, observe, see, or gaze at. It is often used as an interjection.

31 Therefore they will eat of the fruit of
their own way,
and be filled with their own schemes.
32 For the backsliding of the simple will
kill them.
The careless ease of fools will destroy
them.
33 But whoever listens to me will dwell
securely,
and will be at ease, without fear of
harm."

2

1 My son, if you will receive my words,
and store up my commandments
within you,
2 so as to turn your ear to wisdom,
and apply your heart to
understanding;
3 yes, if you call out for discernment,
and lift up your voice for
understanding;
4 if you seek her as silver,
and search for her as for hidden
treasures;
5 then you will understand the fear of the
LORD,
and find the knowledge of God.†
6 For the LORD gives wisdom.
Out of his mouth comes knowledge
and understanding.
7 He lays up sound wisdom for the upright.
He is a shield to those who walk in
integrity,
8 that he may guard the paths of justice,
and preserve the way of his saints.
9 Then you will understand righteousness
and justice,
equity and every good path.
10 For wisdom will enter into your heart.
Knowledge will be pleasant to your
soul.
11 Discretion will watch over you.
Understanding will keep you,
12 to deliver you from the way of evil,
from the men who speak perverse
things,
13 who forsake the paths of uprightness,
to walk in the ways of darkness,
14 who rejoice to do evil,
and delight in the perverseness of
evil,
15 who are crooked in their ways,
and wayward in their paths,
16 to deliver you from the strange woman,
even from the foreigner who flatters
with her words,
17 who forsakes the friend of her youth,
and forgets the covenant of her God;
18 for her house leads down to death,
her paths to the departed spirits.
19 None who go to her return again,
neither do they attain to the paths of
life.
20 Therefore walk in the way of good men,
and keep the paths of the righteous.
21 For the upright will dwell in the land.
The perfect will remain in it.
22 But the wicked will be cut off from the
land.
The treacherous will be rooted out of
it.

3

1 My son, don't forget my teaching,
but let your heart keep my
commandments,
2 for they will add to you length of days,
years of life, and peace.
3 Don't let kindness and truth forsake you.
Bind them around your neck.
Write them on the tablet of your
heart.
4 So you will find favor,
and good understanding in the sight
of God and man.
5 Trust in the LORD with all your heart,
and don't lean on your own
understanding.
6 In all your ways acknowledge him,
and he will make your paths straight.
7 Don't be wise in your own eyes.
Fear the LORD, and depart from evil.
8 It will be health to your body,
and nourishment to your bones.
9 Honor the LORD with your substance,
with the first fruits of all your
increase;
10 so your barns will be filled with plenty,
and your vats will overflow with new
wine.

† **2:5** The Hebrew word rendered "God" is "אֱלֹהִים" (Elohim).

11 My son, don't despise the LORD's
discipline,
neither be weary of his correction;
12 for whom the LORD loves, he corrects,
even as a father reproves the son in
whom he delights.

13 Happy is the man who finds wisdom,
the man who gets understanding.
14 For her good profit is better than getting
silver,
and her return is better than fine
gold.
15 She is more precious than rubies.
None of the things you can desire are
to be compared to her.
16 Length of days is in her right hand.
In her left hand are riches and honor.
17 Her ways are ways of pleasantness.
All her paths are peace.
18 She is a tree of life to those who lay hold
of her.
Happy is everyone who retains her.
19 By wisdom the LORD founded the earth.
By understanding, he established the
heavens.
20 By his knowledge, the depths were
broken up,
and the skies drop down the dew.
21 My son, let them not depart from your
eyes.
Keep sound wisdom and discretion,
22 so they will be life to your soul,
and grace for your neck.
23 Then you shall walk in your way
securely.
Your foot won't stumble.
24 When you lie down, you will not be
afraid.
Yes, you will lie down, and your sleep
will be sweet.
25 Don't be afraid of sudden fear,
neither of the desolation of the
wicked, when it comes;
26 for the LORD will be your confidence,
and will keep your foot from being
taken.

27 Don't withhold good from those to
whom it is due,
when it is in the power of your hand
to do it.
28 Don't say to your neighbor, "Go, and
come again;
tomorrow I will give it to you,"
when you have it by you.
29 Don't devise evil against your neighbor,
since he dwells securely by you.
30 Don't strive with a man without cause,
if he has done you no harm.
31 Don't envy the man of violence.
Choose none of his ways.
32 For the perverse is an abomination to
the LORD,
but his friendship is with the upright.
33 The LORD's curse is in the house of the
wicked,
but he blesses the habitation of the
righteous.
34 Surely he mocks the mockers,
but he gives grace to the humble.
35 The wise will inherit glory,
but shame will be the promotion of
fools.

4

1 Listen, sons, to a father's instruction.
Pay attention and know
understanding;
2 for I give you sound learning.
Don't forsake my law.
3 For I was a son to my father,
tender and an only child in the sight
of my mother.
4 He taught me, and said to me:
"Let your heart retain my words.
Keep my commandments, and live.
5 Get wisdom.
Get understanding.
Don't forget, and don't deviate from
the words of my mouth.
6 Don't forsake her, and she will preserve
you.
Love her, and she will keep you.
7 Wisdom is supreme.
Get wisdom.
Yes, though it costs all your
possessions, get understanding.
8 Esteem her, and she will exalt you.
She will bring you to honor when you
embrace her.
9 She will give to your head a garland of
grace.

She will deliver a crown of splendor
to you."

10 Listen, my son, and receive my sayings.
The years of your life will be many.
11 I have taught you in the way of wisdom.
I have led you in straight paths.
12 When you go, your steps will not be
hampered.
When you run, you will not stumble.
13 Take firm hold of instruction.
Don't let her go.
Keep her, for she is your life.
14 Don't enter into the path of the wicked.
Don't walk in the way of evil men.
15 Avoid it, and don't pass by it.
Turn from it, and pass on.
16 For they don't sleep unless they do evil.
Their sleep is taken away, unless they
make someone fall.
17 For they eat the bread of wickedness
and drink the wine of violence.
18 But the path of the righteous is like the
dawning light
that shines more and more until the
perfect day.
19 The way of the wicked is like darkness.
They don't know what they stumble
over.

20 My son, attend to my words.
Turn your ear to my sayings.
21 Let them not depart from your eyes.
Keep them in the center of your heart.
22 For they are life to those who find them,
and health to their whole body.
23 Keep your heart with all diligence,
for out of it is the wellspring of life.
24 Put away from yourself a perverse
mouth.
Put corrupt lips far from you.
25 Let your eyes look straight ahead.
Fix your gaze directly before you.
26 Make the path of your feet level.
Let all of your ways be established.
27 Don't turn to the right hand nor to the
left.
Remove your foot from evil.

5

1 My son, pay attention to my wisdom.
Turn your ear to my understanding,
2 that you may maintain discretion,
that your lips may preserve
knowledge.
3 For the lips of an adulteress drip honey.
Her mouth is smoother than oil,
4 but in the end she is as bitter as
wormwood,
and as sharp as a two-edged sword.
5 Her feet go down to death.
Her steps lead straight to Sheol.†
6 She gives no thought to the way of life.
Her ways are crooked, and she
doesn't know it.

7 Now therefore, my sons, listen to me.
Don't depart from the words of my
mouth.
8 Remove your way far from her.
Don't come near the door of her
house,
9 lest you give your honor to others,
and your years to the cruel one;
10 lest strangers feast on your wealth,
and your labors enrich another man's
house.
11 You will groan at your latter end,
when your flesh and your body are
consumed,
12 and say, "How I have hated instruction,
and my heart despised reproof.
13 I haven't obeyed the voice of my
teachers,
nor turned my ear to those who
instructed me!
14 I have come to the brink of utter ruin,
among the gathered assembly."

15 Drink water out of your own cistern,
running water out of your own well.
16 Should your springs overflow in the
streets,
streams of water in the public
squares?
17 Let them be for yourself alone,
not for strangers with you.
18 Let your spring be blessed.
Rejoice in the wife of your youth.
19 A loving doe and a graceful deer—
let her breasts satisfy you at all times.
Be captivated always with her love.

† **5:5** Sheol is the place of the dead.

20 For why should you, my son, be captivated with an adulteress?
Why embrace the bosom of another?
21 For the ways of man are before the LORD's eyes.
He examines all his paths.
22 The evil deeds of the wicked ensnare him.
The cords of his sin hold him firmly.
23 He will die for lack of instruction.
In the greatness of his folly, he will go astray.

6

1 My son, if you have become collateral for your neighbor,
if you have struck your hands in pledge for a stranger,
2 you are trapped by the words of your mouth;
you are ensnared with the words of your mouth.
3 Do this now, my son, and deliver yourself,
since you have come into the hand of your neighbor.
Go, humble yourself.
Press your plea with your neighbor.
4 Give no sleep to your eyes,
nor slumber to your eyelids.
5 Free yourself, like a gazelle from the hand of the hunter,
like a bird from the snare of the fowler.

6 Go to the ant, you sluggard.
Consider her ways, and be wise;
7 which having no chief, overseer, or ruler,
8 provides her bread in the summer,
and gathers her food in the harvest.
9 How long will you sleep, sluggard?
When will you arise out of your sleep?
10 A little sleep, a little slumber,
a little folding of the hands to sleep—
11 so your poverty will come as a robber,
and your scarcity as an armed man.

12 A worthless person, a man of iniquity,
is he who walks with a perverse mouth,
13 who winks with his eyes, who signals with his feet,
who motions with his fingers,
14 in whose heart is perverseness,
who devises evil continually,
who always sows discord.
15 Therefore his calamity will come suddenly.
He will be broken suddenly, and that without remedy.

16 There are six things which the LORD hates;
yes, seven which are an abomination to him:
17 arrogant eyes, a lying tongue,
hands that shed innocent blood,
18 a heart that devises wicked schemes,
feet that are swift in running to mischief,
19 a false witness who utters lies,
and he who sows discord among brothers.

20 My son, keep your father's commandment,
and don't forsake your mother's teaching.
21 Bind them continually on your heart.
Tie them around your neck.
22 When you walk, it will lead you.
When you sleep, it will watch over you.
When you awake, it will talk with you.
23 For the commandment is a lamp,
and the law is light.
Reproofs of instruction are the way of life,
24 to keep you from the immoral woman,
from the flattery of the wayward wife's tongue.
25 Don't lust after her beauty in your heart,
neither let her captivate you with her eyelids.
26 For a prostitute reduces you to a piece of bread.
The adulteress hunts for your precious life.
27 Can a man scoop fire into his lap,
and his clothes not be burned?
28 Or can one walk on hot coals,
and his feet not be scorched?

29 So is he who goes in to his neighbor's
wife.
Whoever touches her will not be
unpunished.
30 Men don't despise a thief
if he steals to satisfy himself when he
is hungry,
31 but if he is found, he shall restore seven
times.
He shall give all the wealth of his
house.
32 He who commits adultery with a
woman is void of understanding.
He who does it destroys his own soul.
33 He will get wounds and dishonor.
His reproach will not be wiped away.
34 For jealousy arouses the fury of the
husband.
He won't spare in the day of
vengeance.
35 He won't regard any ransom,
neither will he rest content, though
you give many gifts.

7

1 My son, keep my words.
Lay up my commandments within
you.
2 Keep my commandments and live!
Guard my teaching as the apple of
your eye.
3 Bind them on your fingers.
Write them on the tablet of your
heart.
4 Tell wisdom, "You are my sister."
Call understanding your relative,
5 that they may keep you from the strange
woman,
from the foreigner who flatters with
her words.
6 For at the window of my house,
I looked out through my lattice.
7 I saw among the simple ones.
I discerned among the youths a young
man void of understanding,
8 passing through the street near her
corner,
he went the way to her house,
9 in the twilight, in the evening of the day,
in the middle of the night and in the
darkness.
10 Behold, there a woman met him with
the attire of a prostitute,
and with crafty intent.
11 She is loud and defiant.
Her feet don't stay in her house.
12 Now she is in the streets, now in the
squares,
and lurking at every corner.
13 So she caught him, and kissed him.
With an impudent face she said to
him:
14 "Sacrifices of peace offerings are with
me.
Today I have paid my vows.
15 Therefore I came out to meet you,
to diligently seek your face,
and I have found you.
16 I have spread my couch with carpets of
tapestry,
with striped cloths of the yarn of
Egypt.
17 I have perfumed my bed with myrrh,
aloes, and cinnamon.
18 Come, let's take our fill of loving until
the morning.
Let's solace ourselves with loving.
19 For my husband isn't at home.
He has gone on a long journey.
20 He has taken a bag of money with him.
He will come home at the full moon."
21 With persuasive words, she led him
astray.
With the flattering of her lips, she
seduced him.
22 He followed her immediately,
as an ox goes to the slaughter,
as a fool stepping into a noose.
23 Until an arrow strikes through his liver,
as a bird hurries to the snare,
and doesn't know that it will cost his
life.

24 Now therefore, sons, listen to me.
Pay attention to the words of my
mouth.
25 Don't let your heart turn to her ways.
Don't go astray in her paths,
26 for she has thrown down many
wounded.
Yes, all her slain are a mighty army.
27 Her house is the way to Sheol,†
going down to the rooms of death.

† **7:27** Sheol is the place of the dead.

8

1 Doesn't wisdom cry out?
Doesn't understanding raise her voice?
2 On the top of high places by the way,
where the paths meet, she stands.
3 Beside the gates, at the entry of the city,
at the entry doors, she cries aloud:
4 "I call to you men!
I send my voice to the sons of mankind.
5 You simple, understand prudence!
You fools, be of an understanding heart!
6 Hear, for I will speak excellent things.
The opening of my lips is for right things.
7 For my mouth speaks truth.
Wickedness is an abomination to my lips.
8 All the words of my mouth are in righteousness.
There is nothing crooked or perverse in them.
9 They are all plain to him who understands,
right to those who find knowledge.
10 Receive my instruction rather than silver,
knowledge rather than choice gold.
11 For wisdom is better than rubies.
All the things that may be desired can't be compared to it.

12 "I, wisdom, have made prudence my dwelling.
Find out knowledge and discretion.
13 The fear of the LORD is to hate evil.
I hate pride, arrogance, the evil way, and the perverse mouth.
14 Counsel and sound knowledge are mine.
I have understanding and power.
15 By me kings reign,
and princes decree justice.
16 By me princes rule,
nobles, and all the righteous rulers of the earth.
17 I love those who love me.
Those who seek me diligently will find me.
18 With me are riches, honor,
enduring wealth, and prosperity.
19 My fruit is better than gold, yes, than fine gold,
my yield than choice silver.
20 I walk in the way of righteousness,
in the middle of the paths of justice,
21 that I may give wealth to those who love me.
I fill their treasuries.

22 "The LORD possessed me in the beginning of his work,
before his deeds of old.
23 I was set up from everlasting, from the beginning,
before the earth existed.
24 When there were no depths, I was born,
when there were no springs abounding with water.
25 Before the mountains were settled in place,
before the hills, I was born;
26 while as yet he had not made the earth, nor the fields,
nor the beginning of the dust of the world.
27 When he established the heavens, I was there.
When he set a circle on the surface of the deep,
28 when he established the clouds above,
when the springs of the deep became strong,
29 when he gave to the sea its boundary,
that the waters should not violate his commandment,
when he marked out the foundations of the earth,
30 then I was the craftsman by his side.
I was a delight day by day,
always rejoicing before him,
31 rejoicing in his whole world.
My delight was with the sons of men.

32 "Now therefore, my sons, listen to me,
for blessed are those who keep my ways.
33 Hear instruction, and be wise.
Don't refuse it.
34 Blessed is the man who hears me,
watching daily at my gates,
waiting at my door posts.
35 For whoever finds me finds life,

and will obtain favor from the LORD.
36 But he who sins against me wrongs his
own soul.
All those who hate me love death."

9

1 Wisdom has built her house.
She has carved out her seven pillars.
2 She has prepared her meat.
She has mixed her wine.
She has also set her table.
3 She has sent out her maidens.
She cries from the highest places of
the city:
4 "Whoever is simple, let him turn in
here!"
As for him who is void of
understanding, she says to him,
5 "Come, eat some of my bread,
Drink some of the wine which I have
mixed!
6 Leave your simple ways, and live.
Walk in the way of understanding."

7 One who corrects a mocker invites
insult.
One who reproves a wicked man
invites abuse.
8 Don't reprove a scoffer, lest he hate you.
Reprove a wise person, and he will
love you.
9 Instruct a wise person, and he will be
still wiser.
Teach a righteous person, and he will
increase in learning.
10 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of
wisdom.
The knowledge of the Holy One is
understanding.
11 For by me your days will be multiplied.
The years of your life will be
increased.
12 If you are wise, you are wise for
yourself.
If you mock, you alone will bear it.

13 The foolish woman is loud,
undisciplined, and knows nothing.
14 She sits at the door of her house,
on a seat in the high places of the city,
15 to call to those who pass by,
who go straight on their ways,
16 "Whoever is simple, let him turn in
here."
As for him who is void of
understanding, she says to him,
17 "Stolen water is sweet.
Food eaten in secret is pleasant."
18 But he doesn't know that the departed
spirits are there,
that her guests are in the depths of
Sheol.†

10

1 The proverbs of Solomon.
A wise son makes a glad father;
but a foolish son brings grief to his
mother.
2 Treasures of wickedness profit nothing,
but righteousness delivers from
death.
3 The LORD will not allow the soul of the
righteous to go hungry,
but he thrusts away the desire of the
wicked.
4 He becomes poor who works with a lazy
hand,
but the hand of the diligent brings
wealth.
5 He who gathers in summer is a wise son,
but he who sleeps during the harvest
is a son who causes shame.
6 Blessings are on the head of the
righteous,
but violence covers the mouth of the
wicked.
7 The memory of the righteous is blessed,
but the name of the wicked will rot.
8 The wise in heart accept
commandments,
but a chattering fool will fall.
9 He who walks blamelessly walks surely,
but he who perverts his ways will be
found out.
10 One who winks with the eye causes
sorrow,
but a chattering fool will fall.
11 The mouth of the righteous is a spring
of life,
but violence covers the mouth of the
wicked.
12 Hatred stirs up strife,
but love covers all wrongs.
13 Wisdom is found on the lips of him who
has discernment,

† **9:18** Sheol is the place of the dead.

but a rod is for the back of him who is
void of understanding.
14 Wise men lay up knowledge,
but the mouth of the foolish is near
ruin.
15 The rich man's wealth is his strong city.
The destruction of the poor is their
poverty.
16 The labor of the righteous leads to life.
The increase of the wicked leads to
sin.
17 He is in the way of life who heeds
correction,
but he who forsakes reproof leads
others astray.
18 He who hides hatred has lying lips.
He who utters a slander is a fool.
19 In the multitude of words there is no
lack of disobedience,
but he who restrains his lips does
wisely.
20 The tongue of the righteous is like
choice silver.
The heart of the wicked is of little
worth.
21 The lips of the righteous feed many,
but the foolish die for lack of
understanding.
22 The LORD's blessing brings wealth,
and he adds no trouble to it.
23 It is a fool's pleasure to do wickedness,
but wisdom is a man of
understanding's pleasure.
24 What the wicked fear will overtake
them,
but the desire of the righteous will be
granted.
25 When the whirlwind passes, the wicked
is no more;
but the righteous stand firm forever.
26 As vinegar to the teeth, and as smoke to
the eyes,
so is the sluggard to those who send
him.
27 The fear of the LORD prolongs days,
but the years of the wicked shall be
shortened.
28 The prospect of the righteous is joy,
but the hope of the wicked will perish.
29 The way of the LORD is a stronghold to
the upright,
but it is a destruction to the workers
of iniquity.
30 The righteous will never be removed,
but the wicked will not dwell in the
land.
31 The mouth of the righteous produces
wisdom,
but the perverse tongue will be cut
off.
32 The lips of the righteous know what is
acceptable,
but the mouth of the wicked is
perverse.

11

1 A false balance is an abomination to the
LORD,
but accurate weights are his delight.
2 When pride comes, then comes shame,
but with humility comes wisdom.
3 The integrity of the upright shall guide
them,
but the perverseness of the
treacherous shall destroy them.
4 Riches don't profit in the day of wrath,
but righteousness delivers from
death.
5 The righteousness of the blameless will
direct his way,
but the wicked shall fall by his own
wickedness.
6 The righteousness of the upright shall
deliver them,
but the unfaithful will be trapped by
evil desires.
7 When a wicked man dies, hope perishes,
and expectation of power comes to
nothing.
8 A righteous person is delivered out of
trouble,
and the wicked takes his place.
9 With his mouth the godless man
destroys his neighbor,
but the righteous will be delivered
through knowledge.
10 When it goes well with the righteous,
the city rejoices.
When the wicked perish, there is
shouting.
11 By the blessing of the upright, the city is
exalted,
but it is overthrown by the mouth of
the wicked.

12 One who despises his neighbor is void
of wisdom,
but a man of understanding holds his
peace.
13 One who brings gossip betrays a
confidence,
but one who is of a trustworthy spirit
is one who keeps a secret.
14 Where there is no wise guidance, the
nation falls,
but in the multitude of counselors
there is victory.
15 He who is collateral for a stranger will
suffer for it,
but he who refuses pledges of
collateral is secure.
16 A gracious woman obtains honor,
but violent men obtain riches.
17 The merciful man does good to his own
soul,
but he who is cruel troubles his own
flesh.
18 Wicked people earn deceitful wages,
but one who sows righteousness
reaps a sure reward.
19 He who is truly righteous gets life.
He who pursues evil gets death.
20 Those who are perverse in heart are an
abomination to the LORD,
but those whose ways are blameless
are his delight.
21 Most certainly, the evil man will not be
unpunished,
but the offspring† of the righteous will
be delivered.
22 Like a gold ring in a pig's snout,
is a beautiful woman who lacks
discretion.
23 The desire of the righteous is only good.
The expectation of the wicked is
wrath.
24 There is one who scatters, and increases
yet more.
There is one who withholds more
than is appropriate, but gains
poverty.
25 The liberal soul shall be made fat.
He who waters shall be watered also
himself.
26 People curse someone who withholds
grain,
but blessing will be on the head of
him who sells it.
27 He who diligently seeks good seeks
favor,
but he who searches after evil, it shall
come to him.
28 He who trusts in his riches will fall,
but the righteous shall flourish as the
green leaf.
29 He who troubles his own house shall
inherit the wind.
The foolish shall be servant to the
wise of heart.
30 The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life.
He who is wise wins souls.
31 Behold, the righteous shall be repaid on
the earth,
how much more the wicked and the
sinner!

12

1 Whoever loves correction loves
knowledge,
but he who hates reproof is stupid.
2 A good man shall obtain favor from the
LORD,
but he will condemn a man of wicked
plans.
3 A man shall not be established by
wickedness,
but the root of the righteous shall not
be moved.
4 A worthy woman is the crown of her
husband,
but a disgraceful wife is as rottenness
in his bones.
5 The thoughts of the righteous are just,
but the advice of the wicked is
deceitful.
6 The words of the wicked are about lying
in wait for blood,
but the speech of the upright rescues
them.
7 The wicked are overthrown, and are no
more,
but the house of the righteous shall
stand.
8 A man shall be commended according to
his wisdom,
but he who has a warped mind shall
be despised.
9 Better is he who is little known, and has
a servant,

† **11:21** or, seed

than he who honors himself and lacks
bread.
10 A righteous man respects the life of his
animal,
but the tender mercies of the wicked
are cruel.
11 He who tills his land shall have plenty
of bread,
but he who chases fantasies is void of
understanding.
12 The wicked desires the plunder of evil
men,
but the root of the righteous
flourishes.
13 An evil man is trapped by sinfulness of
lips,
but the righteous shall come out of
trouble.
14 A man shall be satisfied with good by
the fruit of his mouth.
The work of a man's hands shall be
rewarded to him.
15 The way of a fool is right in his own
eyes,
but he who is wise listens to counsel.
16 A fool shows his annoyance the same
day,
but one who overlooks an insult is
prudent.
17 He who is truthful testifies honestly,
but a false witness lies.
18 There is one who speaks rashly like the
piercing of a sword,
but the tongue of the wise heals.
19 Truth's lips will be established forever,
but a lying tongue is only momentary.
20 Deceit is in the heart of those who plot
evil,
but joy comes to the promoters of
peace.
21 No mischief shall happen to the
righteous,
but the wicked shall be filled with
evil.
22 Lying lips are an abomination to the
LORD,
but those who do the truth are his
delight.
23 A prudent man keeps his knowledge,
but the hearts of fools proclaim
foolishness.
24 The hands of the diligent ones shall rule,
but laziness ends in slave labor.
25 Anxiety in a man's heart weighs it
down,
but a kind word makes it glad.
26 A righteous person is cautious in
friendship,
but the way of the wicked leads them
astray.
27 The slothful man doesn't roast his game,
but the possessions of diligent men
are prized.
28 In the way of righteousness is life;
in its path there is no death.

13

1 A wise son listens to his father's
instruction,
but a scoffer doesn't listen to rebuke.
2 By the fruit of his lips, a man enjoys good
things,
but the unfaithful crave violence.
3 He who guards his mouth guards his
soul.
One who opens wide his lips comes to
ruin.
4 The soul of the sluggard desires, and has
nothing,
but the desire of the diligent shall be
fully satisfied.
5 A righteous man hates lies,
but a wicked man brings shame and
disgrace.
6 Righteousness guards the way of
integrity,
but wickedness overthrows the
sinner.
7 There are some who pretend to be rich,
yet have nothing.
There are some who pretend to be
poor, yet have great wealth.
8 The ransom of a man's life is his riches,
but the poor hear no threats.
9 The light of the righteous shines brightly,
but the lamp of the wicked is snuffed
out.
10 Pride only breeds quarrels,
but wisdom is with people who take
advice.
11 Wealth gained dishonestly dwindles
away,
but he who gathers by hand makes it
grow.
12 Hope deferred makes the heart sick,

but when longing is fulfilled, it is a
tree of life.
13 Whoever despises instruction will pay
for it,
but he who respects a command will
be rewarded.
14 The teaching of the wise is a spring of
life,
to turn from the snares of death.
15 Good understanding wins favor,
but the way of the unfaithful is hard.
16 Every prudent man acts from
knowledge,
but a fool exposes folly.
17 A wicked messenger falls into trouble,
but a trustworthy envoy gains
healing.
18 Poverty and shame come to him who
refuses discipline,
but he who heeds correction shall be
honored.
19 Longing fulfilled is sweet to the soul,
but fools detest turning from evil.
20 One who walks with wise men grows
wise,
but a companion of fools suffers
harm.
21 Misfortune pursues sinners,
but prosperity rewards the righteous.
22 A good man leaves an inheritance to his
children's children,
but the wealth of the sinner is stored
for the righteous.
23 An abundance of food is in poor
people's fields,
but injustice sweeps it away.
24 One who spares the rod hates his son,
but one who loves him is careful to
discipline him.
25 The righteous one eats to the satisfying
of his soul,
but the belly of the wicked goes
hungry.

14

1 Every wise woman builds her house,
but the foolish one tears it down with
her own hands.
2 He who walks in his uprightness fears
the LORD,
but he who is perverse in his ways
despises him.
3 The fool's talk brings a rod to his back,
but the lips of the wise protect them.
4 Where no oxen are, the crib is clean,
but much increase is by the strength
of the ox.
5 A truthful witness will not lie,
but a false witness pours out lies.
6 A scoffer seeks wisdom, and doesn't find
it,
but knowledge comes easily to a
discerning person.
7 Stay away from a foolish man,
for you won't find knowledge on his
lips.
8 The wisdom of the prudent is to think
about his way,
but the folly of fools is deceit.
9 Fools mock at making atonement for
sins,
but among the upright there is good
will.
10 The heart knows its own bitterness and
joy;
he will not share these with a
stranger.
11 The house of the wicked will be
overthrown,
but the tent of the upright will
flourish.
12 There is a way which seems right to a
man,
but in the end it leads to death.
13 Even in laughter the heart may be
sorrowful,
and mirth may end in heaviness.
14 The unfaithful will be repaid for his
own ways;
likewise a good man will be rewarded
for his ways.
15 A simple man believes everything,
but the prudent man carefully
considers his ways.
16 A wise man fears and shuns evil,
but the fool is hot headed and
reckless.
17 He who is quick to become angry will
commit folly,
and a crafty man is hated.
18 The simple inherit folly,
but the prudent are crowned with
knowledge.
19 The evil bow down before the good,

and the wicked at the gates of the
righteous.
20 The poor person is shunned even by his
own neighbor,
but the rich person has many friends.
21 He who despises his neighbor sins,
but he who has pity on the poor is
blessed.
22 Don't they go astray who plot evil?
But love and faithfulness belong to
those who plan good.
23 In all hard work there is profit,
but the talk of the lips leads only to
poverty.
24 The crown of the wise is their riches,
but the folly of fools crowns them
with folly.
25 A truthful witness saves souls,
but a false witness is deceitful.
26 In the fear of the LORD is a secure
fortress,
and he will be a refuge for his
children.
27 The fear of the LORD is a fountain of life,
turning people from the snares of
death.
28 In the multitude of people is the king's
glory,
but in the lack of people is the
destruction of the prince.
29 He who is slow to anger has great
understanding,
but he who has a quick temper
displays folly.
30 The life of the body is a heart at peace,
but envy rots the bones.
31 He who oppresses the poor shows
contempt for his Maker,
but he who is kind to the needy
honors him.
32 The wicked is brought down in his
calamity,
but in death, the righteous has a
refuge.
33 Wisdom rests in the heart of one who
has understanding,
and is even made known in the
inward part of fools.
34 Righteousness exalts a nation,
but sin is a disgrace to any people.
35 The king's favor is toward a servant
who deals wisely,
but his wrath is toward one who
causes shame.

15

1 A gentle answer turns away wrath,
but a harsh word stirs up anger.
2 The tongue of the wise commends
knowledge,
but the mouths of fools gush out folly.
3 The LORD's eyes are everywhere,
keeping watch on the evil and the
good.
4 A gentle tongue is a tree of life,
but deceit in it crushes the spirit.
5 A fool despises his father's correction,
but he who heeds reproof shows
prudence.
6 In the house of the righteous is much
treasure,
but the income of the wicked brings
trouble.
7 The lips of the wise spread knowledge;
not so with the heart of fools.
8 The sacrifice made by the wicked is an
abomination to the LORD,
but the prayer of the upright is his
delight.
9 The way of the wicked is an abomination
to the LORD,
but he loves him who follows after
righteousness.
10 There is stern discipline for one who
forsakes the way.
Whoever hates reproof shall die.
11 Sheol† and Abaddon are before the
LORD—
how much more then the hearts of
the children of men!
12 A scoffer doesn't love to be reproved;
he will not go to the wise.
13 A glad heart makes a cheerful face,
but an aching heart breaks the spirit.
14 The heart of one who has
understanding seeks knowledge,
but the mouths of fools feed on folly.
15 All the days of the afflicted are
wretched,
but one who has a cheerful heart
enjoys a continual feast.
16 Better is little, with the fear of the LORD,

† **15:11** Sheol is the place of the dead.

than great treasure with trouble.
17 Better is a dinner of herbs, where love is,
than a fattened calf with hatred.
18 A wrathful man stirs up contention,
but one who is slow to anger appeases strife.
19 The way of the sluggard is like a thorn patch,
but the path of the upright is a highway.
20 A wise son makes a father glad,
but a foolish man despises his mother.
21 Folly is joy to one who is void of wisdom,
but a man of understanding keeps his way straight.
22 Where there is no counsel, plans fail;
but in a multitude of counselors they are established.
23 Joy comes to a man with the reply of his mouth.
How good is a word at the right time!
24 The path of life leads upward for the wise,
to keep him from going downward to Sheol.‡
25 The LORD will uproot the house of the proud,
but he will keep the widow's borders intact.
26 The LORD detests the thoughts of the wicked,
but the thoughts of the pure are pleasing.
27 He who is greedy for gain troubles his own house,
but he who hates bribes will live.
28 The heart of the righteous weighs answers,
but the mouth of the wicked gushes out evil.
29 The LORD is far from the wicked,
but he hears the prayer of the righteous.
30 The light of the eyes rejoices the heart.
Good news gives health to the bones.
31 The ear that listens to reproof lives,
and will be at home among the wise.
32 He who refuses correction despises his own soul,
but he who listens to reproof gets understanding.
33 The fear of the LORD teaches wisdom.
Before honor is humility.

‡ **15:24** Sheol is the place of the dead.

16

1 The plans of the heart belong to man,
but the answer of the tongue is from the LORD.
2 All the ways of a man are clean in his own eyes,
but the LORD weighs the motives.
3 Commit your deeds to the LORD,
and your plans shall succeed.
4 The LORD has made everything for its own end—
yes, even the wicked for the day of evil.
5 Everyone who is proud in heart is an abomination to the LORD;
they shall certainly not be unpunished.
6 By mercy and truth iniquity is atoned for.
By the fear of the LORD men depart from evil.
7 When a man's ways please the LORD,
he makes even his enemies to be at peace with him.
8 Better is a little with righteousness,
than great revenues with injustice.
9 A man's heart plans his course,
but the LORD directs his steps.
10 Inspired judgments are on the lips of the king.
He shall not betray his mouth.
11 Honest balances and scales are the LORD's;
all the weights in the bag are his work.
12 It is an abomination for kings to do wrong,
for the throne is established by righteousness.
13 Righteous lips are the delight of kings.
They value one who speaks the truth.
14 The king's wrath is a messenger of death,
but a wise man will pacify it.
15 In the light of the king's face is life.

His favor is like a cloud of the spring rain.
16 How much better it is to get wisdom than gold!
Yes, to get understanding is to be chosen rather than silver.
17 The highway of the upright is to depart from evil.
He who keeps his way preserves his soul.
18 Pride goes before destruction,
and an arrogant spirit before a fall.
19 It is better to be of a lowly spirit with the poor,
than to divide the plunder with the proud.
20 He who heeds the Word finds prosperity.
Whoever trusts in the LORD is blessed.
21 The wise in heart shall be called prudent.
Pleasantness of the lips promotes instruction.
22 Understanding is a fountain of life to one who has it,
but the punishment of fools is their folly.
23 The heart of the wise instructs his mouth,
and adds learning to his lips.
24 Pleasant words are a honeycomb,
sweet to the soul, and health to the bones.
25 There is a way which seems right to a man,
but in the end it leads to death.
26 The appetite of the laboring man labors for him,
for his mouth urges him on.
27 A worthless man devises mischief.
His speech is like a scorching fire.
28 A perverse man stirs up strife.
A whisperer separates close friends.
29 A man of violence entices his neighbor,
and leads him in a way that is not good.
30 One who winks his eyes to plot perversities,
one who compresses his lips, is bent on evil.
31 Gray hair is a crown of glory.
It is attained by a life of righteousness.
32 One who is slow to anger is better than the mighty;
one who rules his spirit, than he who takes a city.
33 The lot is cast into the lap,
but its every decision is from the LORD.

17

1 Better is a dry morsel with quietness,
than a house full of feasting with strife.
2 A servant who deals wisely will rule over a son who causes shame,
and shall have a part in the inheritance among the brothers.
3 The refining pot is for silver, and the furnace for gold,
but the LORD tests the hearts.
4 An evildoer heeds wicked lips.
A liar gives ear to a mischievous tongue.
5 Whoever mocks the poor reproaches his Maker.
He who is glad at calamity shall not be unpunished.
6 Children's children are the crown of old men;
the glory of children is their parents.
7 Excellent speech isn't fitting for a fool,
much less do lying lips fit a prince.
8 A bribe is a precious stone in the eyes of him who gives it;
wherever he turns, he prospers.
9 He who covers an offense promotes love;
but he who repeats a matter separates best friends.
10 A rebuke enters deeper into one who has understanding
than a hundred lashes into a fool.
11 An evil man seeks only rebellion;
therefore a cruel messenger shall be sent against him.
12 Let a bear robbed of her cubs meet a man,
rather than a fool in his folly.
13 Whoever rewards evil for good,
evil shall not depart from his house.
14 The beginning of strife is like breaching a dam,
therefore stop contention before quarreling breaks out.

15 He who justifies the wicked, and he who
condemns the righteous,
both of them alike are an
abomination to the LORD.
16 Why is there money in the hand of a
fool to buy wisdom,
since he has no understanding?
17 A friend loves at all times;
and a brother is born for adversity.
18 A man void of understanding strikes
hands,
and becomes collateral in the
presence of his neighbor.
19 He who loves disobedience loves strife.
One who builds a high gate seeks
destruction.
20 One who has a perverse heart doesn't
find prosperity,
and one who has a deceitful tongue
falls into trouble.
21 He who becomes the father of a fool
grieves.
The father of a fool has no joy.
22 A cheerful heart makes good medicine,
but a crushed spirit dries up the
bones.
23 A wicked man receives a bribe in secret,
to pervert the ways of justice.
24 Wisdom is before the face of one who
has understanding,
but the eyes of a fool wander to the
ends of the earth.
25 A foolish son brings grief to his father,
and bitterness to her who bore him.
26 Also to punish the righteous is not good,
nor to flog officials for their integrity.
27 He who spares his words has
knowledge.
He who is even tempered is a man of
understanding.
28 Even a fool, when he keeps silent, is
counted wise.
When he shuts his lips, he is thought
to be discerning.

18

1 A man who isolates himself pursues
selfishness,
and defies all sound judgment.
2 A fool has no delight in understanding,
but only in revealing his own opinion.
3 When wickedness comes, contempt also
comes,
and with shame comes disgrace.
4 The words of a man's mouth are like
deep waters.
The fountain of wisdom is like a
flowing brook.
5 To be partial to the faces of the wicked is
not good,
nor to deprive the innocent of justice.
6 A fool's lips come into strife,
and his mouth invites beatings.
7 A fool's mouth is his destruction,
and his lips are a snare to his soul.
8 The words of a gossip are like dainty
morsels:
they go down into a person's
innermost parts.
9 One who is slack in his work
is brother to him who is a master of
destruction.
10 The LORD's name is a strong tower:
the righteous run to him, and are safe.
11 The rich man's wealth is his strong city,
like an unscalable wall in his own
imagination.
12 Before destruction the heart of man is
proud,
but before honor is humility.
13 He who answers before he hears,
that is folly and shame to him.
14 A man's spirit will sustain him in
sickness,
but a crushed spirit, who can bear?
15 The heart of the discerning gets
knowledge.
The ear of the wise seeks knowledge.
16 A man's gift makes room for him,
and brings him before great men.
17 He who pleads his cause first seems
right—
until another comes and questions
him.
18 The lot settles disputes,
and keeps strong ones apart.
19 A brother offended is more difficult
than a fortified city.
Disputes are like the bars of a fortress.
20 A man's stomach is filled with the fruit
of his mouth.
With the harvest of his lips he is
satisfied.
21 Death and life are in the power of the
tongue;
those who love it will eat its fruit.

22 Whoever finds a wife finds a good thing,
and obtains favor of the LORD.
23 The poor plead for mercy,
but the rich answer harshly.
24 A man of many companions may be
ruined,
but there is a friend who sticks closer
than a brother.

19

1 Better is the poor who walks in his
integrity
than he who is perverse in his lips
and is a fool.
2 It isn't good to have zeal without
knowledge,
nor to be hasty with one's feet and
miss the way.
3 The foolishness of man subverts his way;
his heart rages against the LORD.
4 Wealth adds many friends,
but the poor is separated from his
friend.
5 A false witness shall not be unpunished.
He who pours out lies shall not go
free.
6 Many will entreat the favor of a ruler,
and everyone is a friend to a man
who gives gifts.
7 All the relatives of the poor shun him;
how much more do his friends avoid
him!
He pursues them with pleas, but they
are gone.
8 He who gets wisdom loves his own soul.
He who keeps understanding shall
find good.
9 A false witness shall not be unpunished.
He who utters lies shall perish.
10 Delicate living is not appropriate for a
fool,
much less for a servant to have rule
over princes.
11 The discretion of a man makes him slow
to anger.
It is his glory to overlook an offense.
12 The king's wrath is like the roaring of a
lion,
but his favor is like dew on the grass.
13 A foolish son is the calamity of his
father.
A wife's quarrels are a continual
dripping.
14 House and riches are an inheritance
from fathers,
but a prudent wife is from the LORD.
15 Slothfulness casts into a deep sleep.
The idle soul shall suffer hunger.
16 He who keeps the commandment keeps
his soul,
but he who is contemptuous in his
ways shall die.
17 He who has pity on the poor lends to the
LORD;
he will reward him.
18 Discipline your son, for there is hope;
don't be a willing party to his death.
19 A hot-tempered man must pay the
penalty,
for if you rescue him, you must do it
again.
20 Listen to counsel and receive
instruction,
that you may be wise in your latter
end.
21 There are many plans in a man's heart,
but the LORD's counsel will prevail.
22 That which makes a man to be desired
is his kindness.
A poor man is better than a liar.
23 The fear of the LORD leads to life, then
contentment;
he rests and will not be touched by
trouble.
24 The sluggard buries his hand in the
dish;
he will not so much as bring it to his
mouth again.
25 Flog a scoffer, and the simple will learn
prudence;
rebuke one who has understanding,
and he will gain knowledge.
26 He who robs his father and drives away
his mother
is a son who causes shame and brings
reproach.
27 If you stop listening to instruction, my
son,
you will stray from the words of
knowledge.
28 A corrupt witness mocks justice,
and the mouth of the wicked gulps
down iniquity.
29 Penalties are prepared for scoffers,
and beatings for the backs of fools.

20

1 Wine is a mocker and beer is a brawler.
Whoever is led astray by them is not wise.
2 The terror of a king is like the roaring of a lion.
He who provokes him to anger forfeits his own life.
3 It is an honor for a man to keep aloof from strife,
but every fool will be quarreling.
4 The sluggard will not plow by reason of the winter;
therefore he shall beg in harvest, and have nothing.
5 Counsel in the heart of man is like deep water,
but a man of understanding will draw it out.
6 Many men claim to be men of unfailing love,
but who can find a faithful man?
7 A righteous man walks in integrity.
Blessed are his children after him.
8 A king who sits on the throne of judgment
scatters away all evil with his eyes.
9 Who can say, "I have made my heart pure.
I am clean and without sin"?
10 Differing weights and differing measures,
both of them alike are an abomination to the LORD.
11 Even a child makes himself known by his doings,
whether his work is pure, and whether it is right.
12 The hearing ear, and the seeing eye,
the LORD has made even both of them.
13 Don't love sleep, lest you come to poverty.
Open your eyes, and you shall be satisfied with bread.
14 "It's no good, it's no good," says the buyer;
but when he is gone his way, then he boasts.
15 There is gold and abundance of rubies,
but the lips of knowledge are a rare jewel.
16 Take the garment of one who puts up collateral for a stranger;
and hold him in pledge for a wayward woman.
17 Fraudulent food is sweet to a man,
but afterwards his mouth is filled with gravel.
18 Plans are established by advice;
by wise guidance you wage war!
19 He who goes about as a tale-bearer reveals secrets;
therefore don't keep company with him who opens wide his lips.
20 Whoever curses his father or his mother,
his lamp shall be put out in blackness of darkness.
21 An inheritance quickly gained at the beginning
won't be blessed in the end.
22 Don't say, "I will pay back evil."
Wait for the LORD, and he will save you.
23 The LORD detests differing weights,
and dishonest scales are not pleasing.
24 A man's steps are from the LORD;
how then can man understand his way?
25 It is a snare to a man to make a rash dedication,
then later to consider his vows.
26 A wise king winnows out the wicked,
and drives the threshing wheel over them.
27 The spirit of man is the LORD's lamp,
searching all his innermost parts.
28 Love and faithfulness keep the king safe.
His throne is sustained by love.
29 The glory of young men is their strength.
The splendor of old men is their gray hair.
30 Wounding blows cleanse away evil,
and beatings purge the innermost parts.

21

1 The king's heart is in the LORD's hand like the watercourses.
He turns it wherever he desires.
2 Every way of a man is right in his own eyes,
but the LORD weighs the hearts.

3 To do righteousness and justice
is more acceptable to the LORD than sacrifice.
4 A high look and a proud heart,
the lamp of the wicked, is sin.
5 The plans of the diligent surely lead to profit;
and everyone who is hasty surely rushes to poverty.
6 Getting treasures by a lying tongue
is a fleeting vapor for those who seek death.
7 The violence of the wicked will drive them away,
because they refuse to do what is right.
8 The way of the guilty is devious,
but the conduct of the innocent is upright.
9 It is better to dwell in the corner of the housetop
than to share a house with a contentious woman.
10 The soul of the wicked desires evil;
his neighbor finds no mercy in his eyes.
11 When the mocker is punished, the simple gains wisdom.
When the wise is instructed, he receives knowledge.
12 The Righteous One considers the house of the wicked,
and brings the wicked to ruin.
13 Whoever stops his ears at the cry of the poor,
he will also cry out, but shall not be heard.
14 A gift in secret pacifies anger,
and a bribe in the cloak, strong wrath.
15 It is joy to the righteous to do justice;
but it is a destruction to the workers of iniquity.
16 The man who wanders out of the way of understanding
shall rest in the assembly of the departed spirits.
17 He who loves pleasure will be a poor man.
He who loves wine and oil won't be rich.
18 The wicked is a ransom for the righteous,
the treacherous for the upright.
19 It is better to dwell in a desert land,
than with a contentious and fretful woman.
20 There is precious treasure and oil in the dwelling of the wise,
but a foolish man swallows it up.
21 He who follows after righteousness and kindness
finds life, righteousness, and honor.
22 A wise man scales the city of the mighty,
and brings down the strength of its confidence.
23 Whoever guards his mouth and his tongue
keeps his soul from troubles.
24 The proud and arrogant man—"Scoffer" is his name—
he works in the arrogance of pride.
25 The desire of the sluggard kills him,
for his hands refuse to labor.
26 There are those who covet greedily all day long;
but the righteous give and don't withhold.
27 The sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination—
how much more, when he brings it with a wicked mind!
28 A false witness will perish.
A man who listens speaks to eternity.
29 A wicked man hardens his face;
but as for the upright, he establishes his ways.
30 There is no wisdom nor understanding
nor counsel against the LORD.
31 The horse is prepared for the day of battle;
but victory is with the LORD.

22

1 A good name is more desirable than great riches,
and loving favor is better than silver and gold.
2 The rich and the poor have this in common:
The LORD is the maker of them all.
3 A prudent man sees danger and hides himself;
but the simple pass on, and suffer for it.

4 The result of humility and the fear of the LORD
is wealth, honor, and life.
5 Thorns and snares are in the path of the wicked;
whoever guards his soul stays far from them.
6 Train up a child in the way he should go,
and when he is old he will not depart from it.
7 The rich rule over the poor.
The borrower is servant to the lender.
8 He who sows wickedness reaps trouble,
and the rod of his fury will be destroyed.
9 He who has a generous eye will be blessed,
for he shares his food with the poor.
10 Drive out the mocker, and strife will go out;
yes, quarrels and insults will stop.
11 He who loves purity of heart and speaks gracefully
is the king's friend.
12 The LORD's eyes watch over knowledge,
but he frustrates the words of the unfaithful.
13 The sluggard says, "There is a lion outside!
I will be killed in the streets!"
14 The mouth of an adulteress is a deep pit.
He who is under the LORD's wrath will fall into it.
15 Folly is bound up in the heart of a child;
the rod of discipline drives it far from him.
16 Whoever oppresses the poor for his own increase and whoever gives to the rich,
both come to poverty.

17 Turn your ear, and listen to the words of the wise.
Apply your heart to my teaching.
18 For it is a pleasant thing if you keep them within you,
if all of them are ready on your lips.
19 I teach you today, even you,
so that your trust may be in the LORD.
20 Haven't I written to you thirty excellent things
of counsel and knowledge,
21 To teach you truth, reliable words,
to give sound answers to the ones who sent you?

22 Don't exploit the poor because he is poor;
and don't crush the needy in court;
23 for the LORD will plead their case,
and plunder the life of those who plunder them.

24 Don't befriend a hot-tempered man.
Don't associate with one who harbors anger,
25 lest you learn his ways
and ensnare your soul.

26 Don't you be one of those who strike hands,
of those who are collateral for debts.
27 If you don't have means to pay,
why should he take away your bed from under you?

28 Don't move the ancient boundary stone which your fathers have set up.

29 Do you see a man skilled in his work?
He will serve kings.
He won't serve obscure men.

23

1 When you sit to eat with a ruler,
consider diligently what is before you;
2 put a knife to your throat
if you are a man given to appetite.
3 Don't be desirous of his dainties,
since they are deceitful food.
4 Don't weary yourself to be rich.
In your wisdom, show restraint.
5 Why do you set your eyes on that which is not?
For it certainly sprouts wings like an eagle and flies in the sky.
6 Don't eat the food of him who has a stingy eye,
and don't crave his delicacies,
7 for as he thinks about the cost, so he is.
"Eat and drink!" he says to you,
but his heart is not with you.

8 You will vomit up the morsel which you
have eaten
and waste your pleasant words.

9 Don't speak in the ears of a fool,
for he will despise the wisdom of your
words.

10 Don't move the ancient boundary stone.
Don't encroach on the fields of the
fatherless,
11 for their Defender is strong.
He will plead their case against you.

12 Apply your heart to instruction,
and your ears to the words of
knowledge.
13 Don't withhold correction from a child.
If you punish him with the rod, he
will not die.
14 Punish him with the rod,
and save his soul from Sheol.†

15 My son, if your heart is wise,
then my heart will be glad, even mine.
16 Yes, my heart will rejoice
when your lips speak what is right.
17 Don't let your heart envy sinners,
but rather fear the LORD all day long.
18 Indeed surely there is a future hope,
and your hope will not be cut off.
19 Listen, my son, and be wise,
and keep your heart on the right path!
20 Don't be among ones drinking too much
wine,
or those who gorge themselves on
meat;
21 for the drunkard and the glutton shall
become poor;
and drowsiness clothes them in rags.
22 Listen to your father who gave you life,
and don't despise your mother when
she is old.
23 Buy the truth, and don't sell it.
Get wisdom, discipline, and
understanding.
24 The father of the righteous has great joy.
Whoever fathers a wise child delights
in him.
25 Let your father and your mother be
glad!
Let her who bore you rejoice!
26 My son, give me your heart;
and let your eyes keep in my ways.
27 For a prostitute is a deep pit;
and a wayward wife is a narrow well.
28 Yes, she lies in wait like a robber,
and increases the unfaithful among
men.

29 Who has woe?
Who has sorrow?
Who has strife?
Who has complaints?
Who has needless bruises?
Who has bloodshot eyes?
30 Those who stay long at the wine;
those who go to seek out mixed wine.
31 Don't look at the wine when it is red,
when it sparkles in the cup,
when it goes down smoothly.
32 In the end, it bites like a snake,
and poisons like a viper.
33 Your eyes will see strange things,
and your mind will imagine
confusing things.
34 Yes, you will be as he who lies down in
the middle of the sea,
or as he who lies on top of the rigging:
35 "They hit me, and I was not hurt!
They beat me, and I don't feel it!
When will I wake up? I can do it
again.
I will look for more."

24

1 Don't be envious of evil men,
neither desire to be with them;
2 for their hearts plot violence
and their lips talk about mischief.
3 Through wisdom a house is built;
by understanding it is established;
4 by knowledge the rooms are filled
with all rare and beautiful treasure.
5 A wise man has great power.
A knowledgeable man increases
strength,
6 for by wise guidance you wage your war,
and victory is in many advisors.
7 Wisdom is too high for a fool.
He doesn't open his mouth in the gate.

† **23:14** Sheol is the place of the dead.

8 One who plots to do evil
will be called a schemer.
9 The schemes of folly are sin.
The mocker is detested by men.
10 If you falter in the time of trouble,
your strength is small.
11 Rescue those who are being led away to death!
Indeed, hold back those who are staggering to the slaughter!
12 If you say, “Behold, we didn’t know this,”
doesn’t he who weighs the hearts consider it?
He who keeps your soul, doesn’t he know it?
Shall he not give to every man according to his work?
13 My son, eat honey, for it is good,
the droppings of the honeycomb, which are sweet to your taste;
14 so you shall know wisdom to be to your soul.
If you have found it, then there will be a reward:
Your hope will not be cut off.
15 Don’t lay in wait, wicked man, against the habitation of the righteous.
Don’t destroy his resting place;
16 for a righteous man falls seven times and rises up again,
but the wicked are overthrown by calamity.
17 Don’t rejoice when your enemy falls.
Don’t let your heart be glad when he is overthrown,
18 lest the LORD see it, and it displease him,
and he turn away his wrath from him.
19 Don’t fret yourself because of evildoers,
neither be envious of the wicked;
20 for there will be no reward to the evil man.
The lamp of the wicked will be snuffed out.
21 My son, fear the LORD and the king.
Don’t join those who are rebellious,
22 for their calamity will rise suddenly.
Who knows what destruction may come from them both?

23 These also are sayings of the wise:
To show partiality in judgment is not good.
24 He who says to the wicked, “You are righteous,”
peoples will curse him, and nations will abhor him—
25 but it will go well with those who convict the guilty,
and a rich blessing will come on them.
26 An honest answer
is like a kiss on the lips.
27 Prepare your work outside,
and get your fields ready.
Afterwards, build your house.
28 Don’t be a witness against your neighbor without cause.
Don’t deceive with your lips.
29 Don’t say, “I will do to him as he has done to me;
I will repay the man according to his work.”
30 I went by the field of the sluggard,
by the vineyard of the man void of understanding.
31 Behold, it was all grown over with thorns.
Its surface was covered with nettles,
and its stone wall was broken down.
32 Then I saw, and considered well.
I saw, and received instruction:
33 a little sleep, a little slumber,
a little folding of the hands to sleep,
34 so your poverty will come as a robber
and your want as an armed man.

25

1 These also are proverbs of Solomon, which the men of Hezekiah king of Judah copied out.
2 It is the glory of God to conceal a thing,
but the glory of kings is to search out a matter.
3 As the heavens for height, and the earth for depth,
so the hearts of kings are unsearchable.
4 Take away the dross from the silver,
and material comes out for the refiner.
5 Take away the wicked from the king’s presence,
and his throne will be established in righteousness.

6 Don't exalt yourself in the presence of the king,
or claim a place among great men;
7 for it is better that it be said to you, "Come up here,"
than that you should be put lower in the presence of the prince,
whom your eyes have seen.
8 Don't be hasty in bringing charges to court.
What will you do in the end when your neighbor shames you?
9 Debate your case with your neighbor,
and don't betray the confidence of another,
10 lest one who hears it put you to shame,
and your bad reputation never depart.

11 A word fitly spoken
is like apples of gold in settings of silver.
12 As an earring of gold, and an ornament of fine gold,
so is a wise reprover to an obedient ear.
13 As the cold of snow in the time of harvest,
so is a faithful messenger to those who send him;
for he refreshes the soul of his masters.
14 As clouds and wind without rain,
so is he who boasts of gifts deceptively.
15 By patience a ruler is persuaded.
A soft tongue breaks the bone.
16 Have you found honey?
Eat as much as is sufficient for you,
lest you eat too much, and vomit it.
17 Let your foot be seldom in your neighbor's house,
lest he be weary of you, and hate you.
18 A man who gives false testimony against his neighbor
is like a club, a sword, or a sharp arrow.
19 Confidence in someone unfaithful in time of trouble
is like a bad tooth or a lame foot.
20 As one who takes away a garment in cold weather,
or vinegar on soda,
so is one who sings songs to a heavy heart.
21 If your enemy is hungry, give him food to eat.
If he is thirsty, give him water to drink;
22 for you will heap coals of fire on his head,
and the LORD will reward you.
23 The north wind produces rain;
so a backbiting tongue brings an angry face.
24 It is better to dwell in the corner of the housetop
than to share a house with a contentious woman.
25 Like cold water to a thirsty soul,
so is good news from a far country.
26 Like a muddied spring and a polluted well,
so is a righteous man who gives way before the wicked.
27 It is not good to eat much honey,
nor is it honorable to seek one's own honor.
28 Like a city that is broken down and without walls
is a man whose spirit is without restraint.

26

1 Like snow in summer, and as rain in harvest,
so honor is not fitting for a fool.
2 Like a fluttering sparrow,
like a darting swallow,
so the undeserved curse doesn't come to rest.
3 A whip is for the horse,
a bridle for the donkey,
and a rod for the back of fools!
4 Don't answer a fool according to his folly,
lest you also be like him.
5 Answer a fool according to his folly,
lest he be wise in his own eyes.
6 One who sends a message by the hand of a fool
is cutting off feet and drinking violence.
7 Like the legs of the lame that hang loose,
so is a parable in the mouth of fools.
8 As one who binds a stone in a sling,
so is he who gives honor to a fool.

9 Like a thorn bush that goes into the hand
of a drunkard,
so is a parable in the mouth of fools.
10 As an archer who wounds all,
so is he who hires a fool
or he who hires those who pass by.
11 As a dog that returns to his vomit,
so is a fool who repeats his folly.
12 Do you see a man wise in his own eyes?
There is more hope for a fool than for
him.
13 The sluggard says, “There is a lion in the
road!
A fierce lion roams the streets!”
14 As the door turns on its hinges,
so does the sluggard on his bed.
15 The sluggard buries his hand in the
dish.
He is too lazy to bring it back to his
mouth.
16 The sluggard is wiser in his own eyes
than seven men who answer with
discretion.
17 Like one who grabs a dog’s ears
is one who passes by and meddles in a
quarrel not his own.
18 Like a madman who shoots torches,
arrows, and death,
19 is the man who deceives his
neighbor and says, “Am I not
joking?”
20 For lack of wood a fire goes out.
Without gossip, a quarrel dies down.
21 As coals are to hot embers,
and wood to fire,
so is a contentious man to kindling
strife.
22 The words of a whisperer are as dainty
morsels,
they go down into the innermost
parts.
23 Like silver dross on an earthen vessel
are the lips of a fervent one with an
evil heart.
24 A malicious man disguises himself with
his lips,
but he harbors evil in his heart.
25 When his speech is charming, don’t
believe him,
for there are seven abominations in
his heart.
26 His malice may be concealed by
deception,
but his wickedness will be exposed in
the assembly.
27 Whoever digs a pit shall fall into it.
Whoever rolls a stone, it will come
back on him.
28 A lying tongue hates those it hurts;
and a flattering mouth works ruin.

27

1 Don’t boast about tomorrow;
for you don’t know what a day may
bring.
2 Let another man praise you,
and not your own mouth;
a stranger, and not your own lips.
3 A stone is heavy,
and sand is a burden;
but a fool’s provocation is heavier
than both.
4 Wrath is cruel,
and anger is overwhelming;
but who is able to stand before
jealousy?
5 Better is open rebuke
than hidden love.
6 The wounds of a friend are faithful,
although the kisses of an enemy are
profuse.
7 A full soul loathes a honeycomb;
but to a hungry soul, every bitter
thing is sweet.
8 As a bird that wanders from her nest,
so is a man who wanders from his
home.
9 Perfume and incense bring joy to the
heart;
so does earnest counsel from a man’s
friend.
10 Don’t forsake your friend and your
father’s friend.
Don’t go to your brother’s house in
the day of your disaster.
A neighbor who is near is better than
a distant brother.
11 Be wise, my son,
and bring joy to my heart,
then I can answer my tormentor.
12 A prudent man sees danger and takes
refuge;
but the simple pass on, and suffer for
it.
13 Take his garment when he puts up
collateral for a stranger.

Hold it for a wayward woman!
14 He who blesses his neighbor with a loud
voice early in the morning,
it will be taken as a curse by him.
15 A continual dropping on a rainy day
and a contentious wife are alike:
16 restraining her is like restraining the
wind,
or like grasping oil in his right hand.

17 Iron sharpens iron;
so a man sharpens his friend's
countenance.
18 Whoever tends the fig tree shall eat its
fruit.
He who looks after his master shall be
honored.
19 Like water reflects a face,
so a man's heart reflects the man.
20 Sheol† and Abaddon are never satisfied;
and a man's eyes are never satisfied.
21 The crucible is for silver,
and the furnace for gold;
but man is refined by his praise.
22 Though you grind a fool in a mortar
with a pestle along with grain,
yet his foolishness will not be
removed from him.

23 Know well the state of your flocks,
and pay attention to your herds,
24 for riches are not forever,
nor does the crown endure to all
generations.
25 The hay is removed, and the new
growth appears,
the grasses of the hills are gathered in.
26 The lambs are for your clothing,
and the goats are the price of a field.
27 There will be plenty of goats' milk for
your food,
for your family's food,
and for the nourishment of your
servant girls.

28

1 The wicked flee when no one pursues;
but the righteous are as bold as a lion.
2 In rebellion, a land has many rulers,
but order is maintained by a man of
understanding and knowledge.
3 A needy man who oppresses the poor
is like a driving rain which leaves no
crops.
4 Those who forsake the law praise the
wicked;
but those who keep the law contend
with them.
5 Evil men don't understand justice;
but those who seek the LORD
understand it fully.
6 Better is the poor who walks in his
integrity
than he who is perverse in his ways,
and he is rich.
7 Whoever keeps the law is a wise son;
but he who is a companion of gluttons
shames his father.
8 He who increases his wealth by
excessive interest
gathers it for one who has pity on the
poor.
9 He who turns away his ear from hearing
the law,
even his prayer is an abomination.
10 Whoever causes the upright to go astray
in an evil way,
he will fall into his own trap;
but the blameless will inherit good.
11 The rich man is wise in his own eyes;
but the poor who has understanding
sees through him.
12 When the righteous triumph, there is
great glory;
but when the wicked rise, men hide
themselves.
13 He who conceals his sins doesn't
prosper,
but whoever confesses and
renounces them finds mercy.
14 Blessed is the man who always fears;
but one who hardens his heart falls
into trouble.
15 As a roaring lion or a charging bear,
so is a wicked ruler over helpless
people.
16 A tyrannical ruler lacks judgment.
One who hates ill-gotten gain will
have long days.
17 A man who is tormented by blood guilt
will be a fugitive until death.
No one will support him.

† **27:20** Sheol is the place of the dead.

18 Whoever walks blamelessly is kept safe;
but one with perverse ways will fall suddenly.
19 One who works his land will have an abundance of food;
but one who chases fantasies will have his fill of poverty.
20 A faithful man is rich with blessings;
but one who is eager to be rich will not go unpunished.
21 To show partiality is not good,
yet a man will do wrong for a piece of bread.
22 A stingy man hurries after riches,
and doesn't know that poverty waits for him.
23 One who rebukes a man will afterward find more favor
than one who flatters with the tongue.
24 Whoever robs his father or his mother and says, "It's not wrong,"
is a partner with a destroyer.
25 One who is greedy stirs up strife;
but one who trusts in the LORD will prosper.
26 One who trusts in himself is a fool;
but one who walks in wisdom is kept safe.
27 One who gives to the poor has no lack;
but one who closes his eyes will have many curses.
28 When the wicked rise, men hide themselves;
but when they perish, the righteous thrive.

29

1 He who is often rebuked and stiffens his neck
will be destroyed suddenly, with no remedy.
2 When the righteous thrive, the people rejoice;
but when the wicked rule, the people groan.
3 Whoever loves wisdom brings joy to his father;
but a companion of prostitutes squanders his wealth.
4 The king by justice makes the land stable,
but he who takes bribes tears it down.
5 A man who flatters his neighbor
spreads a net for his feet.
6 An evil man is snared by his sin,
but the righteous can sing and be glad.
7 The righteous care about justice for the poor.
The wicked aren't concerned about knowledge.
8 Mockers stir up a city,
but wise men turn away anger.
9 If a wise man goes to court with a foolish man,
the fool rages or scoffs, and there is no peace.
10 The bloodthirsty hate a man of integrity;
and they seek the life of the upright.
11 A fool vents all of his anger,
but a wise man brings himself under control.
12 If a ruler listens to lies,
all of his officials are wicked.
13 The poor man and the oppressor have this in common:
The LORD gives sight to the eyes of both.
14 The king who fairly judges the poor,
his throne shall be established forever.
15 The rod of correction gives wisdom,
but a child left to himself causes shame to his mother.
16 When the wicked increase, sin increases;
but the righteous will see their downfall.
17 Correct your son, and he will give you peace;
yes, he will bring delight to your soul.
18 Where there is no revelation, the people cast off restraint;
but one who keeps the law is blessed.
19 A servant can't be corrected by words.
Though he understands, yet he will not respond.
20 Do you see a man who is hasty in his words?
There is more hope for a fool than for him.
21 He who pampers his servant from youth
will have him become a son in the end.
22 An angry man stirs up strife,
and a wrathful man abounds in sin.

23 A man's pride brings him low,
but one of lowly spirit gains honor.
24 Whoever is an accomplice of a thief is
an enemy of his own soul.
He takes an oath, but dares not testify.
25 The fear of man proves to be a snare,
but whoever puts his trust in the
LORD is kept safe.
26 Many seek the ruler's favor,
but a man's justice comes from the
LORD.
27 A dishonest man detests the righteous,
and the upright in their ways detest
the wicked.

30

1 The words of Agur the son of Jakeh, the
revelation:
the man says to Ithiel,
to Ithiel and Ucal:
2 "Surely I am the most ignorant man,
and don't have a man's
understanding.
3 I have not learned wisdom,
neither do I have the knowledge of
the Holy One.
4 Who has ascended up into heaven, and
descended?
Who has gathered the wind in his
fists?
Who has bound the waters in his
garment?
Who has established all the ends of
the earth?
What is his name, and what is his
son's name, if you know?

5 "Every word of God is flawless.
He is a shield to those who take refuge
in him.
6 Don't you add to his words,
lest he reprove you, and you be found
a liar.

7 "Two things I have asked of you.
Don't deny me before I die.
8 Remove far from me falsehood and lies.
Give me neither poverty nor riches.
Feed me with the food that is needful
for me,
9 lest I be full, deny you, and say, 'Who is
the LORD?'
or lest I be poor, and steal,
and so dishonor the name of my God.

10 "Don't slander a servant to his master,
lest he curse you, and you be held
guilty.

11 There is a generation that curses their
father,
and doesn't bless their mother.
12 There is a generation that is pure in
their own eyes,
yet are not washed from their
filthiness.
13 There is a generation, oh how lofty are
their eyes!
Their eyelids are lifted up.
14 There is a generation whose teeth are
like swords,
and their jaws like knives,
to devour the poor from the earth,
and the needy from among men.

15 "The leech has two daughters:
'Give, give.'

"There are three things that are never
satisfied;
four that don't say, 'Enough!':
16 Sheol,†
the barren womb,
the earth that is not satisfied with
water,
and the fire that doesn't say, 'Enough!'

17 "The eye that mocks at his father,
and scorns obedience to his mother,
the ravens of the valley shall pick it
out,
the young eagles shall eat it.

18 "There are three things which are too
amazing for me,
four which I don't understand:
19 The way of an eagle in the air,
the way of a serpent on a rock,
the way of a ship in the middle of the
sea,
and the way of a man with a maiden.

20 "So is the way of an adulterous woman:
She eats and wipes her mouth,

† **30:16** Sheol is the place of the dead.

and says, ‘I have done nothing wrong.’

21 “For three things the earth trembles,
and under four, it can’t bear up:
22 For a servant when he is king,
a fool when he is filled with food,
23 for an unloved woman when she is married,
and a servant who is heir to her mistress.

24 “There are four things which are little on the earth,
but they are exceedingly wise:
25 The ants are not a strong people,
yet they provide their food in the summer.
26 The hyraxes are but a feeble folk,
yet make they their houses in the rocks.
27 The locusts have no king,
yet they advance in ranks.
28 You can catch a lizard with your hands,
yet it is in kings’ palaces.

29 “There are three things which are stately in their march,
four which are stately in going:
30 The lion, which is mightiest among animals,
and doesn’t turn away for any;
31 the greyhound;
the male goat;
and the king against whom there is no rising up.

32 “If you have done foolishly in lifting up yourself,
or if you have thought evil,
put your hand over your mouth.
33 For as the churning of milk produces butter,
and the wringing of the nose produces blood,
so the forcing of wrath produces strife.”

31

1 The words of King Lemuel—the revelation which his mother taught him:

2 “Oh, my son!
Oh, son of my womb!
Oh, son of my vows!
3 Don’t give your strength to women,
nor your ways to that which destroys kings.
4 It is not for kings, Lemuel,
it is not for kings to drink wine,
nor for princes to say, ‘Where is strong drink?’
5 lest they drink, and forget the law,
and pervert the justice due to anyone who is afflicted.
6 Give strong drink to him who is ready to perish,
and wine to the bitter in soul.
7 Let him drink, and forget his poverty,
and remember his misery no more.
8 Open your mouth for the mute,
in the cause of all who are left desolate.
9 Open your mouth, judge righteously,
and serve justice to the poor and needy.”

10 †Who can find a worthy woman?
For her value is far above rubies.
11 The heart of her husband trusts in her.
He shall have no lack of gain.
12 She does him good, and not harm,
all the days of her life.
13 She seeks wool and flax,
and works eagerly with her hands.
14 She is like the merchant ships.
She brings her bread from afar.
15 She rises also while it is yet night,
gives food to her household,
and portions for her servant girls.
16 She considers a field, and buys it.
With the fruit of her hands, she plants a vineyard.
17 She arms her waist with strength,
and makes her arms strong.
18 She perceives that her merchandise is profitable.
Her lamp doesn’t go out by night.
19 She lays her hands to the distaff,
and her hands hold the spindle.
20 She opens her arms to the poor;

† **31:10** Proverbs 31:10-31 form an acrostic, with each verse starting with each letter of the Hebrew alphabet, in order.

yes, she extends her hands to the needy.
21 She is not afraid of the snow for her household,
for all her household are clothed with scarlet.
22 She makes for herself carpets of tapestry.
Her clothing is fine linen and purple.
23 Her husband is respected in the gates,
when he sits among the elders of the land.
24 She makes linen garments and sells them,
and delivers sashes to the merchant.
25 Strength and dignity are her clothing.
She laughs at the time to come.
26 She opens her mouth with wisdom.
Kind instruction is on her tongue.
27 She looks well to the ways of her household,
and doesn't eat the bread of idleness.
28 Her children rise up and call her blessed.
Her husband also praises her:
29 "Many women do noble things,
but you excel them all."
30 Charm is deceitful, and beauty is vain;
but a woman who fears the LORD, she shall be praised.
31 Give her of the fruit of her hands!
Let her works praise her in the gates!

Ecclesiastes
or, The Preacher

1 The words of the Preacher, the son of
David, king in Jerusalem:
2 "Vanity of vanities," says the Preacher;
"Vanity of vanities, all is vanity."
3 What does man gain from all his labor
in which he labors under the sun?
4 One generation goes, and another
generation comes; but the earth remains
forever.
5 The sun also rises, and the sun goes
down, and hurries to its place where it
rises.
6 The wind goes toward the south, and
turns around to the north. It turns around
continually as it goes, and the wind
returns again to its courses.
7 All the rivers run into the sea, yet the
sea is not full. To the place where the
rivers flow, there they flow again.
8 All things are full of weariness beyond
uttering. The eye is not satisfied with
seeing, nor the ear filled with hearing.
9 That which has been is that which
shall be, and that which has been done is
that which shall be done; and there is no
new thing under the sun.
10 Is there a thing of which it may be
said, "Behold,† this is new"? It has been
long ago, in the ages which were before
us.
11 There is no memory of the former;
neither shall there be any memory of the
latter that are to come, among those that
shall come after.
12 I, the Preacher, was king over Israel
in Jerusalem.
13 I applied my heart to seek and to
search out by wisdom concerning all that
is done under the sky. It is a heavy burden
that God‡ has given to the sons of men to
be afflicted with.
14 I have seen all the works that are
done under the sun; and behold, all is
vanity and a chasing after wind.
15 That which is crooked can't be made
straight; and that which is lacking can't be
counted.
16 I said to myself, "Behold, I have
obtained for myself great wisdom above
all who were before me in Jerusalem. Yes,
my heart has had great experience of
wisdom and knowledge."
17 I applied my heart to know wisdom,
and to know madness and folly. I
perceived that this also was a chasing
after wind.
18 For in much wisdom is much grief;
and he who increases knowledge
increases sorrow.

2

1 I said in my heart, "Come now, I will
test you with mirth; therefore enjoy
pleasure;" and behold, this also was
vanity.
2 I said of laughter, "It is foolishness;"
and of mirth, "What does it accomplish?"
3 I searched in my heart how to cheer
my flesh with wine, my heart yet guiding
me with wisdom, and how to lay hold of
folly, until I might see what it was good
for the sons of men that they should do
under heaven all the days of their lives.
4 I made myself great works. I built
myself houses. I planted myself
vineyards.
5 I made myself gardens and parks, and
I planted trees in them of all kinds of fruit.
6 I made myself pools of water, to water
the forest where trees were grown.
7 I bought male servants and female
servants, and had servants born in my
house. I also had great possessions of
herds and flocks, above all who were
before me in Jerusalem.
8 I also gathered silver and gold for
myself, and the treasure of kings and of
the provinces. I got myself male and
female singers, and the delights of the
sons of men: musical instruments of all
sorts.

† **1:10** "Behold", from "הִנֵּה", means look at, take notice, observe, see, or gaze at. It is often used as an interjection.
‡ **1:13** The Hebrew word rendered "God" is "אֱלֹהִים" (Elohim).

9 So I was great, and increased more
than all who were before me in Jerusalem.
My wisdom also remained with me.
10 Whatever my eyes desired, I didn't
keep from them. I didn't withhold my
heart from any joy, for my heart rejoiced
because of all my labor, and this was my
portion from all my labor.
11 Then I looked at all the works that my
hands had worked, and at the labor that I
had labored to do; and behold, all was
vanity and a chasing after wind, and there
was no profit under the sun.
12 I turned myself to consider wisdom,
madness, and folly; for what can the
king's successor do? Just that which has
been done long ago.
13 Then I saw that wisdom excels folly,
as far as light excels darkness.
14 The wise man's eyes are in his head,
and the fool walks in darkness—and yet I
perceived that one event happens to them
all.
15 Then I said in my heart, "As it happens
to the fool, so will it happen even to me;
and why was I then more wise?" Then I
said in my heart that this also is vanity.
16 For of the wise man, even as of the
fool, there is no memory forever, since in
the days to come all will have been long
forgotten. Indeed, the wise man must die
just like the fool!
17 So I hated life, because the work that
is worked under the sun was grievous to
me; for all is vanity and a chasing after
wind.
18 I hated all my labor in which I
labored under the sun, because I must
leave it to the man who comes after me.
19 Who knows whether he will be a wise
man or a fool? Yet he will have rule over
all of my labor in which I have labored,
and in which I have shown myself wise
under the sun. This also is vanity.
20 Therefore I began to cause my heart
to despair concerning all the labor in
which I had labored under the sun.
21 For there is a man whose labor is with
wisdom, with knowledge, and with
skillfulness; yet he shall leave it for his
portion to a man who has not labored for
it. This also is vanity and a great evil.
22 For what does a man have of all his
labor and of the striving of his heart, in
which he labors under the sun?
23 For all his days are sorrows, and his
travail is grief; yes, even in the night his
heart takes no rest. This also is vanity.
24 There is nothing better for a man
than that he should eat and drink, and
make his soul enjoy good in his labor. This
also I saw, that it is from the hand of God.
25 For who can eat, or who can have
enjoyment, more than I?
26 For to the man who pleases him, God
gives wisdom, knowledge, and joy; but to
the sinner he gives travail, to gather and
to heap up, that he may give to him who
pleases God. This also is vanity and a
chasing after wind.

3

1 For everything there is a season, and a
time for every purpose under heaven:
2 a time to be born,
and a time to die;
a time to plant,
and a time to pluck up that which is
planted;
3 a time to kill,
and a time to heal;
a time to break down,
and a time to build up;
4 a time to weep,
and a time to laugh;
a time to mourn,
and a time to dance;
5 a time to cast away stones,
and a time to gather stones together;
a time to embrace,
and a time to refrain from embracing;
6 a time to seek,
and a time to lose;
a time to keep,
and a time to cast away;
7 a time to tear,
and a time to sew;
a time to keep silence,
and a time to speak;
8 a time to love,
and a time to hate;
a time for war,
and a time for peace.

9 What profit has he who works in that
in which he labors?
10 I have seen the burden which God has
given to the sons of men to be afflicted
with.
11 He has made everything beautiful in
its time. He has also set eternity in their
hearts, yet so that man can't find out the
work that God has done from the
beginning even to the end.
12 I know that there is nothing better for
them than to rejoice, and to do good as
long as they live.
13 Also that every man should eat and
drink, and enjoy good in all his labor, is
the gift of God.
14 I know that whatever God does, it
shall be forever. Nothing can be added to
it, nor anything taken from it; and God has
done it, that men should fear before him.
15 That which is has been long ago, and
that which is to be has been long ago. God
seeks again that which is passed away.
16 Moreover I saw under the sun, in the
place of justice, that wickedness was
there; and in the place of righteousness,
that wickedness was there.
17 I said in my heart, "God will judge the
righteous and the wicked; for there is a
time there for every purpose and for
every work."
18 I said in my heart, "As for the sons of
men, God tests them, so that they may see
that they themselves are like animals.
19 For that which happens to the sons of
men happens to animals. Even one thing
happens to them. As the one dies, so the
other dies. Yes, they have all one breath;
and man has no advantage over the
animals, for all is vanity.
20 All go to one place. All are from the
dust, and all turn to dust again.
21 Who knows the spirit of man,
whether it goes upward, and the spirit of
the animal, whether it goes downward to
the earth?"
22 Therefore I saw that there is nothing
better than that a man should rejoice in
his works, for that is his portion; for who
can bring him to see what will be after
him?

4

1 Then I returned and saw all the
oppressions that are done under the sun:
and behold, the tears of those who were
oppressed, and they had no comforter;
and on the side of their oppressors there
was power; but they had no comforter.
2 Therefore I praised the dead who have
been long dead more than the living who
are yet alive.
3 Yes, better than them both is him who
has not yet been, who has not seen the evil
work that is done under the sun.
4 Then I saw all the labor and
achievement that is the envy of a man's
neighbor. This also is vanity and a
striving after wind.
5 The fool folds his hands together and
ruins himself.
6 Better is a handful, with quietness,
than two handfuls with labor and chasing
after wind.
7 Then I returned and saw vanity under
the sun.
8 There is one who is alone, and he has
neither son nor brother. There is no end
to all of his labor, neither are his eyes
satisfied with wealth. "For whom then do
I labor and deprive my soul of
enjoyment?" This also is vanity. Yes, it is a
miserable business.
9 Two are better than one, because they
have a good reward for their labor.
10 For if they fall, the one will lift up his
fellow; but woe to him who is alone when
he falls, and doesn't have another to lift
him up.
11 Again, if two lie together, then they
have warmth; but how can one keep
warm alone?
12 If a man prevails against one who is
alone, two shall withstand him; and a
threefold cord is not quickly broken.
13 Better is a poor and wise youth than
an old and foolish king who doesn't know
how to receive admonition any more.
14 For out of prison he came out to be
king; yes, even in his kingdom he was
born poor.
15 I saw all the living who walk under
the sun, that they were with the youth, the
other, who succeeded him.

16 There was no end of all the people,
even of all them over whom he was—yet
those who come after shall not rejoice in
him. Surely this also is vanity and a
chasing after wind.

5

1 Guard your steps when you go to God's
house; for to draw near to listen is better
than to give the sacrifice of fools, for they
don't know that they do evil.
2 Don't be rash with your mouth, and
don't let your heart be hasty to utter
anything before God; for God is in heaven,
and you on earth. Therefore let your
words be few.
3 For as a dream comes with a multitude
of cares, so a fool's speech with a
multitude of words.
4 When you vow a vow to God, don't
defer to pay it; for he has no pleasure in
fools. Pay that which you vow.
5 It is better that you should not vow,
than that you should vow and not pay.
6 Don't allow your mouth to lead you
into sin. Don't protest before the
messenger that this was a mistake. Why
should God be angry at your voice, and
destroy the work of your hands?
7 For in the multitude of dreams there
are vanities, as well as in many words; but
you must fear God.
8 If you see the oppression of the poor,
and the violent taking away of justice and
righteousness in a district, don't marvel at
the matter, for one official is eyed by a
higher one, and there are officials over
them.
9 Moreover the profit of the earth is for
all. The king profits from the field.
10 He who loves silver shall not be
satisfied with silver, nor he who loves
abundance, with increase. This also is
vanity.
11 When goods increase, those who eat
them are increased; and what advantage
is there to its owner, except to feast on
them with his eyes?
12 The sleep of a laboring man is sweet,
whether he eats little or much; but the
abundance of the rich will not allow him
to sleep.
13 There is a grievous evil which I have
seen under the sun: wealth kept by its
owner to his harm.
14 Those riches perish by misfortune,
and if he has fathered a son, there is
nothing in his hand.
15 As he came out of his mother's womb,
naked shall he go again as he came, and
shall take nothing for his labor, which he
may carry away in his hand.
16 This also is a grievous evil, that in all
points as he came, so shall he go. And
what profit does he have who labors for
the wind?
17 All his days he also eats in darkness,
he is frustrated, and has sickness and
wrath.
18 Behold, that which I have seen to be
good and proper is for one to eat and to
drink, and to enjoy good in all his labor, in
which he labors under the sun, all the
days of his life which God has given him;
for this is his portion.
19 Every man also to whom God has
given riches and wealth, and has given
him power to eat of it, and to take his
portion, and to rejoice in his labor—this is
the gift of God.
20 For he shall not often reflect on the
days of his life, because God occupies him
with the joy of his heart.

6

1 There is an evil which I have seen
under the sun, and it is heavy on men:
2 a man to whom God gives riches,
wealth, and honor, so that he lacks
nothing for his soul of all that he desires,
yet God gives him no power to eat of it,
but an alien eats it. This is vanity, and it is
an evil disease.
3 If a man fathers a hundred children,
and lives many years, so that the days of
his years are many, but his soul is not
filled with good, and moreover he has no
burial, I say that a stillborn child is better
than he;
4 for it comes in vanity, and departs in
darkness, and its name is covered with
darkness.
5 Moreover it has not seen the sun nor
known it. This has rest rather than the
other.

6 Yes, though he live a thousand years
twice told, and yet fails to enjoy good,
don't all go to one place?
7 All the labor of man is for his mouth,
and yet the appetite is not filled.
8 For what advantage has the wise more
than the fool? What has the poor man,
that knows how to walk before the living?
9 Better is the sight of the eyes than the
wandering of the desire. This also is
vanity and a chasing after wind.
10 Whatever has been, its name was
given long ago; and it is known what man
is; neither can he contend with him who is
mightier than he.
11 For there are many words that create
vanity. What does that profit man?
12 For who knows what is good for man
in life, all the days of his vain life which he
spends like a shadow? For who can tell a
man what will be after him under the
sun?

7

1 A good name is better than fine
perfume; and the day of death better than
the day of one's birth.
2 It is better to go to the house of
mourning than to go to the house of
feasting; for that is the end of all men, and
the living should take this to heart.
3 Sorrow is better than laughter; for by
the sadness of the face the heart is made
good.
4 The heart of the wise is in the house of
mourning; but the heart of fools is in the
house of mirth.
5 It is better to hear the rebuke of the
wise than for a man to hear the song of
fools.
6 For as the crackling of thorns under a
pot, so is the laughter of the fool. This also
is vanity.
7 Surely extortion makes the wise man
foolish; and a bribe destroys the
understanding.
8 Better is the end of a thing than its
beginning.

The patient in spirit is better than the
proud in spirit.

9 Don't be hasty in your spirit to be
angry, for anger rests in the bosom of
fools.
10 Don't say, "Why were the former days
better than these?" For you do not ask
wisely about this.
11 Wisdom is as good as an inheritance.
Yes, it is more excellent for those who see
the sun.
12 For wisdom is a defense, even as
money is a defense; but the excellency of
knowledge is that wisdom preserves the
life of him who has it.
13 Consider the work of God, for who
can make that straight which he has made
crooked?
14 In the day of prosperity be joyful, and
in the day of adversity consider; yes, God
has made the one side by side with the
other, to the end that man should not find
out anything after him.
15 All this I have seen in my days of
vanity: there is a righteous man who
perishes in his righteousness, and there is
a wicked man who lives long in his
evildoing.
16 Don't be overly righteous, neither
make yourself overly wise. Why should
you destroy yourself?
17 Don't be too wicked, neither be
foolish. Why should you die before your
time?
18 It is good that you should take hold of
this. Yes, also don't withdraw your hand
from that; for he who fears God will come
out of them all.
19 Wisdom is a strength to the wise man
more than ten rulers who are in a city.
20 Surely there is not a righteous man on
earth who does good and doesn't sin.
21 Also don't take heed to all words that
are spoken, lest you hear your servant
curse you;
22 for often your own heart knows that
you yourself have likewise cursed others.
23 All this I have proved in wisdom. I
said, "I will be wise;" but it was far from
me.
24 That which is, is far off and
exceedingly deep. Who can find it out?
25 I turned around, and my heart sought
to know and to search out, and to seek

wisdom and the scheme of things, and to know that wickedness is stupidity, and that foolishness is madness.
26 I find more bitter than death the woman whose heart is snares and traps, whose hands are chains. Whoever pleases God shall escape from her; but the sinner will be ensnared by her.
27 "Behold, I have found this," says the Preacher, "to one another, to find an explanation
28 which my soul still seeks, but I have not found. I have found one man among a thousand, but I have not found a woman among all those.
29 Behold, I have only found this: that God made mankind upright; but they search for many inventions."

8

1 Who is like the wise man? And who knows the interpretation of a thing? A man's wisdom makes his face shine, and the hardness of his face is changed.
2 I say, "Keep the king's command!" because of the oath to God.
3 Don't be hasty to go out of his presence. Don't persist in an evil thing, for he does whatever pleases him,
4 for the king's word is supreme. Who can say to him, "What are you doing?"
5 Whoever keeps the commandment shall not come to harm, and his wise heart will know the time and procedure.
6 For there is a time and procedure for every purpose, although the misery of man is heavy on him.
7 For he doesn't know that which will be; for who can tell him how it will be?
8 There is no man who has power over the spirit to contain the spirit; neither does he have power over the day of death. There is no discharge in war; neither shall wickedness deliver those who practice it.
9 All this I have seen, and applied my mind to every work that is done under the sun. There is a time in which one man has power over another to his hurt.
10 So I saw the wicked buried. Indeed they came also from holiness. They went and were forgotten in the city where they did this. This also is vanity.
11 Because sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily, therefore the heart of the sons of men is fully set in them to do evil.
12 Though a sinner commits crimes a hundred times, and lives long, yet surely I know that it will be better with those who fear God, who are reverent before him.
13 But it shall not be well with the wicked, neither shall he lengthen days like a shadow, because he doesn't fear God.
14 There is a vanity which is done on the earth, that there are righteous men to whom it happens according to the work of the wicked. Again, there are wicked men to whom it happens according to the work of the righteous. I said that this also is vanity.
15 Then I commended mirth, because a man has no better thing under the sun than to eat, to drink, and to be joyful: for that will accompany him in his labor all the days of his life which God has given him under the sun.
16 When I applied my heart to know wisdom, and to see the business that is done on the earth (even though eyes see no sleep day or night),
17 then I saw all the work of God, that man can't find out the work that is done under the sun, because however much a man labors to seek it out, yet he won't find it. Yes even though a wise man thinks he can comprehend it, he won't be able to find it.

9

1 For all this I laid to my heart, even to explore all this: that the righteous, and the wise, and their works, are in the hand of God; whether it is love or hatred, man doesn't know it; all is before them.
2 All things come alike to all. There is one event to the righteous and to the wicked; to the good, to the clean, to the unclean, to him who sacrifices, and to him who doesn't sacrifice. As is the good, so is the sinner; he who takes an oath, as he who fears an oath.
3 This is an evil in all that is done under the sun, that there is one event to all. Yes also, the heart of the sons of men is full of evil, and madness is in their heart while

they live, and after that they go to the dead.
4 For to him who is joined with all the living there is hope; for a living dog is better than a dead lion.
5 For the living know that they will die, but the dead don't know anything, neither do they have any more a reward; for their memory is forgotten.
6 Also their love, their hatred, and their envy has perished long ago; neither do they any longer have a portion forever in anything that is done under the sun.
7 Go your way—eat your bread with joy, and drink your wine with a merry heart; for God has already accepted your works.
8 Let your garments be always white, and don't let your head lack oil.
9 Live joyfully with the wife whom you love all the days of your life of vanity, which he has given you under the sun, all your days of vanity, for that is your portion in life, and in your labor in which you labor under the sun.
10 Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with your might; for there is no work, nor plan, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in Sheol,† where you are going.
11 I returned and saw under the sun that the race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong, neither yet bread to the wise, nor yet riches to men of understanding, nor yet favor to men of skill; but time and chance happen to them all.
12 For man also doesn't know his time. As the fish that are taken in an evil net, and as the birds that are caught in the snare, even so are the sons of men snared in an evil time, when it falls suddenly on them.
13 I have also seen wisdom under the sun in this way, and it seemed great to me.
14 There was a little city, and few men within it; and a great king came against it, besieged it, and built great bulwarks against it.
15 Now a poor wise man was found in it, and he by his wisdom delivered the city; yet no man remembered that same poor man.
16 Then I said, "Wisdom is better than strength." Nevertheless the poor man's wisdom is despised, and his words are not heard.
17 The words of the wise heard in quiet are better than the cry of him who rules among fools.
18 Wisdom is better than weapons of war; but one sinner destroys much good.

10

1 Dead flies cause the oil of the perfumer
to produce an evil odor;
so does a little folly outweigh wisdom
and honor.
2 A wise man's heart is at his right hand,
but a fool's heart at his left.
3 Yes also when the fool walks by the way, his understanding fails him, and he says to everyone that he is a fool.
4 If the spirit of the ruler rises up against you, don't leave your place; for gentleness lays great offenses to rest.
5 There is an evil which I have seen under the sun, the sort of error which proceeds from the ruler.
6 Folly is set in great dignity, and the rich sit in a low place.
7 I have seen servants on horses, and princes walking like servants on the earth.
8 He who digs a pit may fall into it; and whoever breaks through a wall may be bitten by a snake.
9 Whoever carves out stones may be injured by them. Whoever splits wood may be endangered by it.
10 If the ax is blunt, and one doesn't sharpen the edge, then he must use more strength; but skill brings success.
11 If the snake bites before it is charmed, then is there no profit for the charmer's tongue.
12 The words of a wise man's mouth are gracious; but a fool is swallowed by his own lips.
13 The beginning of the words of his mouth is foolishness; and the end of his talk is mischievous madness.
14 A fool also multiplies words.

† **9:10** Sheol is the place of the dead.

Man doesn't know what will be; and
that which will be after him, who can tell
him?
15 The labor of fools wearies every one
of them; for he doesn't know how to go to
the city.
16 Woe to you, land, when your king is a
child,
and your princes eat in the morning!
17 Happy are you, land, when your king is
the son of nobles,
and your princes eat in due season,
for strength, and not for
drunkenness!
18 By slothfulness the roof sinks in;
and through idleness of the hands the
house leaks.
19 A feast is made for laughter,
and wine makes the life glad;
and money is the answer for all
things.
20 Don't curse the king, no, not in your
thoughts;
and don't curse the rich in your
bedroom,
for a bird of the sky may carry your
voice,
and that which has wings may tell the
matter.

11

1 Cast your bread on the waters;
for you shall find it after many days.
2 Give a portion to seven, yes, even to
eight;
for you don't know what evil will be
on the earth.
3 If the clouds are full of rain, they empty
themselves on the earth;
and if a tree falls toward the south, or
toward the north,
in the place where the tree falls, there
shall it be.
4 He who observes the wind won't sow;
and he who regards the clouds won't
reap.
5 As you don't know what is the way of the
wind,
nor how the bones grow in the womb
of her who is with child;
even so you don't know the work of
God who does all.
6 In the morning sow your seed,
and in the evening don't withhold
your hand;
for you don't know which will
prosper, whether this or that,
or whether they both will be equally
good.
7 Truly the light is sweet,
and it is a pleasant thing for the eyes
to see the sun.
8 Yes, if a man lives many years, let him
rejoice in them all;
but let him remember the days of
darkness, for they shall be many.
All that comes is vanity.
9 Rejoice, young man, in your youth,
and let your heart cheer you in the
days of your youth,
and walk in the ways of your heart,
and in the sight of your eyes;
but know that for all these things God
will bring you into judgment.
10 Therefore remove sorrow from your
heart,
and put away evil from your flesh;
for youth and the dawn of life are
vanity.

12

1 Remember also your Creator in the
days of your youth,
before the evil days come, and the
years draw near,
when you will say, "I have no
pleasure in them;"
2 Before the sun, the light, the moon, and
the stars are darkened,
and the clouds return after the rain;
3 in the day when the keepers of the house
shall tremble,
and the strong men shall bow
themselves,
and the grinders cease because they
are few,
and those who look out of the
windows are darkened,
4 and the doors shall be shut in the street;
when the sound of the grinding is low,
and one shall rise up at the voice of a
bird,
and all the daughters of music shall
be brought low;

5 yes, they shall be afraid of heights,
and terrors will be on the way;
and the almond tree shall blossom,
and the grasshopper shall be a burden,
and desire shall fail;
because man goes to his everlasting home,
and the mourners go about the streets;
6 before the silver cord is severed,
or the golden bowl is broken,
or the pitcher is broken at the spring,
or the wheel broken at the cistern,
7 and the dust returns to the earth as it was,
and the spirit returns to God who gave it.
8 "Vanity of vanities," says the Preacher.
"All is vanity!"

9 Further, because the Preacher was wise, he still taught the people knowledge. Yes, he pondered, sought out, and set in order many proverbs.

10 The Preacher sought to find out acceptable words, and that which was written blamelessly, words of truth.

11 The words of the wise are like goads; and like nails well fastened are words from the masters of assemblies, which are given from one shepherd.

12 Furthermore, my son, be admonished: of making many books there is no end; and much study is a weariness of the flesh.

13 This is the end of the matter. All has been heard. Fear God and keep his commandments; for this is the whole duty of man.

14 For God will bring every work into judgment, with every hidden thing, whether it is good, or whether it is evil.

The Song of Solomon

1 The Song of songs, which is Solomon's.
Beloved
2 Let him kiss me with the kisses of his mouth;
for your love is better than wine.
3 Your oils have a pleasing fragrance.
Your name is oil poured out,
therefore the virgins love you.
4 Take me away with you.
Let's hurry.
The king has brought me into his rooms.
Friends
We will be glad and rejoice in you.
We will praise your love more than wine!
Beloved
They are right to love you.
5 I am dark, but lovely,
you daughters of Jerusalem,
like Kedar's tents,
like Solomon's curtains.
6 Don't 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.
I haven't kept my own vineyard.
7 Tell me, you whom my soul loves,
where you graze your flock,
where you rest them at noon;
for why should I be as one who is veiled
beside the flocks of your companions?
Lover
8 If you don't know, most beautiful among women,
follow the tracks of the sheep.
Graze your young goats beside the shepherds' tents.

9 I have compared you, my love,
to a steed in Pharaoh's chariots.
10 Your cheeks are beautiful with earrings,
your neck with strings of jewels.
Friends
11 We will make you earrings of gold,
with studs of silver.
Beloved
12 While the king sat at his table,
my perfume spread its fragrance.
13 My beloved is to me a sachet of myrrh,
that lies between my breasts.
14 My beloved is to me a cluster of henna blossoms
from the vineyards of En Gedi.
Lover
15 Behold,† you are beautiful, my love.
Behold, you are beautiful.
Your eyes are like doves.
Beloved
16 Behold, you are beautiful, my beloved,
yes, pleasant;
and our couch is verdant.
Lover
17 The beams of our house are cedars.
Our rafters are firs.

2

Beloved
1 I am a rose of Sharon,
a lily of the valleys.
Lover
2 As a lily among thorns,
so is my love among the daughters.
Beloved
3 As the apple tree among the trees of the wood,
so is my beloved among the sons.
I sat down under his shadow with great delight,
his fruit was sweet to my taste.
4 He brought me to the banquet hall.
His banner over me is love.
5 Strengthen me with raisins,
refresh me with apples;
for I am faint with love.
6 His left hand is under my head.
His right hand embraces me.
7 I adjure you, daughters of Jerusalem,
by the roes, or by the hinds of the field,
that you not stir up, nor awaken love,
until it so desires.

8 The voice of my beloved!
Behold, he comes,
leaping on the mountains,
skipping on the hills.

† **1:15** "Behold", from "הִנֵּה", means look at, take notice, observe, see, or gaze at. It is often used as an interjection.

9 My beloved is like a roe or a young deer.
Behold, he stands behind our wall!
He looks in at the windows.
He glances through the lattice.

10 My beloved spoke, and said to me,
"Rise up, my love, my beautiful one,
and come away.
11 For behold, the winter is past.
The rain is over and gone.
12 The flowers appear on the earth.
The time of the singing has come,
and the voice of the turtledove is
heard in our land.
13 The fig tree ripens her green figs.
The vines are in blossom.
They give out their fragrance.
Arise, my love, my beautiful one,
and come away."
Lover
14 My dove in the clefts of the rock,
in the hiding places of the
mountainside,
let me see your face.
Let me hear your voice;
for your voice is sweet and your face
is lovely.
15 Catch for us the foxes,
the little foxes that plunder the
vineyards;
for our vineyards are in blossom.
Beloved
16 My beloved is mine, and I am his.
He browses among the lilies.
17 Until the day is cool, and the shadows
flee away,
turn, my beloved,
and be like a roe or a young deer on
the mountains of Bether.

3

1 By night on my bed,
I sought him whom my soul loves.
I sought him, but I didn't find him.
2 I will get up now, and go about the city;
in the streets and in the squares I will
seek him whom my soul loves.
I sought him, but I didn't find him.
3 The watchmen who go about the city
found me;
"Have you seen him whom my soul
loves?"
4 I had scarcely passed from them,
when 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 room of her who conceived
me.

5 I adjure you, daughters of Jerusalem,
by the roes, or by the hinds of the
field,
that you not stir up nor awaken love,
until it so desires.

6 Who is this who comes up from the
wilderness like pillars of smoke,
perfumed with myrrh and
frankincense,
with all spices of the merchant?
7 Behold, it is Solomon's carriage!
Sixty mighty men are around it,
of the mighty men of Israel.
8 They all handle the sword, and are
expert in war.
Every man has his sword on his thigh,
because of fear in the night.

9 King Solomon made himself a carriage
of the wood of Lebanon.
10 He made its pillars of silver,
its bottom of gold, its seat of purple,
the middle of it being paved with love,
from the daughters of Jerusalem.
11 Go out, you daughters of Zion, and see
King Solomon,
with the crown with which his
mother has crowned him,
in the day of his weddings,
in the day of the gladness of his heart.

4

Lover
1 Behold, you are beautiful, my love.
Behold, you are beautiful.
Your eyes are like doves behind your veil.
Your hair is as a flock of goats,
that descend from Mount Gilead.
2 Your teeth are like a newly shorn flock,
which have come up from the
washing,
where every one of them has twins.
None is bereaved among them.

3 Your lips are like scarlet thread.
Your mouth is lovely.
Your temples are like a piece of a
pomegranate behind your veil.
4 Your neck is like David's tower built for
an armory,
on which a thousand shields hang,
all the shields of the mighty men.
5 Your two breasts are like two fawns
that are twins of a roe,
which feed among the lilies.

6 Until the day is cool, and the shadows
flee away,
I will go to the mountain of myrrh,
to the hill of frankincense.

7 You are all beautiful, my love.
There is no spot in you.
8 Come with me from Lebanon, my bride,
with me from Lebanon.
Look from the top of Amana,
from the top of Senir and Hermon,
from the lions' dens,
from the mountains of the leopards.

9 You have ravished my heart, my sister,
my bride.
You have ravished my heart with one
of your eyes,
with one chain of your neck.
10 How beautiful is your love, my sister,
my bride!
How much better is your love than
wine,
the fragrance of your perfumes than
all kinds of spices!
11 Your lips, my bride, drip like the
honeycomb.
Honey and milk are under your
tongue.
The smell of your garments is like the
smell of Lebanon.
12 My sister, my bride, is a locked up
garden;
a locked up spring,
a sealed fountain.
13 Your shoots are an orchard of
pomegranates, with precious fruits,
henna with spikenard plants,
14 spikenard and saffron,
calamus and cinnamon, with every
kind of incense tree;
myrrh and aloes, with all the best
spices,
15 a fountain of gardens,
a well of living waters,
flowing streams from Lebanon.
Beloved
16 Awake, north wind, and come, you
south!
Blow on my garden, that its spices
may flow out.
Let my beloved come into his garden,
and taste his precious fruits.

5

Lover
1 I have come into my garden, my sister,
my bride.
I have gathered my myrrh with my
spice;
I have eaten my honeycomb with my
honey;
I have drunk my wine with my milk.
Friends
Eat, friends!
Drink, yes, drink abundantly,
beloved.
Beloved
2 I was asleep, but my heart was awake.
It is the voice of my beloved who
knocks:
"Open to me, my sister, my love, my
dove, my undefiled;
for my head is filled with dew,
and my hair with the dampness of the
night."
3 I have taken off my robe. Indeed, must I
put it on?
I have washed my feet. Indeed, must I
soil them?
4 My beloved thrust his hand in through
the latch opening.
My heart pounded for him.
5 I rose up to open for my beloved.
My hands dripped with myrrh,
my fingers with liquid myrrh,
on the handles of the lock.
6 I opened to my beloved;
but my beloved left, and had gone
away.
My heart went out when he spoke.

I looked for him, but I didn't find him.
I called him, but he didn't answer.
7 The watchmen who go about the city
found me.
They beat me.
They bruised me.
The keepers of the walls took my
cloak away from me.

8 I adjure you, daughters of Jerusalem,
If you find my beloved,
that you tell him that I am faint with
love.
Friends
9 How is your beloved better than another
beloved,
you fairest among women?
How is your beloved better than another
beloved,
that you do so adjure us?
Beloved
10 My beloved is white and ruddy.
The best among ten thousand.
11 His head is like the purest gold.
His hair is bushy, black as a raven.
12 His eyes are like doves beside the water
brooks,
washed with milk, mounted like
jewels.
13 His cheeks are like a bed of spices with
towers of perfumes.
His lips are like lilies, dropping liquid
myrrh.
14 His hands are like rings of gold set with
beryl.
His body is like ivory work overlaid
with sapphires.
15 His legs are like pillars of marble set on
sockets of fine gold.
His appearance is like Lebanon,
excellent as the cedars.
16 His mouth is sweetness;
yes, he is altogether lovely.
This is my beloved, and this is my friend,
daughters of Jerusalem.

6

Friends
1 Where has your beloved gone, you
fairest among women?
Where has your beloved turned, that
we may seek him with you?
Beloved
2 My beloved has gone down to his garden,
to the beds of spices,
to pasture his flock in the gardens,
and to gather lilies.
3 I am my beloved's, and my beloved is
mine.
He browses among the lilies.

Lover
4 You are beautiful, my love, as Tirzah,
lovely as Jerusalem,
awesome as an army with banners.
5 Turn away your eyes from me,
for they have overcome me.
Your hair is like a flock of goats,
that lie along the side of Gilead.
6 Your teeth are like a flock of ewes,
which have come up from the
washing,
of which every one has twins;
not one is bereaved among them.
7 Your temples are like a piece of a
pomegranate behind your veil.

8 There are sixty queens, eighty
concubines,
and virgins without number.
9 My dove, my perfect one, is unique.
She is her mother's only daughter.
She is the favorite one of her who
bore her.
The daughters saw her, and called her
blessed.
The queens and the concubines saw
her, and they praised her.

10 Who is she who looks out as the
morning,
beautiful as the moon,
clear as the sun,
and awesome as an army with
banners?

11 I went down into the nut tree grove,
to see the green plants of the valley,
to see whether the vine budded,
and the pomegranates were in flower.
12 Without realizing it,

my desire set me with my royal
people's chariots.
Friends
13 Return, return, Shulammite!
Return, return, that we may gaze at
you.
Lover
Why do you desire to gaze at the
Shulammite,
as at the dance of Mahanaim?

7

1 How beautiful are your feet in sandals,
prince's daughter!
Your rounded thighs are like jewels,
the work of the hands of a skillful
workman.
2 Your body is like a round goblet,
no mixed wine is wanting.
Your waist is like a heap of wheat,
set about with lilies.
3 Your two breasts are like two fawns,
that are twins of a roe.
4 Your neck is like an ivory tower.
Your eyes are like the pools in
Heshbon by the gate of Bathrabbim.
Your nose is like the tower of Lebanon
which looks toward Damascus.
5 Your head on you is like Carmel.
The hair of your head like purple.
The king is held captive in its tresses.
6 How beautiful and how pleasant you are,
love, for delights!
7 This, your stature, is like a palm tree,
your breasts like its fruit.
8 I said, "I will climb up into the palm tree.
I will take hold of its fruit."
Let your breasts be like clusters of the
vine,
the smell of your breath like apples.
9 Your mouth is like the best wine,
that goes down smoothly for my
beloved,
gliding through the lips of those who
are asleep.
Beloved
10 I am my beloved's.
His desire is toward me.
11 Come, my beloved! Let's go out into the
field.
Let's lodge in the villages.
12 Let's go early up to the vineyards.
Let's see whether the vine has
budded,
its blossom is open,
and the pomegranates are in flower.
There I will give you my love.
13 The mandrakes produce fragrance.
At our doors are all kinds of precious
fruits, new and old,
which I have stored up for you, my
beloved.

8

1 Oh that you were like my brother,
who nursed from the breasts of my
mother!
If I found you outside, I would kiss you;
yes, and no one would despise me.
2 I would lead you, bringing you into the
house of my mother,
who would instruct me.
I would have you drink spiced wine,
of the juice of my pomegranate.
3 His left hand would be under my head.
His right hand would embrace me.

4 I adjure you, daughters of Jerusalem,
that you not stir up, nor awaken love,
until it so desires.
Friends
5 Who is this who comes up from the
wilderness,
leaning on her beloved?

Beloved
Under the apple tree I awakened you.
There your mother conceived you.
There she was in labor and bore you.

6 Set me as a seal on your heart,
as a seal on your arm;
for love is strong as death.
Jealousy is as cruel as Sheol.†
Its flashes are flashes of fire,
a very flame of the LORD.‡
7 Many waters can't quench love,
neither can floods drown it.
If a man would give all the wealth of his
house for love,
he would be utterly scorned.
Brothers
8 We have a little sister.
She has no breasts.

† **8:6** Sheol is the place of the dead. ‡ **8:6** Hebrew: יהּ Yah

What shall we do for our sister
in the day when she is to be spoken
for?

9 If she is a wall,
we will build on her a turret of silver.
If she is a door,
we will enclose her with boards of
cedar.
Beloved
10 I am a wall, and my breasts like towers,
then I was in his eyes like one who
found peace.
11 Solomon had a vineyard at Baal Hamon.
He leased out the vineyard to keepers.
Each was to bring a thousand
shekels§ of silver for its fruit.
12 My own vineyard is before me.
The thousand are for you, Solomon,
two hundred for those who tend its
fruit.
Lover
13 You who dwell in the gardens, with
friends in attendance,
let me hear your voice!
Beloved
14 Come away, my beloved!
Be like a gazelle or a young stag on
the mountains of spices!

§ **8:11** A shekel is about 10 grams or about 0.35 ounces, so 1000 shekels is about 10 kilograms or about 22 pounds.

The Book of the Prophet Isaiah

1 The vision of Isaiah the son of Amoz,
which he saw concerning Judah and
Jerusalem, in the days of Uzziah, Jotham,
Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah.
2 Hear, heavens,
and listen, earth; for the LORD† has
spoken:
"I have nourished and brought up
children
and they have rebelled against me.
3 The ox knows his owner,
and the donkey his master's crib;
but Israel doesn't know.
My people don't consider."
4 Ah sinful nation,
a people loaded with iniquity,
offspring‡ of evildoers,
children who deal corruptly!
They have forsaken the LORD.
They have despised the Holy One of
Israel.
They are estranged and backward.
5 Why should you be beaten more,
that you revolt more and more?
The whole head is sick,
and the whole heart faint.
6 From the sole of the foot even to the head
there is no soundness in it,
but wounds, welts, and open sores.
They haven't been closed, bandaged,
or soothed with oil.
7 Your country is desolate.
Your cities are burned with fire.
Strangers devour your land in your
presence
and it is desolate,
as overthrown by strangers.
8 The daughter of Zion is left like a shelter
in a vineyard,
like a hut in a field of melons,
like a besieged city.
9 Unless the LORD of Armies had left to us
a very small remnant,
we would have been as Sodom.
We would have been like Gomorrah.
10 Hear the LORD's word, you rulers of
Sodom!
Listen to the law of our God,§ you
people of Gomorrah!
11 "What are the multitude of your
sacrifices to me?", says the LORD.
"I have had enough of the burnt
offerings of rams
and the fat of fed animals.
I don't delight in the blood of bulls,
or of lambs,
or of male goats.
12 When you come to appear before me,
who has required this at your hand,
to trample my courts?
13 Bring no more vain offerings.
Incense is an abomination to me.
New moons, Sabbaths, and
convocations—
I can't stand evil assemblies.
14 My soul hates your New Moons and
your appointed feasts.
They are a burden to me.
I am weary of bearing them.
15 When you spread out your hands, I will
hide my eyes from you.
Yes, when you make many prayers, I
will not hear.
Your hands are full of blood.
16 Wash yourselves. Make yourself clean.
Put away the evil of your doings from
before my eyes.
Cease to do evil.
17 Learn to do well.
Seek justice.
Relieve the oppressed.
Defend the fatherless.
Plead for the widow."

18 "Come now, and let's reason together,"
says the LORD:
"Though your sins are as scarlet, they
shall be as white as snow.
Though they are red like crimson,
they shall be as wool.
19 If you are willing and obedient,
you will eat the good of the land;
20 but if you refuse and rebel, you will
be devoured with the sword;
for the LORD's mouth has spoken it."

† **1:2** When rendered in ALL CAPITAL LETTERS, "LORD" or "GOD" is the translation of God's Proper Name (Hebrew "יהוה", usually pronounced Yahweh). ‡ **1:4** or, seed § **1:10** The Hebrew word rendered "God" is "אֱלֹהִים" (Elohim).

21 How the faithful city has become a
prostitute!
She was full of justice.
Righteousness lodged in her,
but now there are murderers.
22 Your silver has become dross,
your wine mixed with water.
23 Your princes are rebellious and
companions of thieves.
Everyone loves bribes and follows
after rewards.
They don't defend the fatherless,
neither does the cause of the widow
come to them.

24 Therefore the Lord,† GOD of Armies,
the Mighty One of Israel, says:
"Ah, I will get relief from my adversaries,
and avenge myself on my enemies.
25 I will turn my hand on you,
thoroughly purge away your dross,
and will take away all your tin.‡
26 I will restore your judges as at the first,
and your counselors as at the
beginning.
Afterward you shall be called 'The city of
righteousness,
a faithful town.'
27 Zion shall be redeemed with justice,
and her converts with righteousness.
28 But the destruction of transgressors and
sinners shall be together,
and those who forsake the LORD shall
be consumed.
29 For they shall be ashamed of the oaks
which you have desired,
and you shall be confounded for the
gardens that you have chosen.
30 For you shall be as an oak whose leaf
fades,
and as a garden that has no water.
31 The strong will be like tinder,
and his work like a spark.
They will both burn together,
and no one will quench them."

2

1 This is what Isaiah the son of Amoz
saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.
2 It shall happen in the latter days, that the
mountain of the LORD's house shall
be established on the top of the
mountains,
and shall be raised above the hills;
and all nations shall flow to it.
3 Many peoples shall go and say,
"Come, let's go up to the mountain of
the LORD,
to the house of the God of Jacob;
and he will teach us of his ways,
and we will walk in his paths."
For the law shall go out of Zion,
and the LORD's word from Jerusalem.
4 He will judge between the nations,
and will decide concerning many
peoples.
They shall beat their swords into
plowshares,
and their spears into pruning hooks.
Nation shall not lift up sword against
nation,
neither shall they learn war any
more.

5 House of Jacob, come, and let's walk in
the light of the LORD.
6 For you have forsaken your people, the
house of Jacob,
because they are filled from the east,
with those who practice divination
like the Philistines,
and they clasp hands with the
children of foreigners.
7 Their land is full of silver and gold,
neither is there any end of their
treasures.
Their land also is full of horses,
neither is there any end of their
chariots.
8 Their land also is full of idols.
They worship the work of their own
hands,
that which their own fingers have
made.
9 Man is brought low,
and mankind is humbled;
therefore don't forgive them.
10 Enter into the rock,
and hide in the dust,
from before the terror of the LORD,

† **1:24** The word translated "Lord" is "Adonai." ‡ **1:25** tin is a metal that is separated from silver during the refining and purification process.

and from the glory of his majesty.
11 The lofty looks of man will be brought
low,
the arrogance of men will be bowed
down,
and the LORD alone will be exalted in
that day.

12 For there will be a day of the LORD of
Armies for all that is proud and
arrogant,
and for all that is lifted up,
and it shall be brought low—
13 for all the cedars of Lebanon, that
are high and lifted up,
for all the oaks of Bashan,
14 for all the high mountains,
for all the hills that are lifted up,
15 for every lofty tower,
for every fortified wall,
16 for all the ships of Tarshish,
and for all pleasant imagery.
17 The loftiness of man shall be bowed
down,
and the arrogance of men shall be
brought low;
and the LORD alone shall be exalted
in that day.
18 The idols shall utterly pass away.
19 Men shall go into the caves of the rocks,
and into the holes of the earth,
from before the terror of the LORD,
and from the glory of his majesty,
when he arises to shake the earth
mightily.
20 In that day, men shall cast away their
idols of silver
and their idols of gold,
which have been made for
themselves to worship,
to the moles and to the bats,
21 to go into the caverns of the rocks,
and into the clefts of the ragged rocks,
from before the terror of the LORD,
and from the glory of his majesty,
when he arises to shake the earth
mightily.
22 Stop trusting in man, whose breath is in
his nostrils;
for of what account is he?

3

1 For, behold,† the Lord, GOD‡ of Armies,
takes away from Jerusalem and
from Judah supply and support,
the whole supply of bread,
and the whole supply of water;
2 the mighty man,
the man of war,
the judge,
the prophet,
the diviner,
the elder,
3 the captain of fifty,
the honorable man,
the counselor,
the skilled craftsman,
and the clever enchanter.
4 I will give boys to be their princes,
and children shall rule over them.
5 The people will be oppressed,
everyone by another,
and everyone by his neighbor.
The child will behave himself proudly
against the old man,
and the wicked against the honorable.
6 Indeed a man shall take hold of his
brother in the house of his father,
saying,
"You have clothing, you be our ruler,
and let this ruin be under your hand."
7 In that day he will cry out, saying, "I will
not be a healer;
for in my house is neither bread nor
clothing.
You shall not make me ruler of the
people."
8 For Jerusalem is ruined, and Judah is
fallen;
because their tongue and their doings
are against the LORD,§
to provoke the eyes of his glory.
9 The look of their faces testify against
them.
They parade their sin like Sodom.

† **3:1** "Behold", from "הִנֵּה", means look at, take notice, observe, see, or gaze at. It is often used as an interjection.
‡ **3:1** When rendered in ALL CAPITAL LETTERS, "LORD" or "GOD" is the translation of God's Proper Name (Hebrew "יהוה", usually pronounced Yahweh). § **3:8** When rendered in ALL CAPITAL LETTERS, "LORD" or "GOD" is the translation of God's Proper Name (Hebrew "יהוה", usually pronounced Yahweh).

They don't hide it.
Woe to their soul!
For they have brought disaster upon themselves.
10 Tell the righteous that it will be well with them,
for they will eat the fruit of their deeds.
11 Woe to the wicked!
Disaster is upon them,
for the deeds of their hands will be paid back to them.
12 As for my people, children are their oppressors,
and women rule over them.
My people, those who lead you cause you to err,
and destroy the way of your paths.

13 The LORD stands up to contend,
and stands to judge the peoples.
14 The LORD will enter into judgment with the elders of his people
and their leaders:
"It is you who have eaten up the vineyard.
The plunder of the poor is in your houses.
15 What do you mean that you crush my people,
and grind the face of the poor?" says the Lord, GOD† of Armies.

16 Moreover the LORD said, "Because the daughters of Zion are arrogant,
and walk with outstretched necks and flirting eyes,
walking daintily as they go,
jingling ornaments on their feet;
17 therefore the Lord brings sores on the crown of the head of the women of Zion,
and the LORD will make their scalps bald."
18 In that day the Lord will take away the beauty of their anklets, the headbands, the crescent necklaces,
19 the earrings, the bracelets, the veils,
20 the headdresses, the ankle chains, the sashes, the perfume containers, the charms,
21 the signet rings, the nose rings,
22 the fine robes, the capes, the cloaks, the purses,
23 the hand mirrors, the fine linen garments, the tiaras, and the shawls.
24 It shall happen that instead of sweet spices, there shall be rottenness;
instead of a belt, a rope;
instead of well set hair, baldness;
instead of a robe, a wearing of sackcloth;
and branding instead of beauty.
25 Your men shall fall by the sword,
and your mighty in the war.
26 Her gates shall lament and mourn.
She shall be desolate and sit on the ground.

4

1 Seven women shall take hold of one man in that day, saying, "We will eat our own bread, and wear our own clothing. Just let us be called by your name. Take away our reproach."
2 In that day, the LORD's branch will be beautiful and glorious, and the fruit of the land will be the beauty and glory of the survivors of Israel.
3 It will happen that he who is left in Zion and he who remains in Jerusalem shall be called holy, even everyone who is written among the living in Jerusalem,
4 when the Lord shall have washed away the filth of the daughters of Zion, and shall have purged the blood of Jerusalem from within it, by the spirit of justice and by the spirit of burning.
5 The LORD will create over the whole habitation of Mount Zion and over her assemblies, a cloud and smoke by day, and the shining of a flaming fire by night, for over all the glory will be a canopy.
6 There will be a pavilion for a shade in the daytime from the heat, and for a refuge and for a shelter from storm and from rain.

5

1 Let me sing for my well beloved a song of my beloved about his vineyard.

† **3:15** When rendered in ALL CAPITAL LETTERS, "LORD" or "GOD" is the translation of God's Proper Name (Hebrew "יהוה", usually pronounced Yahweh).

My beloved had a vineyard on a very
fruitful hill.
2 He dug it up,
gathered out its stones,
planted it with the choicest vine,
built a tower in the middle of it,
and also cut out a wine press in it.
He looked for it to yield grapes,
but it yielded wild grapes.

3 "Now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and men
of Judah,
please judge between me and my
vineyard.
4 What could have been done more to my
vineyard, that I have not done in it?
Why, when I looked for it to yield
grapes, did it yield wild grapes?
5 Now I will tell you what I will do to my
vineyard.
I will take away its hedge, and it will
be eaten up.
I will break down its wall, and it will
be trampled down.
6 I will lay it a wasteland.
It won't be pruned or hoed,
but it will grow briers and thorns.
I will also command the clouds that
they rain no rain on it."
7 For the vineyard of the LORD of Armies
is the house of Israel,
and the men of Judah his pleasant
plant.
He looked for justice, but behold,
oppression,
for righteousness, but behold, a cry of
distress.

8 Woe to those who join house to house,
who lay field to field, until there is no
room,
and you are made to dwell alone in
the middle of the land!
9 In my ears, the LORD of Armies says:
"Surely many houses will be
desolate,
even great and beautiful, unoccupied.
10 For ten acres† of vineyard shall yield
one bath,‡
and a homer§ of seed shall yield an
ephah."†
11 Woe to those who rise up early in the
morning, that they may follow
strong drink,
who stay late into the night, until
wine inflames them!
12 The harp, lyre, tambourine, and flute,
with wine, are at their feasts;
but they don't respect the work of the
LORD,
neither have they considered the
operation of his hands.

13 Therefore my people go into captivity
for lack of knowledge.
Their honorable men are famished,
and their multitudes are parched
with thirst.
14 Therefore Sheol‡ has enlarged its desire,
and opened its mouth without
measure;
and their glory, their multitude, their
pomp, and he who rejoices among
them, descend into it.
15 So man is brought low,
mankind is humbled,
and the eyes of the arrogant ones are
humbled;
16 but the LORD of Armies is exalted in
justice,
and God the Holy One is sanctified in
righteousness.
17 Then the lambs will graze as in their
pasture,
and strangers will eat the ruins of the
rich.

18 Woe to those who draw iniquity with
cords of falsehood,
and wickedness as with cart rope,
19 who say, "Let him make haste, let him
hasten his work, that we may see it;
let the counsel of the Holy One of
Israel draw near and come,
that we may know it!"

† **5:10** literally, ten yokes, or the amount of land that ten yokes of oxen can plow in one day, which is about 10 acres or 4 hectares. ‡ **5:10** 1 bath is about 22 liters or 5.8 U. S. gallons § **5:10** 1 homer is about 220 liters or 6 bushels † **5:10** 1 ephah is about 22 liters or 0.6 bushels or about 2 pecks—only one tenth of what was sown. ‡ **5:14** Sheol is the place of the dead.

20 Woe to those who call evil good, and
good evil;
who put darkness for light,
and light for darkness;
who put bitter for sweet,
and sweet for bitter!
21 Woe to those who are wise in their own
eyes,
and prudent in their own sight!
22 Woe to those who are mighty to drink
wine,
and champions at mixing strong
drink;
23 who acquit the guilty for a bribe,
but deny justice for the innocent!

24 Therefore as the tongue of fire devours
the stubble,
and as the dry grass sinks down in the
flame,
so their root shall be as rottenness,
and their blossom shall go up as dust,
because they have rejected the law of the
LORD of Armies,
and despised the word of the Holy
One of Israel.
25 Therefore the LORD's anger burns
against his people,
and he has stretched out his hand
against them and has struck them.
The mountains tremble,
and their dead bodies are as refuse in
the middle of the streets.
For all this, his anger is not turned away,
but his hand is still stretched out.

26 He will lift up a banner to the nations
from far away,
and he will whistle for them from the
end of the earth.
Behold, they will come speedily and
swiftly.
27 No one shall be weary nor stumble
among them;
no one shall slumber nor sleep,
neither shall the belt of their waist be
untied,
nor the strap of their sandals be
broken,
28 whose arrows are sharp,
and all their bows bent.
Their horses' hoofs will be like flint,
and their wheels like a whirlwind.
29 Their roaring will be like a lioness.
They will roar like young lions.
Yes, they shall roar,
and seize their prey and carry it off,
and there will be no one to deliver.
30 They will roar against them in that day
like the roaring of the sea.
If one looks to the land, behold,
darkness and distress.
The light is darkened in its clouds.

6

1 In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw
the Lord sitting on a throne, high and
lifted up; and his train filled the temple.
2 Above him stood the seraphim. Each
one had six wings. With two he covered
his face. With two he covered his feet.
With two he flew.
3 One called to another, and said,
"Holy, holy, holy, is the LORD of Armies!
The whole earth is full of his glory!"
4 The foundations of the thresholds
shook at the voice of him who called, and
the house was filled with smoke.
5 Then I said, "Woe is me! For I am
undone, because I am a man of unclean
lips and I live among a people of unclean
lips, for my eyes have seen the King, the
LORD of Armies!"
6 Then one of the seraphim flew to me,
having a live coal in his hand, which he
had taken with the tongs from off the
altar.
7 He touched my mouth with it, and
said, "Behold, this has touched your lips;
and your iniquity is taken away, and your
sin forgiven."
8 I heard the Lord's voice, saying,
"Whom shall I send, and who will go for
us?"
Then I said, "Here I am. Send me!"
9 He said, "Go, and tell this people,
'You hear indeed,
but don't understand.
You see indeed,
but don't perceive.'
10 Make the heart of this people fat.
Make their ears heavy, and shut their
eyes;
lest they see with their eyes,
hear with their ears,
understand with their heart,

and turn again, and be healed."
11 Then I said, "Lord, how long?"
He answered,
"Until cities are waste without inhabitant,
houses without man,
the land becomes utterly waste,
12 and the LORD has removed men far away,
and the forsaken places are many within the land.
13 If there is a tenth left in it,
that also will in turn be consumed,
as a terebinth, and as an oak whose stump remains when they are cut down,
so the holy seed is its stump."

7

1 In the days of Ahaz the son of Jotham, the son of Uzziah, king of Judah, Rezin the king of Syria and Pekah the son of Remaliah, king of Israel, went up to Jerusalem to war against it, but could not prevail against it.
2 David's house was told, "Syria is allied with Ephraim." His heart trembled, and the heart of his people, as the trees of the forest tremble with the wind.
3 Then the LORD said to Isaiah, "Go out now to meet Ahaz, you, and Shearjashub your son, at the end of the conduit of the upper pool, on the highway of the fuller's field.
4 Tell him, 'Be careful, and keep calm. Don't be afraid, neither let your heart be faint because of these two tails of smoking torches, for the fierce anger of Rezin and Syria, and of the son of Remaliah.
5 Because Syria, Ephraim, and the son of Remaliah, have plotted evil against you, saying,
6 "Let's go up against Judah, and tear it apart, and let's divide it among ourselves, and set up a king within it, even the son of Tabeel."
7 This is what the Lord GOD says: "It shall not stand, neither shall it happen."
8 For the head of Syria is Damascus, and the head of Damascus is Rezin. Within sixty-five years Ephraim shall be broken in pieces, so that it shall not be a people.
9 The head of Ephraim is Samaria, and the head of Samaria is Remaliah's son. If you will not believe, surely you shall not be established.' "
10 The LORD spoke again to Ahaz, saying,
11 "Ask a sign of the LORD your God; ask it either in the depth, or in the height above."
12 But Ahaz said, "I won't ask. I won't tempt the LORD."
13 He said, "Listen now, house of David. Is it not enough for you to try the patience of men, that you will try the patience of my God also?
14 Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin will conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.†
15 He shall eat butter and honey when he knows to refuse the evil and choose the good.
16 For before the child knows to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land whose two kings you abhor shall be forsaken.
17 The LORD will bring on you, on your people, and on your father's house days that have not come, from the day that Ephraim departed from Judah, even the king of Assyria.
18 It will happen in that day that the LORD will whistle for the fly that is in the uttermost part of the rivers of Egypt, and for the bee that is in the land of Assyria.
19 They shall come, and shall all rest in the desolate valleys, in the clefts of the rocks, on all thorn hedges, and on all pastures.
20 In that day the Lord will shave with a razor that is hired in the parts beyond the River, even with the king of Assyria, the head and the hair of the feet; and it shall also consume the beard.
21 It shall happen in that day that a man shall keep alive a young cow, and two sheep.
22 It shall happen, that because of the abundance of milk which they shall give he shall eat butter, for everyone will eat

† **7:14** "Immanuel" means "God with us".

butter and honey that is left within the land.
23 It will happen in that day that every place where there were a thousand vines worth a thousand silver shekels,‡ will be for briers and thorns.
24 People will go there with arrows and with bow, because all the land will be briers and thorns.
25 All the hills that were cultivated with the hoe, you shall not come there for fear of briers and thorns; but it shall be for the sending out of oxen, and for sheep to tread on."

8

1 The LORD said to me, "Take a large tablet, and write on it with a man's pen, 'For Maher Shalal Hash Baz';†
2 and I will take for myself faithful witnesses to testify: Uriah the priest, and Zechariah the son of Jeberechiah."
3 I went to the prophetess, and she conceived, and bore a son. Then the LORD said to me, "Call his name 'Maher Shalal Hash Baz.'
4 For before the child knows how to say, 'My father' and 'My mother,' the riches of Damascus and the plunder of Samaria will be carried away by the king of Assyria."
5 The LORD spoke to me yet again, saying,
6 "Because this people has refused the waters of Shiloah that go softly, and rejoice in Rezin and Remaliah's son;
7 now therefore, behold, the Lord brings upon them the mighty flood waters of the River: the king of Assyria and all his glory. It will come up over all its channels, and go over all its banks.
8 It will sweep onward into Judah. It will overflow and pass through. It will reach even to the neck. The stretching out of its wings will fill the width of your land, O Immanuel.
9 Make an uproar, you peoples, and be broken in pieces! Listen, all you from far countries: dress for battle, and be shattered! Dress for battle, and be shattered!
10 Take counsel together, and it will be brought to nothing; speak the word, and it will not stand, for God is with us."
11 For the LORD spoke this to me with a strong hand, and instructed me not to walk in the way of this people, saying,
12 "Don't call a conspiracy all that this people call a conspiracy. Don't fear their threats or be terrorized.
13 The LORD of Armies is who you must respect as holy. He is the one you must fear. He is the one you must dread.
14 He will be a sanctuary, but for both houses of Israel, he will be a stumbling stone and a rock that makes them fall. For the people of Jerusalem, he will be a trap and a snare.
15 Many will stumble over it, fall, be broken, be snared, and be captured."
16 Wrap up the covenant. Seal the law among my disciples.
17 I will wait for the LORD, who hides his face from the house of Jacob, and I will look for him.
18 Behold, I and the children whom the LORD has given me are for signs and for wonders in Israel from the LORD of Armies, who dwells in Mount Zion.
19 When they tell you, "Consult with those who have familiar spirits and with the wizards, who chirp and who mutter," shouldn't a people consult with their God? Should they consult the dead on behalf of the living?
20 Turn to the law and to the covenant! If they don't speak according to this word, surely there is no morning for them.
21 They will pass through it, very distressed and hungry. It will happen that when they are hungry, they will worry, and curse their king and their God. They will turn their faces upward,
22 then look to the earth and see distress, darkness, and the gloom of anguish. They will be driven into thick darkness.

9

1 But there shall be no more gloom for

‡ **7:23** A shekel is about 10 grams or about 0.35 ounces, so 1000 shekels is about 10 kilograms or 22 pounds. † **8:1** "Maher Shalal Hash Baz" means "quick to the plunder, swift to the prey".

her who was in anguish. In the former
time, he brought into contempt the land of
Zebulun and the land of Naphtali; but in
the latter time he has made it glorious, by
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan,
Galilee of the nations.
2 The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light.
The light has shined on those who
lived in the land of the shadow of
death.
3 You have multiplied the nation.
You have increased their joy.
They rejoice before you according to the
joy in harvest, as men rejoice when they
divide the plunder.
4 For the yoke of his burden, and the
staff of his shoulder, the rod of his
oppressor, you have broken as in the day
of Midian.
5 For all the armor of the armed man in
the noisy battle, and the garments rolled
in blood, will be for burning, fuel for the
fire.
6 For a child is born to us. A son is given
to us; and the government will be on his
shoulders. His name will be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
7 Of the increase of his government and
of peace there shall be no end, on David's
throne, and on his kingdom, to establish
it, and to uphold it with justice and with
righteousness from that time on, even
forever. The zeal of the LORD of Armies
will perform this.
8 The Lord sent a word into Jacob,
and it falls on Israel.
9 All the people will know,
including Ephraim and the
inhabitants of Samaria, who say in
pride and in arrogance of heart,
10 "The bricks have fallen,
but we will build with cut stone.
The sycamore fig trees have been cut
down,
but we will put cedars in their place."
11 Therefore the LORD will set up on high
against him the adversaries of
Rezin,
and will stir up his enemies,
12 The Syrians in front,
and the Philistines behind;
and they will devour Israel with open
mouth.
For all this, his anger is not turned away,
but his hand is stretched out still.

13 Yet the people have not turned to him
who struck them,
neither have they sought the LORD of
Armies.
14 Therefore the LORD will cut off from
Israel head and tail,
palm branch and reed, in one day.
15 The elder and the honorable man is the
head,
and the prophet who teaches lies is
the tail.
16 For those who lead this people lead
them astray;
and those who are led by them are
destroyed.
17 Therefore the Lord will not rejoice over
their young men,
neither will he have compassion on
their fatherless and widows;
for everyone is profane and an evildoer,
and every mouth speaks folly.
For all this his anger is not turned away,
but his hand is stretched out still.

18 For wickedness burns like a fire.
It devours the briers and thorns;
yes, it kindles in the thickets of the
forest,
and they roll upward in a column of
smoke.
19 Through the LORD of Armies' wrath, the
land is burned up;
and the people are the fuel for the
fire.
No one spares his brother.
20 One will devour on the right hand, and
be hungry;
and he will eat on the left hand, and
they will not be satisfied.
Everyone will eat the flesh of his own arm:
21 Manasseh eating Ephraim and
Ephraim eating Manasseh, and
they together will be against Judah.
For all this his anger is not turned away,
but his hand is stretched out still.

10

1 Woe to those who decree unrighteous
decrees, and to the writers who write
oppressive decrees
2 to deprive the needy of justice, and to
rob the poor among my people of their
rights, that widows may be their plunder,
and that they may make the fatherless
their prey!
3 What will you do in the day of
visitation, and in the desolation which
will come from afar? To whom will you
flee for help? Where will you leave your
wealth?
4 They will only bow down under the
prisoners,
and will fall under the slain.
For all this his anger is not turned away,
but his hand is stretched out still.

5 Alas Assyrian, the rod of my anger, the
staff in whose hand is my indignation!
6 I will send him against a profane
nation, and against the people who anger
me I will give him a command to take the
plunder and to take the prey, and to tread
them down like the mire of the streets.
7 However, he doesn't mean so, neither
does his heart think so; but it is in his
heart to destroy, and to cut off not a few
nations.
8 For he says, "Aren't all of my princes
kings?
9 Isn't Calno like Carchemish? Isn't
Hamath like Arpad? Isn't Samaria like
Damascus?"
10 As my hand has found the kingdoms
of the idols, whose engraved images
exceeded those of Jerusalem and of
Samaria,
11 shall I not, as I have done to Samaria
and her idols, so do to Jerusalem and her
idols?
12 Therefore it will happen that when
the Lord has performed his whole work
on Mount Zion and on Jerusalem, I will
punish the fruit of the willful proud heart
of the king of Assyria, and the insolence of
his arrogant looks.
13 For he has said, "By the strength of my
hand I have done it, and by my wisdom,
for I have understanding. I have removed
the boundaries of the peoples, and have
robbed their treasures. Like a valiant
man I have brought down their rulers.
14 My hand has found the riches of the
peoples like a nest, and like one gathers
eggs that are abandoned, I have gathered
all the earth. There was no one who
moved their wing, or that opened their
mouth, or chirped."
15 Should an ax brag against him who
chops with it? Should a saw exalt itself
above him who saws with it? As if a rod
should lift those who lift it up, or as if a
staff should lift up someone who is not
wood.
16 Therefore the Lord, GOD† of Armies,
will send among his fat ones leanness;
and under his glory a burning will be
kindled like the burning of fire.
17 The light of Israel will be for a fire,
and his Holy One for a flame; and it will
burn and devour his thorns and his briers
in one day.
18 He will consume the glory of his
forest and of his fruitful field, both soul
and body. It will be as when a standard
bearer faints.
19 The remnant of the trees of his forest
shall be few, so that a child could write
their number.
20 It will come to pass in that day that
the remnant of Israel, and those who have
escaped from the house of Jacob will no
more again lean on him who struck them,
but shall lean on the LORD,‡ the Holy One
of Israel, in truth.
21 A remnant will return, even the
remnant of Jacob, to the mighty God.
22 For though your people, Israel, are
like the sand of the sea, only a remnant of
them will return. A destruction is
determined, overflowing with
righteousness.

† **10:16** When rendered in ALL CAPITAL LETTERS, "LORD" or "GOD" is the translation of God's Proper Name (Hebrew "יהוה", usually pronounced Yahweh). ‡ **10:20** When rendered in ALL CAPITAL LETTERS, "LORD" or "GOD" is the translation of God's Proper Name (Hebrew "יהוה", usually pronounced Yahweh). § **10:23** When rendered in ALL CAPITAL LETTERS, "LORD" or "GOD" is the translation of God's Proper Name (Hebrew "יהוה", usually pronounced Yahweh).

23 For the Lord, GOD§ of Armies, will
make a full end, and that determined,
throughout all the earth.
24 Therefore the Lord, GOD of Armies,
says, “My people who dwell in Zion, don’t
be afraid of the Assyrian, though he strike
you with the rod, and lift up his staff
against you, as Egypt did.
25 For yet a very little while, and the
indignation against you will be
accomplished, and my anger will be
directed to his destruction.”
26 The LORD of Armies will stir up a
scourge against him, as in the slaughter of
Midian at the rock of Oreb. His rod will be
over the sea, and he will lift it up like he
did against Egypt.
27 It will happen in that day that his
burden will depart from off your
shoulder, and his yoke from off your neck,
and the yoke shall be destroyed because
of the anointing oil.
28 He has come to Aiath. He has passed
through Migron. At Michmash he stores
his baggage.
29 They have gone over the pass. They
have taken up their lodging at Geba.
Ramah trembles. Gibeah of Saul has fled.
30 Cry aloud with your voice, daughter
of Gallim! Listen, Laishah! You poor
Anathoth!
31 Madmenah is a fugitive. The
inhabitants of Gebim flee for safety.
32 This very day he will halt at Nob. He
shakes his hand at the mountain of the
daughter of Zion, the hill of Jerusalem.
33 Behold, the Lord, GOD of Armies, will
lop the boughs with terror. The tall will be
cut down, and the lofty will be brought
low.
34 He will cut down the thickets of the
forest with iron, and Lebanon will fall by
the Mighty One.

11

1 A shoot will come out of the stock of
Jesse,
and a branch out of his roots will bear
fruit.
2 The LORD’s Spirit will rest on him:
the spirit of wisdom and
understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and of the
fear of the LORD.
3 His delight will be in the fear of the
LORD.
He will not judge by the sight of his eyes,
neither decide by the hearing of his
ears;
4 but he will judge the poor with
righteousness,
and decide with equity 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
kill the wicked.
5 Righteousness will be the belt around his
waist,
and faithfulness the belt around his
waist.

6 The 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;
and a little child will lead them.
7 The cow and the bear will graze.
Their young ones will lie down
together.
The lion will eat straw like the ox.
8 The nursing child will play near a
cobra’s hole,
and the weaned child will put his
hand on the viper’s den.
9 They will not hurt nor destroy in all my
holy mountain;
for the earth will be full of the
knowledge of the LORD,
as the waters cover the sea.

10 It will happen in that day that the
nations will seek the root of Jesse, who
stands as a banner of the peoples; and his
resting place will be glorious.
11 It will happen in that day that the
Lord will set his hand again the second
time to recover the remnant that is left of
his people from Assyria, from Egypt, from
Pathros, from Cush, from Elam, from
Shinar, from Hamath, and from the
islands of the sea.
12 He will set up a banner for the
nations, and will assemble the outcasts of

Israel, and gather together the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the earth.
13 The envy also of Ephraim will depart, and those who persecute Judah will be cut off. Ephraim won't envy Judah, and Judah won't persecute Ephraim.
14 They will fly down on the shoulders of the Philistines on the west. Together they will plunder the children of the east. They will extend their power over Edom and Moab, and the children of Ammon will obey them.
15 The LORD will utterly destroy the tongue of the Egyptian sea; and with his scorching wind he will wave his hand over the River, and will split it into seven streams, and cause men to march over in sandals.
16 There will be a highway for the remnant that is left of his people from Assyria, like there was for Israel in the day that he came up out of the land of Egypt.

12

1 In that day you will say, "I will give thanks to you, the LORD;† for though you were angry with me, your anger has turned away and you comfort me.
2 Behold, God is my salvation. I will trust, and will not be afraid; for the LORD,‡ the LORD,§ is my strength and song; and he has become my salvation."
3 Therefore with joy you will draw water out of the wells of salvation.
4 In that day you will say, "Give thanks to the LORD! Call on his name! Declare his doings among the peoples! Proclaim that his name is exalted!
5 Sing to the LORD, for he has done excellent things! Let this be known in all the earth!
6 Cry aloud and shout, you inhabitant of Zion, for the Holy One of Israel is great among you!"

13

1 The burden of Babylon, which Isaiah the son of Amoz saw.
2 Set up a banner on the bare mountain! Lift up your voice to them! Wave your hand, that they may go into the gates of the nobles.
3 I have commanded my consecrated ones; yes, I have called my mighty men for my anger, even my proudly exulting ones.
4 The noise of a multitude is in the mountains, as of a great people; the noise of an uproar of the kingdoms of the nations gathered together! The LORD of Armies is mustering the army for the battle.
5 They come from a far country, from the uttermost part of heaven, even the LORD, and the weapons of his indignation, to destroy the whole land.
6 Wail, for the LORD's day is at hand! It will come as destruction from the Almighty.
7 Therefore all hands will be feeble, and everyone's heart will melt.
8 They will be dismayed. Pangs and sorrows will seize them. They will be in pain like a woman in labor. They will look in amazement one at another. Their faces will be faces of flame.
9 Behold, the day of the LORD comes, cruel, with wrath and fierce anger; to make the land a desolation, and to destroy its sinners out of it.
10 For the stars of the sky and its constellations will not give their light. The sun will be darkened in its going out, and the moon will not cause its light to shine.
11 I will punish the world for their evil, and the wicked for their iniquity. I will cause the arrogance of the proud to cease, and will humble the arrogance of the terrible.
12 I will make people more rare than fine gold, even a person than the pure gold of Ophir.
13 Therefore I will make the heavens tremble, and the earth will be shaken out of its place in the LORD of Armies' wrath, and in the day of his fierce anger.
14 It will happen that like a hunted gazelle and like sheep that no one gathers,

† **12:1** LORD or GOD in all caps is from the Hebrew יהוה Yahweh except when otherwise noted as being from the short form יה Yah. ‡ **12:2** Hebrew: יה Yah § **12:2** LORD or GOD in all caps is from the Hebrew יהוה Yahweh except when otherwise noted as being from the short form יה Yah.

they will each turn to their own people,
and will each flee to their own land.
15 Everyone who is found will be thrust
through. Everyone who is captured will
fall by the sword.
16 Their infants also will be dashed in
pieces before their eyes. Their houses will
be ransacked, and their wives raped.
17 Behold, I will stir up the Medes
against them, who will not value silver,
and as for gold, they will not delight in it.
18 Their bows will dash the young men
in pieces; and they shall have no pity on
the fruit of the womb. Their eyes will not
spare children.
19 Babylon, the glory of kingdoms, the
beauty of the Chaldeans' pride, will be like
when God overthrew Sodom and
Gomorrah.
20 It will never be inhabited, neither will
it be lived in from generation to
generation. The Arabian will not pitch a
tent there, neither will shepherds make
their flocks lie down there.
21 But wild animals of the desert will lie
there, and their houses will be full of
jackals. Ostriches will dwell there, and
wild goats will frolic there.
22 Hyenas will cry in their fortresses,
and jackals in the pleasant palaces. Her
time is near to come, and her days will not
be prolonged.

14

1 For the LORD will have compassion on
Jacob, and will yet choose Israel, and set
them in their own land. The foreigner will
join himself with them, and they will
unite with the house of Jacob.
2 The peoples will take them, and bring
them to their place. The house of Israel
will possess them in the LORD's land for
servants and for handmaids. They will
take as captives those whose captives they
were; and they shall rule over their
oppressors.
3 It will happen in the day that the LORD
will give you rest from your sorrow, from
your trouble, and from the hard service in
which you were made to serve,
4 that you will take up this parable
against the king of Babylon, and say,
"How the oppressor has ceased! The
golden city has ceased!"
5 The LORD has broken the staff of the
wicked, the scepter of the rulers,
6 who struck the peoples in wrath with a
continual stroke, who ruled the nations in
anger, with a persecution that no one
restrained.
7 The whole earth is at rest, and is quiet.
They break out in song.
8 Yes, the cypress trees rejoice with you,
with the cedars of Lebanon, saying, "Since
you are humbled, no lumberjack has
come up against us."
9 Sheol† from beneath has moved for
you to meet you at your coming. It stirs up
the departed spirits for you, even all the
rulers of the earth. It has raised up from
their thrones all the kings of the nations.
10 They all will answer and ask you,
"Have you also become as weak as we
are? Have you become like us?"
11 Your pomp is brought down to Sheol,‡
with the sound of your stringed
instruments. Maggots are spread out
under you, and worms cover you.
12 How you have fallen from heaven,
shining one, son of the dawn! How you
are cut down to the ground, who laid the
nations low!
13 You said in your heart, "I will ascend
into heaven! I will exalt my throne above
the stars of God! I will sit on the mountain
of assembly, in the far north!
14 I will ascend above the heights of the
clouds! I will make myself like the Most
High!"
15 Yet you shall be brought down to
Sheol,§ to the depths of the pit.
16 Those who see you will stare at you.
They will ponder you, saying, "Is this the
man who made the earth to tremble, who
shook kingdoms,
17 who made the world like a
wilderness, and overthrew its cities, who
didn't release his prisoners to their
home?"

† **14:9** Sheol is the place of the dead. ‡ **14:11** Sheol is the place of the dead. § **14:15** Sheol is the place of the dead.

18 All the kings of the nations sleep in
glory, everyone in his own house.
19 But you are cast away from your tomb
like an abominable branch, clothed with
the slain who are thrust through with the
sword, who go down to the stones of the
pit; like a dead body trodden under foot.
20 You will not join them in burial,
because you have destroyed your land.
You have killed your people. The offspring
of evildoers will not be named forever.
21 Prepare for slaughter of his children
because of the iniquity of their fathers,
that they not rise up and possess the
earth, and fill the surface of the world
with cities.
22 "I will rise up against them," says the
LORD of Armies, "and cut off from
Babylon name and remnant, and son and
son's son," says the LORD.
23 "I will also make it a possession for
the porcupine, and pools of water. I will
sweep it with the broom of destruction,"
says the LORD of Armies.

24 The LORD of Armies has sworn,
saying, "Surely, as I have thought, so shall
it happen; and as I have purposed, so shall
it stand:
25 that I will break the Assyrian in my
land, and tread him under foot on my
mountains. Then his yoke will leave them,
and his burden leave their shoulders.
26 This is the plan that is determined for
the whole earth. This is the hand that is
stretched out over all the nations.
27 For the LORD of Armies has planned,
and who can stop it? His hand is stretched
out, and who can turn it back?"

28 This burden was in the year that King
Ahaz died.

29 Don't rejoice, O Philistia, all of you,
because the rod that struck you is broken;
for out of the serpent's root an adder will
emerge, and his fruit will be a fiery flying
serpent.
30 The firstborn of the poor will eat, and
the needy will lie down in safety; and I
will kill your root with famine, and your
remnant will be killed.
31 Howl, gate! Cry, city! You are melted
away, Philistia, all of you; for smoke
comes out of the north, and there is no
straggler in his ranks.
32 What will they answer the
messengers of the nation? That the LORD
has founded Zion, and in her the afflicted
of his people will take refuge.

15

1 The burden of Moab.
For in a night, Ar of Moab is laid waste,
and brought to nothing. For in a night Kir
of Moab is laid waste, and brought to
nothing.
2 They have gone up to Bayith, and to
Dibon, to the high places, to weep. Moab
wails over Nebo and over Medeba.
Baldness is on all of their heads. Every
beard is cut off.
3 In their streets, they clothe themselves
in sackcloth. In their streets and on their
housetops, everyone wails, weeping
abundantly.
4 Heshbon cries out with Elealeh. Their
voice is heard even to Jahaz. Therefore
the armed men of Moab cry aloud. Their
souls tremble within them.
5 My heart cries out for Moab! Her
nobles flee to Zoar, to Eglath Shelishiyah;
for they go up by the ascent of Luhith with
weeping; for on the way to Horonaim,
they raise up a cry of destruction.
6 For the waters of Nimrim will be
desolate; for the grass has withered away,
the tender grass fails, there is no green
thing.
7 Therefore they will carry away the
abundance they have gotten, and that
which they have stored up, over the brook
of the willows.
8 For the cry has gone around the
borders of Moab, its wailing to Eglaim,
and its wailing to Beer Elim.
9 For the waters of Dimon are full of
blood; for I will bring yet more on Dimon,
a lion on those of Moab who escape, and
on the remnant of the land.

16

1 Send the lambs for the ruler of the
land from Selah to the wilderness, to the
mountain of the daughter of Zion.

2 For it will be that as wandering birds,
as a scattered nest, so will the daughters
of Moab be at the fords of the Arnon.
3 Give counsel! Execute justice! Make
your shade like the night in the middle of
the noonday! Hide the outcasts! Don't
betray the fugitive!
4 Let my outcasts dwell with you! As for
Moab, be a hiding place for him from the
face of the destroyer. For the extortionist
is brought to nothing. Destruction ceases.
The oppressors are consumed out of the
land.
5 A throne will be established in loving
kindness. One will sit on it in truth, in the
tent of David, judging, seeking justice, and
swift to do righteousness.

6 We have heard of the pride of Moab,
that he is very proud; even of his
arrogance, his pride, and his wrath. His
boastings are nothing.
7 Therefore Moab will wail for Moab.
Everyone will wail. You will mourn for
the raisin cakes of Kir Hareseth, utterly
stricken.
8 For the fields of Heshbon languish
with the vine of Sibmah. The lords of the
nations have broken down its choice
branches, which reached even to Jazer,
which wandered into the wilderness. Its
shoots were spread abroad. They passed
over the sea.
9 Therefore I will weep with the
weeping of Jazer for the vine of Sibmah. I
will water you with my tears, Heshbon,
and Elealeh: for on your summer fruits
and on your harvest the battle shout has
fallen.
10 Gladness is taken away, and joy out of
the fruitful field; and in the vineyards
there will be no singing, neither joyful
noise. Nobody will tread out wine in the
presses. I have made the shouting stop.
11 Therefore my heart sounds like a
harp for Moab, and my inward parts for
Kir Heres.
12 It will happen that when Moab
presents himself, when he wearies
himself on the high place, and comes to
his sanctuary to pray, that he will not
prevail.
13 This is the word that the LORD spoke
concerning Moab in time past.
14 But now the LORD has spoken, saying,
"Within three years, as a worker bound
by contract would count them, the glory
of Moab shall be brought into contempt,
with all his great multitude; and the
remnant will be very small and feeble."

17

1 The burden of Damascus.
"Behold, Damascus is taken away from
being a city, and it will be a ruinous heap.
2 The cities of Aroer are forsaken. They
will be for flocks, which shall lie down,
and no one shall make them afraid.
3 The fortress shall cease from Ephraim,
and the kingdom from Damascus, and the
remnant of Syria. They will be as the glory
of the children of Israel," says the LORD of
Armies.
4 "It will happen in that day that the
glory of Jacob will be made thin, and the
fatness of his flesh will become lean.
5 It will be like when the harvester
gathers the wheat, and his arm reaps the
grain. Yes, it will be like when one gleans
grain in the valley of Rephaim.
6 Yet gleanings will be left there, like the
shaking of an olive tree, two or three
olives in the top of the uppermost bough,
four or five in the outermost branches of a
fruitful tree," says the LORD, the God of
Israel.
7 In that day, people will look to their
Maker, and their eyes will have respect
for the Holy One of Israel.
8 They will not look to the altars, the
work of their hands; neither shall they
respect that which their fingers have
made, either the Asherah poles or the
incense altars.
9 In that day, their strong cities will be
like the forsaken places in the woods and
on the mountain top, which were
forsaken from before the children of
Israel; and it will be a desolation.
10 For you have forgotten the God of
your salvation, and have not remembered
the rock of your strength. Therefore you
plant pleasant plants, and set out foreign
seedlings.

11 In the day of your planting, you hedge it in. In the morning, you make your seed blossom, but the harvest flees away in the day of grief and of desperate sorrow.
12 Ah, the uproar of many peoples who roar like the roaring of the seas; and the rushing of nations that rush like the rushing of mighty waters!
13 The nations will rush like the rushing of many waters, but he will rebuke them, and they will flee far off, and will be chased like the chaff of the mountains before the wind, and like the whirling dust before the storm.
14 At evening, behold, terror! Before the morning, they are no more. This is the portion of those who plunder us, and the lot of those who rob us.

18

1 Ah, the land of the rustling of wings, which is beyond the rivers of Ethiopia;
2 that sends ambassadors by the sea, even in vessels of papyrus on the waters, saying, "Go, you swift messengers, to a nation tall and smooth, to a people awesome from their beginning onward, a nation that measures out and treads down, whose land the rivers divide!"
3 All you inhabitants of the world, and you dwellers on the earth, when a banner is lifted up on the mountains, look! When the trumpet is blown, listen!
4 For the LORD said to me, "I will be still, and I will see in my dwelling place, like clear heat in sunshine, like a cloud of dew in the heat of harvest."
5 For before the harvest, when the blossom is over, and the flower becomes a ripening grape, he will cut off the sprigs with pruning hooks, and he will cut down and take away the spreading branches.
6 They will be left together for the ravenous birds of the mountains, and for the animals of the earth. The ravenous birds will eat them in the summer, and all the animals of the earth will eat them in the winter.
7 In that time, a present will be brought to the LORD of Armies from a people tall and smooth, even from a people awesome from their beginning onward, a nation that measures out and treads down, whose land the rivers divide, to the place of the name of the LORD of Armies, Mount Zion.

19

1 The burden of Egypt.

"Behold, the LORD rides on a swift cloud, and comes to Egypt. The idols of Egypt will tremble at his presence; and the heart of Egypt will melt within it.
2 I will stir up the Egyptians against the Egyptians, and they will fight everyone against his brother, and everyone against his neighbor; city against city, and kingdom against kingdom.
3 The spirit of the Egyptians will fail within them. I will destroy their counsel. They will seek the idols, the charmers, those who have familiar spirits, and the wizards.
4 I will give over the Egyptians into the hand of a cruel lord. A fierce king will rule over them," says the Lord, GOD† of Armies.
5 The waters will fail from the sea, and the river will be wasted and become dry.
6 The rivers will become foul. The streams of Egypt will be diminished and dried up. The reeds and flags will wither away.
7 The meadows by the Nile, by the brink of the Nile, and all the sown fields of the Nile, will become dry, be driven away, and be no more.
8 The fishermen will lament, and all those who fish in the Nile will mourn, and those who spread nets on the waters will languish.
9 Moreover those who work in combed flax, and those who weave white cloth, will be confounded.
10 The pillars will be broken in pieces. All those who work for hire will be grieved in soul.
11 The princes of Zoan are utterly foolish. The counsel of the wisest counselors of Pharaoh has become stupid.

† **19:4** When rendered in ALL CAPITAL LETTERS, "LORD" or "GOD" is the translation of God's Proper Name (Hebrew "יהוה", usually pronounced Yahweh).

How do you say to Pharaoh, “I am the son of the wise, the son of ancient kings”?
12 Where then are your wise men? Let them tell you now; and let them know what the LORD of Armies has purposed concerning Egypt.
13 The princes of Zoan have become fools. The princes of Memphis are deceived. They have caused Egypt to go astray, those who are the cornerstone of her tribes.
14 The LORD has mixed a spirit of perverseness in the middle of her; and they have caused Egypt to go astray in all of its works, like a drunken man staggers in his vomit.
15 Neither shall there be any work for Egypt, which head or tail, palm branch or rush, may do.
16 In that day the Egyptians will be like women. They will tremble and fear because of the shaking of the LORD of Armies’s hand, which he shakes over them.
17 The land of Judah will become a terror to Egypt. Everyone to whom mention is made of it will be afraid, because of the plans of the LORD of Armies, which he determines against it.
18 In that day, there will be five cities in the land of Egypt that speak the language of Canaan, and swear to the LORD of Armies. One will be called “The city of destruction.”
19 In that day, there will be an altar to the LORD in the middle of the land of Egypt, and a pillar to the LORD at its border.
20 It will be for a sign and for a witness to the LORD of Armies in the land of Egypt; for they will cry to the LORD because of oppressors, and he will send them a savior and a defender, and he will deliver them.
21 The LORD will be known to Egypt, and the Egyptians will know the LORD in that day. Yes, they will worship with sacrifice and offering, and will vow a vow to the LORD, and will perform it.
22 The LORD will strike Egypt, striking and healing. They will return to the LORD, and he will be entreated by them, and will heal them.
23 In that day there will be a highway out of Egypt to Assyria, and the Assyrian shall come into Egypt, and the Egyptian into Assyria; and the Egyptians will worship with the Assyrians.
24 In that day, Israel will be the third with Egypt and with Assyria, a blessing within the earth;
25 because the LORD of Armies has blessed them, saying, “Blessed be Egypt my people, Assyria the work of my hands, and Israel my inheritance.”

20

1 In the year that Tartan came to Ashdod, when Sargon the king of Assyria sent him, and he fought against Ashdod and took it;
2 at that time the LORD spoke by Isaiah the son of Amoz, saying, “Go, and loosen the sackcloth from off your waist, and take your sandals from off your feet.” He did so, walking naked and barefoot.
3 The LORD said, “As my servant Isaiah has walked naked and barefoot three years for a sign and a wonder concerning Egypt and concerning Ethiopia,
4 so the king of Assyria will lead away the captives of Egypt and the exiles of Ethiopia, young and old, naked and barefoot, and with buttocks uncovered, to the shame of Egypt.
5 They will be dismayed and confounded, because of Ethiopia their expectation, and of Egypt their glory.
6 The inhabitants of this coast land will say in that day, ‘Behold, this is our expectation, where we fled for help to be delivered from the king of Assyria. And we, how will we escape?’ ”

21

1 The burden of the wilderness of the sea.
As whirlwinds in the South sweep through, it comes from the wilderness, from an awesome land.
2 A grievous vision is declared to me. The treacherous man deals treacherously, and the destroyer destroys. Go up, Elam;

attack! I have stopped all of Media's sighing.
3 Therefore my thighs are filled with anguish. Pains have seized me, like the pains of a woman in labor. I am in so much pain that I can't hear. I am so dismayed that I can't see.
4 My heart flutters. Horror has frightened me. The twilight that I desired has been turned into trembling for me.
5 They prepare the table. They set the watch. They eat. They drink. Rise up, you princes, oil the shield!
6 For the Lord said to me, "Go, set a watchman. Let him declare what he sees.
7 When he sees a troop, horsemen in pairs, a troop of donkeys, a troop of camels, he shall listen diligently with great attentiveness."
8 He cried like a lion: "Lord, I stand continually on the watchtower in the daytime, and every night I stay at my post.
9 Behold, here comes a troop of men, horsemen in pairs." He answered, "Fallen, fallen is Babylon; and all the engraved images of her gods are broken to the ground.
10 You are my threshing, and the grain of my floor!" That which I have heard from the LORD of Armies, the God of Israel, I have declared to you.
11 The burden of Dumah.
One calls to me out of Seir, "Watchman, what of the night? Watchman, what of the night?"
12 The watchman said, "The morning comes, and also the night. If you will inquire, inquire. Come back again."
13 The burden on Arabia.
You will lodge in the thickets in Arabia, you caravans of Dedanites.
14 They brought water to him who was thirsty. The inhabitants of the land of Tema met the fugitives with their bread.
15 For they fled away from the swords, from the drawn sword, from the bent bow, and from the heat of battle.
16 For the Lord said to me, "Within a year, as a worker bound by contract would count it, all the glory of Kedar will fail,
17 and the residue of the number of the archers, the mighty men of the children of Kedar, will be few; for the LORD, the God of Israel, has spoken it."

22

1 The burden of the valley of vision.
What ails you now, that you have all gone up to the housetops?
2 You that are full of shouting, a tumultuous city, a joyous town, your slain are not slain with the sword, neither are they dead in battle.
3 All your rulers fled away together. They were bound by the archers. All who were found by you were bound together. They fled far away.
4 Therefore I said, "Look away from me. I will weep bitterly. Don't labor to comfort me for the destruction of the daughter of my people.
5 For it is a day of confusion, and of treading down, and of perplexity from the Lord, GOD† of Armies, in the valley of vision, a breaking down of the walls, and a crying to the mountains."
6 Elam carried his quiver, with chariots of men and horsemen; and Kir uncovered the shield.
7 Your choicest valleys were full of chariots, and the horsemen set themselves in array at the gate.
8 He took away the covering of Judah; and you looked in that day to the armor in the house of the forest.
9 You saw the breaches of David's city, that they were many; and you gathered together the waters of the lower pool.
10 You counted the houses of Jerusalem, and you broke down the houses to fortify the wall.
11 You also made a reservoir between the two walls for the water of the old pool. But you didn't look to him who had done this, neither did you have respect for him who planned it long ago.

† **22:5** When rendered in ALL CAPITAL LETTERS, "LORD" or "GOD" is the translation of God's Proper Name (Hebrew "יהוה", usually pronounced Yahweh).

12 In that day, the Lord, GOD‡ of Armies,
called to weeping, to mourning, to
baldness, and to dressing in sackcloth;
13 and behold, there is joy and gladness,
killing cattle and killing sheep, eating
meat and drinking wine: "Let's eat and
drink, for tomorrow we will die."
14 The LORD§ of Armies revealed
himself in my ears, "Surely this iniquity
will not be forgiven you until you die,"
says the Lord, GOD of Armies.

15 The Lord, GOD of Armies says, "Go,
get yourself to this treasurer, even to
Shebna, who is over the house, and say,
16 'What are you doing here? Who has
you here, that you have dug out a tomb
here?' Cutting himself out a tomb on high,
chiseling a habitation for himself in the
rock!"
17 Behold, the LORD will overcome you
and hurl you away violently. Yes, he will
grasp you firmly.
18 He will surely wind you around and
around, and throw you like a ball into a
large country. There you will die, and
there the chariots of your glory will be,
you disgrace of your lord's house.
19 I will thrust you from your office. You
will be pulled down from your station.

20 It will happen in that day that I will
call my servant Eliakim the son of Hilkiah,
21 and I will clothe him with your robe,
and strengthen him with your belt. I will
commit your government into his hand;
and he will be a father to the inhabitants
of Jerusalem, and to the house of Judah.
22 I will lay the key of David's house on
his shoulder. He will open, and no one
will shut. He will shut, and no one will
open.
23 I will fasten him like a nail in a sure
place. He will be for a throne of glory to
his father's house.
24 They will hang on him all the glory of
his father's house, the offspring and the
issue, every small vessel, from the cups
even to all the pitchers.

25 "In that day," says the LORD of
Armies, "the nail that was fastened in a
sure place will give way. It will be cut
down and fall. The burden that was on it
will be cut off, for the LORD has spoken it."

23

1 The burden of Tyre.

Howl, you ships of Tarshish! For it is
laid waste, so that there is no house, no
entering in. From the land of Kittim it is
revealed to them.
2 Be still, you inhabitants of the coast,
you whom the merchants of Sidon that
pass over the sea have replenished.
3 On great waters, the seed of the
Shihor, the harvest of the Nile, was her
revenue. She was the market of nations.
4 Be ashamed, Sidon; for the sea has
spoken, the stronghold of the sea, saying,
"I have not travailed, nor given birth,
neither have I nourished young men, nor
brought up virgins."
5 When the report comes to Egypt, they
will be in anguish at the report of Tyre.
6 Pass over to Tarshish! Wail, you
inhabitants of the coast!
7 Is this your joyous city, whose
antiquity is of ancient days, whose feet
carried her far away to travel?
8 Who has planned this against Tyre, the
giver of crowns, whose merchants are
princes, whose traders are the honorable
of the earth?
9 The LORD of Armies has planned it, to
stain the pride of all glory, to bring into
contempt all the honorable of the earth.
10 Pass through your land like the Nile,
daughter of Tarshish. There is no
restraint any more.
11 He has stretched out his hand over
the sea. He has shaken the kingdoms. The
LORD has ordered the destruction of
Canaan's strongholds.
12 He said, "You shall rejoice no more,
you oppressed virgin daughter of Sidon.
Arise, pass over to Kittim. Even there you
will have no rest."

‡ **22:12** When rendered in ALL CAPITAL LETTERS, "LORD" or "GOD" is the translation of God's Proper Name (Hebrew "יהוה", usually pronounced Yahweh). § **22:14** When rendered in ALL CAPITAL LETTERS, "LORD" or "GOD" is the translation of God's Proper Name (Hebrew "יהוה", usually pronounced Yahweh).

13 Behold, the land of the Chaldeans.
This people didn't exist. The Assyrians
founded it for those who dwell in the
wilderness. They set up their towers.
They overthrew its palaces. They made it
a ruin.
14 Howl, you ships of Tarshish, for your
stronghold is laid waste!
15 It will come to pass in that day that
Tyre will be forgotten seventy years,
according to the days of one king. After
the end of seventy years it will be to Tyre
like in the song of the prostitute.
16 Take a harp; go about the city, you
prostitute that has been forgotten. Make
sweet melody. Sing many songs, that you
may be remembered.
17 It will happen after the end of seventy
years that the LORD will visit Tyre. She
will return to her wages, and will play the
prostitute with all the kingdoms of the
world on the surface of the earth.
18 Her merchandise and her wages will
be holiness to the LORD. It will not be
treasured nor laid up; for her
merchandise will be for those who dwell
before the LORD, to eat sufficiently, and
for durable clothing.

24

1 Behold, the LORD makes the earth
empty, makes it waste, turns it upside
down, and scatters its inhabitants.
2 It will be 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 taker of interest, so
with the giver of interest.
3 The earth will be utterly emptied and
utterly laid waste; for the LORD has
spoken this word.
4 The earth mourns and fades away.
The world languishes and fades away.
The lofty people of the earth languish.
5 The earth also is polluted under its
inhabitants, because they have
transgressed the laws, violated the
statutes, and broken the everlasting
covenant.
6 Therefore the curse has devoured the
earth, and those who dwell therein are
found guilty. Therefore the inhabitants of
the earth are burned, and few men are
left.
7 The new wine mourns. The vine
languishes. All the merry-hearted sigh.
8 The mirth of tambourines ceases. The
sound of those who rejoice ends. The joy
of the harp ceases.
9 They will not drink wine with a song.
Strong drink will be bitter to those who
drink it.
10 The confused city is broken down.
Every house is shut up, that no man may
come in.
11 There is a crying in the streets
because of the wine. All joy is darkened.
The mirth of the land is gone.
12 The city is left in desolation, and the
gate is struck with destruction.
13 For it will be so within the earth
among the peoples, as the shaking of an
olive tree, as the gleanings when the
vintage is done.

14 These shall lift up their voice. They
will shout for the majesty of the LORD.
They cry aloud from the sea.
15 Therefore glorify the LORD in the
east, even the name of the LORD, the God
of Israel, in the islands of the sea!
16 From the uttermost part of the earth
have we heard songs. Glory to the
righteous!

But I said, "I pine away! I pine away!
woe is me!" The treacherous have dealt
treacherously. Yes, the treacherous have
dealt very treacherously.
17 Fear, the pit, and the snare are on you
who inhabit the earth.
18 It will happen that he who flees from
the noise of the fear will fall into the pit;
and he who comes up out of the middle of
the pit will be taken in the snare; for the
windows on high are opened, and the
foundations of the earth tremble.
19 The earth is utterly broken. The earth
is torn apart. The earth is shaken
violently.
20 The earth will stagger like a drunken
man, and will sway back and forth like a

hammock. Its disobedience will be heavy on it, and it will fall and not rise again.
21 It will happen in that day that the LORD will punish the army of the high ones on high, and the kings of the earth on the earth.
22 They will be gathered together, as prisoners are gathered in the pit, and will be shut up in the prison; and after many days they will be visited.
23 Then the moon will be confounded, and the sun ashamed; for the LORD of Armies will reign on Mount Zion and in Jerusalem; and glory will be before his elders.

25

1 The LORD, you are my God. I will exalt you! I will praise your name, for you have done wonderful things, things planned long ago, in complete faithfulness and truth.
2 For you have made a city into a heap, a fortified city into a ruin, a palace of strangers to be no city. It will never be built.
3 Therefore a strong people will glorify you. A city of awesome nations will fear you.
4 For you have been a stronghold to the poor, a stronghold to the needy in his distress, a refuge from the storm, a shade from the heat, when the blast of the dreaded ones is like a storm against the wall.
5 As the heat in a dry place you will bring down the noise of strangers; as the heat by the shade of a cloud, the song of the dreaded ones will be brought low.
6 In this mountain, the LORD of Armies will make all peoples a feast of choice meat,† a feast of choice wines, of choice meat full of marrow, of well refined choice wines.
7 He will destroy in this mountain the surface of the covering that covers all peoples, and the veil that is spread over all nations.
8 He has swallowed up death forever! The Lord GOD will wipe away tears from off all faces. He will take the reproach of his people away from off all the earth, for the LORD has spoken it.
9 It shall be said in that day, "Behold, this is our God! We have waited for him, and he will save us! This is the LORD! We have waited for him. We will be glad and rejoice in his salvation!"
10 For the LORD's hand will rest in this mountain.
Moab will be trodden down in his place, even like straw is trodden down in the water of the dunghill.
11 He will spread out his hands in the middle of it, like one who swims spreads out hands to swim, but his pride will be humbled together with the craft of his hands.
12 He has brought the high fortress of your walls down, laid low, and brought to the ground, even to the dust.

26

1 In that day, this song will be sung in the land of Judah:
"We have a strong city.
God appoints salvation for walls and bulwarks.
2 Open the gates, that the righteous nation may enter:
the one which keeps faith.
3 You will keep whoever's mind is steadfast in perfect peace,
because he trusts in you.
4 Trust in the LORD† forever;
for in the LORD,‡ the LORD, is an everlasting Rock.
5 For he has brought down those who dwell on high, the lofty city.
He lays it low.
He lays it low even to the ground.
He brings it even to the dust.
6 The foot shall tread it down,
even the feet of the poor
and the steps of the needy."
7 The way of the just is uprightness.
You who are upright make the path of the righteous level.

† **25:6** literally, fat things † **26:4** LORD or GOD in all caps is from the Hebrew יהוה Yahweh except when otherwise noted as being from the short form יה Yah. ‡ **26:4** Hebrew: יה Yah

8 Yes, in the way of your judgments, LORD,
we have waited for you.
Your name and your renown are the
desire of our soul.
9 With my soul I have desired you in the
night.
Yes, with my spirit within me I will
seek you earnestly;
for when your judgments are on the
earth, the inhabitants of the world
learn righteousness.
10 Let favor be shown to the wicked,
yet he will not learn righteousness.
In the land of uprightness he will deal
wrongfully,
and will not see the LORD's majesty.

11 LORD, your hand is lifted up, yet they
don't see;
but they will see your zeal for the
people and be disappointed.
Yes, fire will consume your
adversaries.
12 LORD, you will ordain peace for us,
for you have also done all our work
for us.
13 LORD our God, other lords besides you
have had dominion over us,
but we will only acknowledge your
name.
14 The dead shall not live.
The departed spirits shall not rise.
Therefore you have visited and destroyed
them,
and caused all memory of them to
perish.
15 You have increased the nation, O LORD.
You have increased the nation!
You are glorified!
You have enlarged all the borders of
the land.

16 LORD, in trouble they have visited you.
They poured out a prayer when your
chastening was on them.
17 Just as a woman with child, who draws
near the time of her delivery,
is in pain and cries out in her pangs,
so we have been before you, LORD.
18 We have been with child.
We have been in pain.
We gave birth, it seems, only to wind.
We have not worked any deliverance
on the earth;
neither have the inhabitants of the
world fallen.
19 Your dead shall live.
Their dead bodies shall arise.
Awake and sing, you who dwell in the
dust;
for your dew is like the dew of herbs,
and the earth will cast out the
departed spirits.

20 Come, my people, enter into your
rooms,
and shut your doors behind you.
Hide yourself for a little moment,
until the indignation is past.
21 For, behold, the LORD comes out of his
place to punish the inhabitants of
the earth for their iniquity.
The earth also will disclose her blood,
and will no longer cover her slain.

27

1 In that day, the LORD with his hard
and great and strong sword will punish
leviathan, the fleeing serpent, and
leviathan, the twisted serpent; and he will
kill the dragon that is in the sea.
2 In that day, sing to her, "A pleasant
vineyard!
3 I, the LORD, am its keeper. I will water
it every moment. Lest anyone damage it, I
will keep it night and day.
4 Wrath is not in me, but if I should find
briers and thorns, I would do battle! I
would march on them and I would burn
them together.
5 Or else let him take hold of my
strength, that he may make peace with
me. Let him make peace with me."
6 In days to come, Jacob will take root.
Israel will blossom and bud. They will fill
the surface of the world with fruit.
7 Has he struck them as he struck those
who struck them? Or are they killed like
those who killed them were killed?
8 In measure, when you send them
away, you contend with them. He has
removed them with his rough blast in the
day of the east wind.
9 Therefore by this the iniquity of Jacob
will be forgiven, and this is all the fruit of

taking away his sin: that he makes all the
stones of the altar as chalk stones that are
beaten in pieces, so that the Asherah poles
and the incense altars shall rise no more.
10 For the fortified city is solitary, a
habitation deserted and forsaken, like the
wilderness. The calf will feed there, and
there he will lie down, and consume its
branches.
11 When its boughs are withered, they
will be broken off. The women will come
and set them on fire, for they are a people
of no understanding. Therefore he who
made them will not have compassion on
them, and he who formed them will show
them no favor.
12 It will happen in that day that the
LORD will thresh from the flowing stream
of the Euphrates to the brook of Egypt;
and you will be gathered one by one,
children of Israel.
13 It will happen in that day that a great
trumpet will be blown; and those who
were ready to perish in the land of
Assyria, and those who were outcasts in
the land of Egypt, shall come; and they
will worship the LORD in the holy
mountain at Jerusalem.

28

1 Woe to the crown of pride of the
drunkards of Ephraim, and to the fading
flower of his glorious beauty, which is on
the head of the fertile valley of those who
are overcome with wine!
2 Behold, the Lord has one who is
mighty and strong. Like a storm of hail, a
destroying storm, and like a storm of
mighty waters overflowing, he will cast
them down to the earth with his hand.
3 The crown of pride of the drunkards of
Ephraim will be trodden under foot.
4 The fading flower of his glorious
beauty, which is on the head of the fertile
valley, shall be like the first-ripe fig before
the summer, which someone picks and
eats as soon as he sees it.
5 In that day, the LORD of Armies will
become a crown of glory and a diadem of
beauty to the residue of his people,
6 and a spirit of justice to him who sits in
judgment, and strength to those who turn
back the battle at the gate.
7 They also reel with wine, and stagger
with strong drink. The priest and the
prophet reel with strong drink. They are
swallowed up by wine. They stagger with
strong drink. They err in vision. They
stumble in judgment.
8 For all tables are completely full of
filthy vomit and filthiness.
9 Whom will he teach knowledge? To
whom will he explain the message? Those
who are weaned from the milk, and
drawn from the breasts?
10 For it is precept on precept, precept
on precept; line on line, line on line; here
a little, there a little.
11 But he will speak to this nation with
stammering lips and in another language,
12 to whom he said, “This is the resting
place. Give rest to the weary,” and “This is
the refreshing;” yet they would not hear.
13 Therefore the LORD’s word will be to
them precept on precept, precept on
precept; line on line, line on line; here a
little, there a little; that they may go, fall
backward, be broken, be snared, and be
taken.
14 Therefore hear the LORD’s word, you
scoffers, that rule this people in
Jerusalem:
15 “Because you have said, ‘We have
made a covenant with death, and we are
in agreement with Sheol.† When the
overflowing scourge passes through, it
won’t come to us; for we have made lies
our refuge, and we have hidden ourselves
under falsehood.’ ”
16 Therefore the Lord GOD says,
“Behold, I lay in Zion for a foundation a
stone, a tried stone, a precious
cornerstone of a sure foundation. He who
believes shall not act hastily.
17 I will make justice the measuring line,
and righteousness the plumb line. The
hail will sweep away the refuge of lies,
and the waters will overflow the hiding
place.

† **28:15** Sheol is the place of the dead. ‡ **28:18** Sheol is the place of the dead.

18 Your covenant with death shall be
annulled, and your agreement with
Sheol‡ shall not stand. When the
overflowing scourge passes through, then
you will be trampled down by it.
19 As often as it passes through, it will
seize you; for morning by morning it will
pass through, by day and by night; and it
will be nothing but terror to understand
the message."
20 For the bed is too short to stretch out
on, and the blanket is too narrow to wrap
oneself in.
21 For the LORD will rise up as on Mount
Perazim. He will be angry as in the valley
of Gibeon; that he may do his work, his
unusual work, and bring to pass his act,
his extraordinary act.
22 Now therefore don't be scoffers, lest
your bonds be made strong; for I have
heard a decree of destruction from the
Lord, GOD§ of Armies, on the whole earth.
23 Give ear, and hear my voice! Listen,
and hear my speech!
24 Does he who plows to sow plow
continually? Does he keep turning the soil
and breaking the clods?
25 When he has leveled its surface,
doesn't he plant the dill, and scatter the
cumin seed, and put in the wheat in rows,
the barley in the appointed place, and the
spelt in its place?
26 For his God instructs him in right
judgment and teaches him.
27 For the dill isn't threshed with a sharp
instrument, neither is a cart wheel turned
over the cumin; but the dill is beaten out
with a stick, and the cumin with a rod.
28 Bread flour must be ground; so he
will not always be threshing it. Although
he drives the wheel of his threshing cart
over it, his horses don't grind it.
29 This also comes out from the LORD of
Armies, who is wonderful in counsel, and
excellent in wisdom.

29

1 Woe to Ariel! Ariel, the city where
David encamped! Add year to year; let the
feasts come around;
2 then I will distress Ariel, and there will
be mourning and lamentation. She shall
be to me as an altar hearth.†
3 I will encamp against you all around
you, and will lay siege against you with
posted troops. I will raise siege works
against you.
4 You will be brought down, and will
speak out of the ground. Your speech will
mumble out of the dust. Your voice will be
as of one who has a familiar spirit, out of
the ground, and your speech will whisper
out of the dust.

5 But the multitude of your foes will be
like fine dust, and the multitude of the
ruthless ones like chaff that blows away.
Yes, it will be in an instant, suddenly.
6 She will be visited by the LORD of
Armies with thunder, with earthquake,
with great noise, with whirlwind and
storm, and with the flame of a devouring
fire.
7 The multitude of all the nations that
fight against Ariel, even all who fight
against her and her stronghold, and who
distress her, will be like a dream, a vision
of the night.
8 It will be like when a hungry man
dreams, and behold, he eats; but he
awakes, and his hunger isn't satisfied; or
like when a thirsty man dreams, and
behold, he drinks; but he awakes, and
behold, he is faint, and he is still thirsty.
The multitude of all the nations that fight
against Mount Zion will be like that.

9 Pause and wonder! Blind yourselves
and be blind! They are drunken, but not
with wine; they stagger, but not with
strong drink.
10 For the LORD has poured out on you a
spirit of deep sleep, and has closed your
eyes, the prophets; and he has covered
your heads, the seers.
11 All vision has become to you like the
words of a book that is sealed, which men
deliver to one who is educated, saying,
"Read this, please;" and he says, "I can't,
for it is sealed;"

§ **28:22** When rendered in ALL CAPITAL LETTERS, "LORD" or "GOD" is the translation of God's Proper Name (Hebrew "יהוה", usually pronounced Yahweh). † **29:2** or, Ariel

12 and the book is delivered to one who
is not educated, saying, “Read this,
please;” and he says, “I can’t read.”
13 The Lord said, “Because this people
draws near with their mouth and honors
me with their lips, but they have removed
their heart far from me, and their fear of
me is a commandment of men which has
been taught;
14 therefore, behold, I will proceed to do
a marvelous work among this people,
even a marvelous work and a wonder;
and the wisdom of their wise men will
perish, and the understanding of their
prudent men will be hidden.”
15 Woe to those who deeply hide their
counsel from the LORD, and whose deeds
are in the dark, and who say, “Who sees
us?” and “Who knows us?”
16 You turn things upside down! Should
the potter be thought to be like clay, that
the thing made should say about him who
made it, “He didn’t make me;” or the thing
formed say of him who formed it, “He has
no understanding”?
17 Isn’t it yet a very little while, and
Lebanon will be turned into a fruitful
field, and the fruitful field will be
regarded as a forest?
18 In that day, the deaf will hear the
words of the book, and the eyes of the
blind will see out of obscurity and out of
darkness.
19 The humble also will increase their
joy in the LORD, and the poor among men
will rejoice in the Holy One of Israel.
20 For the ruthless is brought to nothing,
and the scoffer ceases, and all those who
are alert to do evil are cut off—
21 who cause a person to be indicted by
a word, and lay a snare for one who
reproves in the gate, and who deprive the
innocent of justice with false testimony.
22 Therefore the LORD, who redeemed
Abraham, says concerning the house of
Jacob: “Jacob shall no longer be ashamed,
neither shall his face grow pale.
23 But when he sees his children, the
work of my hands, in the middle of him,
they will sanctify my name. Yes, they will
sanctify the Holy One of Jacob, and will
stand in awe of the God of Israel.
24 They also who err in spirit will come
to understanding, and those who grumble
will receive instruction.”

30

1 “Woe to the rebellious children”, says
the LORD, “who take counsel, but not
from me; and who make an alliance, but
not with my Spirit, that they may add sin
to sin;
2 who set out to go down into Egypt
without asking for my advice, to
strengthen themselves in the strength of
Pharaoh, and to take refuge in the shadow
of Egypt!
3 Therefore the strength of Pharaoh will
be your shame, and the refuge in the
shadow of Egypt your confusion.
4 For their princes are at Zoan, and their
ambassadors have come to Hanes.
5 They shall all be ashamed because of a
people that can’t profit them, that are not
a help nor profit, but a shame, and also a
reproach.”
6 The burden of the animals of the
South.
Through the land of trouble and
anguish, of the lioness and the lion, the
viper and fiery flying serpent, they carry
their riches on the shoulders of young
donkeys, and their treasures on the
humps of camels, to an unprofitable
people.
7 For Egypt helps in vain, and to no
purpose; therefore I have called her
Rahab who sits still.
8 Now go, write it before them on a
tablet, and inscribe it in a book, that it may
be for the time to come forever and ever.
9 For it is a rebellious people, lying
children, children who will not hear the
LORD’s law;
10 who tell the seers, “Don’t see!” and
the prophets, “Don’t prophesy to us right
things. Tell us pleasant things. Prophesy
deceits.
11 Get out of the way. Turn away from
the path. Cause the Holy One of Israel to
cease from before us.”
12 Therefore the Holy One of Israel says,
“Because you despise this word, and trust

in oppression and perverseness, and rely on it,
13 therefore this iniquity shall be to you like a breach ready to fall, swelling out in a high wall, whose breaking comes suddenly in an instant.
14 He will break it as a potter's vessel is broken, breaking it in pieces without sparing, so that there won't be found among the broken pieces a piece good enough to take fire from the hearth, or to dip up water out of the cistern."
15 For thus said the Lord GOD, the Holy One of Israel, "You will be saved in returning and rest. Your strength will be in quietness and in confidence." You refused,
16 but you said, "No, for we will flee on horses;" therefore you will flee; and, "We will ride on the swift;" therefore those who pursue you will be swift.
17 One thousand will flee at the threat of one. At the threat of five, you will flee until you are left like a beacon on the top of a mountain, and like a banner on a hill.
18 Therefore the LORD will wait, that he may be gracious to you; and therefore he will be exalted, that he may have mercy on you, for the LORD is a God of justice. Blessed are all those who wait for him.
19 For the people will dwell in Zion at Jerusalem. You will weep no more. He will surely be gracious to you at the voice of your cry. When he hears you, he will answer you.
20 Though the Lord may give you the bread of adversity and the water of affliction, yet your teachers won't be hidden any more, but your eyes will see your teachers;
21 and when you turn to the right hand, and when you turn to the left, your ears will hear a voice behind you, saying, "This is the way. Walk in it."
22 You shall defile the overlaying of your engraved images of silver, and the plating of your molten images of gold. You shall cast them away as an unclean thing. You shall tell it, "Go away!"
23 He will give the rain for your seed, with which you will sow the ground; and bread of the increase of the ground will be rich and plentiful. In that day, your livestock will feed in large pastures.
24 The oxen likewise and the young donkeys that till the ground will eat savory feed, which has been winnowed with the shovel and with the fork.
25 There will be brooks and streams of water on every lofty mountain and on every high hill in the day of the great slaughter, when the towers fall.
26 Moreover the 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 light of seven days, in the day that the LORD binds up the fracture of his people, and heals the wound they were struck with.

27 Behold, the LORD's name comes from far away, burning with his anger, and in thick rising smoke. His lips are full of indignation. His tongue is as a devouring fire.
28 His breath is as an overflowing stream that reaches even to the neck, to sift the nations with the sieve of destruction. A bridle that leads to ruin will be in the jaws of the peoples.
29 You will have a song, as in the night when a holy feast is kept, and gladness of heart, as when one goes with a flute to come to the LORD's mountain, to Israel's Rock.
30 The LORD will cause his glorious voice to be heard, and will show the descent of his arm, with the indignation of his anger and the flame of a devouring fire, with a blast, storm, and hailstones.
31 For through the LORD's voice the Assyrian will be dismayed. He will strike him with his rod.
32 Every stroke of the rod of punishment, which the LORD will lay on him, will be with the sound of tambourines and harps. He will fight with them in battles, brandishing weapons.
33 For his burning place has long been ready. Yes, it is prepared for the king. He has made its pyre deep and large with fire and much wood. The LORD's breath, like a stream of sulfur, kindles it.

31

1 Woe to those who go down to Egypt for help,
and rely on horses,
and trust in chariots because they are many,
and in horsemen because they are very strong,
but they don't look to the Holy One of Israel,
and they don't seek the LORD!
2 Yet he also is wise, and will bring disaster,
and will not call back his words, but will arise against the house of the evildoers,
and against the help of those who work iniquity.
3 Now the Egyptians are men, and not God;
and their horses flesh, and not spirit.
When the LORD stretches out his hand,
both he who helps shall stumble,
and he who is helped shall fall,
and they all shall be consumed together.

4 For the LORD says to me,
"As the lion and the young lion growling over his prey,
if a multitude of shepherds is called together against him,
will not be dismayed at their voice,
nor abase himself for their noise,
so the LORD of Armies will come down to fight on Mount Zion and on its heights.
5 As birds hovering, so the LORD of Armies will protect Jerusalem.
He will protect and deliver it.
He will pass over and preserve it."
6 Return to him from whom you have deeply revolted, children of Israel.
7 For in that day everyone shall cast away his idols of silver and his idols of gold—sin which your own hands have made for you.
8 "The Assyrian will fall by the sword, not of man;
and the sword, not of mankind, shall devour him.
He will flee from the sword,
and his young men will become subject to forced labor.
9 His rock will pass away by reason of terror,
and his princes will be afraid of the banner,"
says the LORD, whose fire is in Zion,
and his furnace in Jerusalem.

32

1 Behold, a king shall reign in righteousness,
and princes shall rule in justice.
2 A man shall be as a hiding place from the wind,
and a covert from the storm,
as streams of water in a dry place,
as the shade of a large rock in a weary land.
3 The eyes of those who see will not be dim,
and the ears of those who hear will listen.
4 The heart of the rash will understand knowledge,
and the tongue of the stammerers will be ready to speak plainly.
5 The fool will no longer be called noble,
nor the scoundrel be highly respected.
6 For the fool will speak folly,
and his heart will work iniquity,
to practice profanity,
and to utter error against the LORD,
to make empty the soul of the hungry,
and to cause the drink of the thirsty to fail.
7 The ways of the scoundrel are evil.
He devises wicked plans to destroy the humble with lying words,
even when the needy speaks right.
8 But the noble devises noble things,
and he will continue in noble things.

9 Rise up, you women who are at ease!
Hear my voice!
You careless daughters, give ear to my speech!
10 For days beyond a year you will be troubled, you careless women;
for the vintage will fail.
The harvest won't come.

11 Tremble, you women who are at ease!
Be troubled, you careless ones!
Strip yourselves, make yourselves naked,
and put sackcloth on your waist.
12 Beat your breasts for the pleasant fields,
for the fruitful vine.
13 Thorns and briers will come up on my people's land;
yes, on all the houses of joy in the joyous city.
14 For the palace will be forsaken.
The populous city will be deserted.
The hill and the watchtower will be for dens forever,
a delight for wild donkeys,
a pasture of flocks,
15 until the Spirit is poured on us from on high,
and the wilderness becomes a fruitful field,
and the fruitful field is considered a forest.

16 Then justice will dwell in the wilderness;
and righteousness will remain in the fruitful field.
17 The work of righteousness will be peace,
and the effect of righteousness, quietness and confidence forever.
18 My people will live in a peaceful habitation,
in safe dwellings,
and in quiet resting places,
19 though hail flattens the forest,
and the city is leveled completely.
20 Blessed are you who sow beside all waters,
who send out the feet of the ox and the donkey.

33

1 Woe to you who destroy, but you weren't destroyed,
and who betray, but nobody betrayed you!
When you have finished destroying, you will be destroyed;
and when you have finished betrayal, you will be betrayed.

2 LORD, be gracious to us. We have waited for you.
Be our strength every morning,
our salvation also in the time of trouble.
3 At the noise of the thunder, the peoples have fled.
When you lift yourself up, the nations are scattered.
4 Your plunder will be gathered as the caterpillar gathers.
Men will leap on it as locusts leap.
5 The LORD is exalted, for he dwells on high.
He has filled Zion with justice and righteousness.
6 There will be stability in your times,
abundance of salvation, wisdom, and knowledge.
The fear of the LORD is your treasure.

7 Behold, their valiant ones cry outside;
the ambassadors of peace weep bitterly.
8 The highways are desolate.
The traveling man ceases.
The covenant is broken.
He has despised the cities.
He doesn't respect man.
9 The land mourns and languishes.
Lebanon is confounded and withers away.
Sharon is like a desert, and Bashan and Carmel are stripped bare.
10 "Now I will arise," says the LORD.
"Now I will lift myself up.
Now I will be exalted.
11 You will conceive chaff.
You will give birth to stubble.
Your breath is a fire that will devour you.
12 The peoples will be like the burning of lime,
like thorns that are cut down and burned in the fire.

13 Hear, you who are far off, what I have done;
and, you who are near, acknowledge my might."
14 The sinners in Zion are afraid.
Trembling has seized the godless ones.

Who among us can live with the
devouring fire?
Who among us can live with
everlasting burning?
15 He who walks righteously
and speaks blamelessly,
he who despises the gain of
oppressions,
who gestures with his hands, refusing
to take a bribe,
who stops his ears from hearing of
bloodshed,
and shuts his eyes from looking at
evil—
16 he will dwell on high.
His place of defense will be the
fortress of rocks.
His bread will be supplied.
His waters will be sure.

17 Your eyes will see the king in his beauty.
They will see a distant land.
18 Your heart will meditate on the terror.
Where is he who counted?
Where is he who weighed?
Where is he who counted the towers?
19 You will no longer see the fierce people,
a people of a deep speech that you
can't comprehend,
with a strange language that you can't
understand.
20 Look at Zion, the city of our appointed
festivals.
Your eyes will see Jerusalem, a quiet
habitation,
a tent that won't be removed.
Its stakes will never be plucked up,
nor will any of its cords be broken.
21 But there the LORD will be with us in
majesty,
a place of wide rivers and streams,
in which no galley with oars will go,
neither will any gallant ship pass by
there.
22 For the LORD is our judge.
The LORD is our lawgiver.
The LORD is our king.
He will save us.

23 Your rigging is untied.
They couldn't strengthen the foot of
their mast.
They couldn't spread the sail.
Then the prey of a great plunder was
divided.
The lame took the prey.

24 The inhabitant won't say, "I am sick."
The people who dwell therein will be
forgiven their iniquity.

34

1 Come near, you nations, to hear!
Listen, you peoples.
Let the earth and all it contains hear,
the world, and everything that comes
from it.
2 For the LORD is enraged against all the
nations,
and angry with all their armies.
He has utterly destroyed them.
He has given them over for slaughter.
3 Their slain will also be cast out,
and the stench of their dead bodies
will come up.
The mountains will melt in their
blood.
4 All of the army of the sky will be
dissolved.
The sky will be rolled up like a scroll,
and all its armies will fade away,
as a leaf fades from off a vine or a fig
tree.
5 For my sword has drunk its fill in the sky.
Behold, it will come down on Edom,
and on the people of my curse, for
judgment.
6 The LORD's sword is filled with blood.
It is covered with fat, with the blood
of lambs and goats,
with the fat of the kidneys of rams;
for the LORD has a sacrifice in Bozrah,
and a great slaughter in the land of
Edom.
7 The wild oxen will come down with
them,
and the young bulls with the mighty
bulls;
and their land will be drunken with
blood,
and their dust made greasy with fat.

8 For the LORD has a day of vengeance,
a year of recompense for the cause of
Zion.
9 Its streams will be turned into pitch,
its dust into sulfur,

and its land will become burning
pitch.
10 It won't be quenched night or day.
Its smoke will go up forever.
From generation to generation, it will
lie waste.
No one will pass through it forever
and ever.
11 But the pelican and the porcupine will
possess it.
The owl and the raven will dwell in it.
He will stretch the line of confusion over
it,
and the plumb line of emptiness.
12 They shall call its nobles to the
kingdom, but none shall be there;
and all its princes shall be nothing.
13 Thorns will come up in its palaces,
nettles and thistles in its fortresses;
and it will be a habitation of jackals,
a court for ostriches.
14 The wild animals of the desert will meet
with the wolves,
and the wild goat will cry to his
fellow.
Yes, the night creature† shall settle there,
and shall find herself a place of rest.
15 The arrow snake will make her nest
there,
and lay, hatch, and gather under her
shade.
Yes, the kites will be gathered there,
every one with her mate.

16 Search in the book of the LORD, and
read:
not one of these will be missing.
None will lack her mate.
For my mouth has commanded,
and his Spirit has gathered them.
17 He has cast the lot for them,
and his hand has divided it to them
with a measuring line.
They shall possess it forever.
From generation to generation they
will dwell in it.

35

1 The wilderness and the dry land will be
glad.
The desert will rejoice and blossom
like a rose.
2 It will blossom abundantly,
and rejoice even with joy and singing.
Lebanon's glory will be given to it,
the excellence of Carmel and Sharon.
They will see the LORD's glory,
the excellence of our God.

3 Strengthen the weak hands,
and make the feeble knees firm.
4 Tell those who have a fearful heart, "Be
strong!
Don't be afraid!
Behold, your God will come with
vengeance, God's retribution.
He will come and save you.

5 Then the eyes of the blind will be opened,
and the ears of the deaf will be
unstopped.
6 Then the lame man will leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the mute will sing;
for waters will break out in the
wilderness,
and streams in the desert.
7 The burning sand will become a pool,
and the thirsty ground springs of
water.
Grass with reeds and rushes will be in
the habitation of jackals, where
they lay.
8 A highway will be there, a road,
and it will be called "The Holy Way".
The unclean shall not pass over it,
but it will be for those who walk in
the Way.
Wicked fools shall not go there.
9 No lion will be there,
nor will any ravenous animal go up
on it.
They will not be found there;
but the redeemed will walk there.
10 Then the LORD's ransomed ones will
return,
and come with singing to Zion;
and everlasting joy will be on their
heads.
They will obtain gladness and joy,
and sorrow and sighing will flee
away."

† **34:14** literally, lilith, which could also be a night demon or night monster

36

1 Now in the fourteenth year of King Hezekiah, Sennacherib king of Assyria attacked all of the fortified cities of Judah and captured them.
2 The king of Assyria sent Rabshakeh from Lachish to Jerusalem to King Hezekiah with a large army. He stood by the aqueduct from the upper pool in the fuller's field highway.
3 Then Eliakim the son of Hilkiah, who was over the household, and Shebna the scribe, and Joah, the son of Asaph the recorder came out to him.
4 Rabshakeh said to them, "Now tell Hezekiah, 'The great king, the king of Assyria, says, "What confidence is this in which you trust?
5 I say that your counsel and strength for the war are only vain words. Now in whom do you trust, that you have rebelled against me?
6 Behold, you trust in the staff of this bruised reed, even in Egypt, which if a man leans on it, it will go into his hand and pierce it. So is Pharaoh king of Egypt to all who trust in him.
7 But if you tell me, 'We trust in the LORD our God,' isn't that he whose high places and whose altars Hezekiah has taken away, and has said to Judah and to Jerusalem, 'You shall worship before this altar'?"
8 Now therefore, please make a pledge to my master the king of Assyria, and I will give you two thousand horses, if you are able on your part to set riders on them.
9 How then can you turn away the face of one captain of the least of my master's servants, and put your trust in Egypt for chariots and for horsemen?
10 Have I come up now without the LORD against this land to destroy it? The LORD said to me, "Go up against this land, and destroy it." ' "
11 Then Eliakim, Shebna and Joah said to Rabshakeh, "Please speak to your servants in Aramaic, for we understand it. Don't speak to us in the Jews' language in the hearing of the people who are on the wall."
12 But Rabshakeh said, "Has my master sent me only to your master and to you, to speak these words, and not to the men who sit on the wall, who will eat their own dung and drink their own urine with you?"
13 Then Rabshakeh stood, and called out with a loud voice in the Jews' language, and said, "Hear the words of the great king, the king of Assyria!
14 The king says, 'Don't let Hezekiah deceive you; for he will not be able to deliver you.
15 Don't let Hezekiah make you trust in the LORD, saying, "The LORD will surely deliver us. This city won't be given into the hand of the king of Assyria." '
16 Don't listen to Hezekiah, for the king of Assyria says, 'Make your peace with me, and come out to me; and each of you eat from his vine, and each one from his fig tree, and each one of you drink the waters of his own cistern;
17 until I come and take you away to a land like your own land, a land of grain and new wine, a land of bread and vineyards.
18 Beware lest Hezekiah persuade you, saying, "The LORD will deliver us." Have any of the gods of the nations delivered their lands from the hand of the king of Assyria?
19 Where are the gods of Hamath and Arpad? Where are the gods of Sepharvaim? Have they delivered Samaria from my hand?
20 Who are they among all the gods of these countries that have delivered their country out of my hand, that the LORD should deliver Jerusalem out of my hand?' "
21 But they remained silent, and said nothing in reply, for the king's commandment was, "Don't answer him."
22 Then Eliakim the son of Hilkiah, who was over the household, and Shebna the scribe, and Joah, the son of Asaph the recorder, came to Hezekiah with their clothes torn, and told him the words of Rabshakeh.

37

1 When King Hezekiah heard it, he tore
his clothes, covered himself with
sackcloth, and went into the LORD's
house.
2 He sent Eliakim, who was over the
household, and Shebna the scribe, and the
elders of the priests, covered with
sackcloth, to Isaiah the prophet, the son of
Amoz.
3 They said to him, "Hezekiah says,
'Today is a day of trouble, and of rebuke,
and of rejection; for the children have
come to the birth, and there is no strength
to give birth.
4 It may be the LORD your God will hear
the words of Rabshakeh, whom the king
of Assyria his master has sent to defy the
living God, and will rebuke the words
which the LORD your God has heard.
Therefore lift up your prayer for the
remnant that is left.' "
5 So the servants of King Hezekiah came
to Isaiah.
6 Isaiah said to them, "Tell your master,
'The LORD says, "Don't be afraid of the
words that you have heard, with which
the servants of the king of Assyria have
blasphemed me.
7 Behold, I will put a spirit in him and he
will hear news, and will return to his own
land. I will cause him to fall by the sword
in his own land." ' "
8 So Rabshakeh returned, and found the
king of Assyria warring against Libnah,
for he heard that he had departed from
Lachish.
9 He heard news concerning Tirhakah
king of Ethiopia, "He has come out to fight
against you." When he heard it, he sent
messengers to Hezekiah, saying,
10 "Thus you shall speak to Hezekiah
king of Judah, saying, 'Don't let your God
in whom you trust deceive you, saying,
"Jerusalem won't be given into the hand
of the king of Assyria."
11 Behold, you have heard what the
kings of Assyria have done to all lands, by
destroying them utterly. Shall you be
delivered?
12 Have the gods of the nations
delivered them, which my fathers have
destroyed, Gozan, Haran, Rezeph, and the
children of Eden who were in Telassar?
13 Where is the king of Hamath, and the
king of Arpad, and the king of the city of
Sepharvaim, of Hena, and Ivvah?' "

14 Hezekiah received the letter from the
hand of the messengers and read it. Then
Hezekiah went up to the LORD's house,
and spread it before the LORD.
15 Hezekiah prayed to the LORD, saying,
16 "LORD of Armies, the God of Israel,
who is enthroned among the cherubim,
you are the God, even you alone, of all the
kingdoms of the earth. You have made
heaven and earth.
17 Turn your ear, LORD, and hear. Open
your eyes, LORD, and behold. Hear all of
the words of Sennacherib, who has sent to
defy the living God.
18 Truly, LORD, the kings of Assyria have
destroyed all the countries and their land,
19 and have cast their gods into the fire;
for they were no gods, but the work of
men's hands, wood and stone; therefore
they have destroyed them.
20 Now therefore, LORD our God, save
us from his hand, that all the kingdoms of
the earth may know that you are the
LORD, even you only."

21 Then Isaiah the son of Amoz sent to
Hezekiah, saying, "The LORD, the God of
Israel says, 'Because you have prayed to
me against Sennacherib king of Assyria,
22 this is the word which the LORD has
spoken concerning him: The virgin
daughter of Zion has despised you and
ridiculed you. The daughter of Jerusalem
has shaken her head at you.
23 Whom have you defied and
blasphemed? Against whom have you
exalted your voice and lifted up your eyes
on high? Against the Holy One of Israel.
24 By your servants, you have defied the
Lord, and have said, "With the multitude
of my chariots I have come up to the
height of the mountains, to the innermost
parts of Lebanon. I will cut down its tall
cedars and its choice cypress trees. I will
enter into its farthest height, the forest of
its fruitful field.

25 I have dug and drunk water, and with
the sole of my feet I will dry up all the
rivers of Egypt."
26 " 'Have you not heard how I have
done it long ago, and formed it in ancient
times? Now I have brought it to pass, that
it should be yours to destroy fortified
cities, turning them into ruinous heaps.
27 Therefore their inhabitants had little
power. They were dismayed and
confounded. They were like the grass of
the field, and like the green herb, like the
grass on the housetops, and like a field
before its crop has grown.
28 But I know your sitting down, your
going out, your coming in, and your
raging against me.
29 Because of your raging against me,
and because your arrogance has come up
into my ears, therefore I will put my hook
in your nose and my bridle in your lips,
and I will turn you back by the way by
which you came.
30 " 'This shall be the sign to you: You
will eat this year that which grows of
itself, and in the second year that which
springs from it; and in the third year sow
and reap and plant vineyards, and eat
their fruit.
31 The remnant that is escaped of the
house of Judah will again take root
downward, and bear fruit upward.
32 For out of Jerusalem a remnant will
go out, and survivors will escape from
Mount Zion. The zeal of the LORD of
Armies will perform this.'
33 "Therefore the LORD says concerning
the king of Assyria, 'He will not come to
this city, nor shoot an arrow there,
neither will he come before it with shield,
nor cast up a mound against it.
34 He will return the way that he came,
and he won't come to this city,' says the
LORD.
35 'For I will defend this city to save it,
for my own sake, and for my servant
David's sake.' "
36 Then the LORD's angel went out and
struck one hundred and eighty-five
thousand men in the camp of the
Assyrians. When men arose early in the
morning, behold, these were all dead
bodies.
37 So Sennacherib king of Assyria
departed, went away, returned to
Nineveh, and stayed there.
38 As he was worshiping in the house of
Nisroch his god, Adrammelech and
Sharezer his sons struck him with the
sword; and they escaped into the land of
Ararat. Esar Haddon his son reigned in
his place.

38

1 In those days Hezekiah was sick and
near death. Isaiah the prophet, the son of
Amoz, came to him, and said to him, "The
LORD† says, 'Set your house in order, for
you will die, and not live.' "
2 Then Hezekiah turned his face to the
wall and prayed to the LORD,
3 and said, "Remember now, LORD, I
beg you, how I have walked before you in
truth and with a perfect heart, and have
done that which is good in your sight."
Then Hezekiah wept bitterly.
4 Then the LORD's word came to Isaiah,
saying,
5 "Go, and tell Hezekiah, 'The LORD, the
God of David your father, says, "I have
heard your prayer. I have seen your tears.
Behold, I will add fifteen years to your life.
6 I will deliver you and this city out of
the hand of the king of Assyria, and I will
defend this city.
7 This shall be the sign to you from the
LORD, that the LORD will do this thing
that he has spoken.
8 Behold, I will cause the shadow on the
sundial, which has gone down on the
sundial of Ahaz with the sun, to return
backward ten steps." ' " So the sun
returned ten steps on the sundial on
which it had gone down.
9 The writing of Hezekiah king of Judah,
when he had been sick, and had
recovered of his sickness:

† **38:1** LORD or GOD in all caps is from the Hebrew יהוה Yahweh except when otherwise noted as being from the short form יה Yah. ‡ **38:10** Sheol is the place of the dead.

10 I said, “In the middle of my life I go into
the gates of Sheol.‡
I am deprived of the residue of my
years.”
11 I said, “I won’t see the LORD,§
the LORD† in the land of the living.
I will see man no more with the
inhabitants of the world.
12 My dwelling is removed,
and is carried away from me like a
shepherd’s tent.
I have rolled up my life like a weaver.
He will cut me off from the loom.
From day even to night you will make
an end of me.
13 I waited patiently until morning.
He breaks all my bones like a lion.
From day even to night you will make
an end of me.
14 I chattered like a swallow or a crane.
I moaned like a dove.
My eyes weaken looking upward.
Lord, I am oppressed.
Be my security.”
15 What will I say?
He has both spoken to me, and
himself has done it.
I will walk carefully all my years
because of the anguish of my soul.
16 Lord, men live by these things;
and my spirit finds life in all of them.
You restore me, and cause me to live.
17 Behold, for peace I had great anguish,
but you have in love for my soul
delivered it from the pit of
corruption;
for you have cast all my sins behind
your back.
18 For Sheol‡ can’t praise you.
Death can’t celebrate you.
Those who go down into the pit can’t hope
for your truth.
19 The living, the living, he shall praise
you, as I do today.
The father shall make known your
truth to the children.
20 The LORD will save me.
Therefore we will sing my songs with
stringed instruments all the days of
our life in the LORD’s house.

21 Now Isaiah had said, “Let them take a
cake of figs, and lay it for a poultice on the
boil, and he shall recover.”
22 Hezekiah also had said, “What is the
sign that I will go up to the LORD’s house?”

39

1 At that time, Merodach-baladan the
son of Baladan, king of Babylon, sent
letters and a present to Hezekiah, for he
heard that he had been sick, and had
recovered.
2 Hezekiah was pleased with them, and
showed them the house of his precious
things, the silver, the gold, the spices, and
the precious oil, and all the house of his
armor, and all that was found in his
treasures. There was nothing in his
house, nor in all his dominion, that
Hezekiah didn’t show them.
3 Then Isaiah the prophet came to King
Hezekiah, and asked him, “What did these
men say? From where did they come to
you?”
Hezekiah said, “They have come from a
country far from me, even from Babylon.”
4 Then he asked, “What have they seen
in your house?”
Hezekiah answered, “They have seen
all that is in my house. There is nothing
among my treasures that I have not
shown them.”
5 Then Isaiah said to Hezekiah, “Hear
the word of the LORD of Armies:
6 ‘Behold, the days are coming when all
that is in your house, and that which your
fathers have stored up until today, will be
carried to Babylon. Nothing will be left,’
says the LORD.
7 ‘They will take away your sons who
will issue from you, whom you shall
father, and they will be eunuchs in the
king of Babylon’s palace.’ ”
8 Then Hezekiah said to Isaiah, “The
LORD’s word which you have spoken is
good.” He said moreover, “For there will
be peace and truth in my days.”

40

1 “Comfort, comfort my people,” says
your God.

§ **38:11** Hebrew: יה Yah † **38:11** Hebrew: יה Yah ‡ **38:18** Sheol is the place of the dead.

2 “Speak comfortably to Jerusalem, and
call out to her that her warfare is
accomplished, that her iniquity is
pardoned, that she has received of the
LORD’s hand double for all her sins.”
3 The voice of one who calls out,
“Prepare the way of the LORD in the
wilderness!
Make a level highway in the desert for
our God.
4 Every valley shall be exalted,
and every mountain and hill shall be
made low.
The uneven shall be made level,
and the rough places a plain.
5 The LORD’s glory shall be revealed,
and all flesh shall see it together;
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken
it.”

6 The voice of one saying, “Cry out!”
One said, “What shall I cry?”
“All flesh is like grass,
and all its glory is like the flower of
the field.
7 The grass withers,
the flower fades,
because the LORD’s breath blows on
it.
Surely the people are like grass.
8 The grass withers,
the flower fades;
but the word of our God stands
forever.”

9 You who tell good news to Zion, go up on
a high mountain.
You who tell good news to Jerusalem,
lift up your voice with strength!
Lift it up! Don’t be afraid!
Say to the cities of Judah, “Behold,
your God!”
10 Behold, the Lord GOD will come as a
mighty one,
and his arm will rule for him.
Behold, his reward is with him,
and his recompense before him.
11 He will feed his flock like a shepherd.
He will gather the lambs in his arm,
and carry them in his bosom.
He will gently lead those who have
their young.

12 Who has measured the waters in the
hollow of his hand,
and marked off the sky with his span,
and calculated the dust of the earth in
a measuring basket,
and weighed the mountains in scales,
and the hills in a balance?
13 Who has directed the LORD’s Spirit,
or has taught him as his counselor?
14 Who did he take counsel with,
and who instructed him,
and taught him in the path of justice,
and taught him knowledge,
and showed him the way of
understanding?
15 Behold, the nations are like a drop in a
bucket,
and are regarded as a speck of dust on
a balance.
Behold, he lifts up the islands like a
very little thing.
16 Lebanon is not sufficient to burn,
nor its animals sufficient for a burnt
offering.
17 All the nations are like nothing before
him.
They are regarded by him as less than
nothing, and vanity.

18 To whom then will you liken God?
Or what likeness will you compare to
him?
19 A workman has cast an image,
and the goldsmith overlays it with
gold,
and casts silver chains for it.
20 He who is too impoverished for such an
offering chooses a tree that will not
rot.
He seeks a skillful workman to set up
a carved image for him that will not
be moved.

21 Haven’t you known?
Haven’t you heard?
Haven’t you been told from the
beginning?
Haven’t you understood from the
foundations of the earth?
22 It is he who sits above the circle of the
earth,
and its inhabitants are like
grasshoppers;

who stretches out the heavens like a curtain,
and spreads them out like a tent to dwell in,
23 who brings princes to nothing,
who makes the judges of the earth meaningless.
24 They are planted scarcely.
They are sown scarcely.
Their stock has scarcely taken root in the ground.
He merely blows on them, and they wither,
and the whirlwind takes them away as stubble.

25 "To whom then will you liken me?
Who is my equal?" says the Holy One.
26 Lift up your eyes on high,
and see who has created these,
who brings out their army by number.
He calls them all by name.
By the greatness of his might,
and because he is strong in power,
not one is lacking.

27 Why do you say, Jacob,
and speak, Israel,
"My way is hidden from the LORD,
and the justice due me is disregarded by my God"?
28 Haven't you known?
Haven't you heard?
The everlasting God, the LORD,
the Creator of the ends of the earth,
doesn't faint.
He isn't weary.
His understanding is unsearchable.
29 He gives power to the weak.
He increases the strength of him who has no might.
30 Even the youths faint and get weary,
and the young men utterly fall;
31 but those who wait for the LORD will renew their strength.
They will mount up with wings like eagles.
They will run, and not be weary.
They will walk, and not faint.

41

1 "Keep silent before me, islands,
and let the peoples renew their strength.
Let them come near,
then let them speak.
Let's meet together for judgment.
2 Who has raised up one from the east?
Who called him to his feet in righteousness?
He hands over nations to him
and makes him rule over kings.
He gives them like the dust to his sword,
like the driven stubble to his bow.
3 He pursues them
and passes by safely,
even by a way that he had not gone with his feet.
4 Who has worked and done it,
calling the generations from the beginning?
I, the LORD, the first, and with the last, I am he."

5 The islands have seen, and fear.
The ends of the earth tremble.
They approach, and come.
6 Everyone helps his neighbor.
They say to their brothers, "Be strong!"
7 So the carpenter encourages the goldsmith.
He who smooths with the hammer encourages him who strikes the anvil,
saying of the soldering, "It is good;"
and he fastens it with nails, that it might not totter.

8 "But you, Israel, my servant,
Jacob whom I have chosen,
the offspring of Abraham my friend,
9 you whom I have taken hold of from the ends of the earth,
and called from its corners,
and said to you, 'You are my servant. I have chosen you and have not cast you away.'
10 Don't you be afraid, for I am with you.
Don't be dismayed, for I am your God.
I will strengthen you.

Yes, I will help you.
Yes, I will uphold you with the right
hand of my righteousness.
11 Behold, all those who are incensed
against you will be disappointed
and confounded.
Those who strive with you will be like
nothing, and shall perish.
12 You will seek them, and won't find them,
even those who contend with you.
Those who war against you will be as
nothing,
as a nonexistent thing.
13 For I, the LORD your God, will hold your
right hand,
saying to you, 'Don't be afraid.
I will help you.'
14 Don't be afraid, you worm Jacob,
and you men of Israel.
I will help you," says the LORD.
"Your Redeemer is the Holy One of
Israel.
15 Behold, I have made you into a new
sharp threshing instrument with
teeth.
You will thresh the mountains,
and beat them small,
and will make the hills like chaff.
16 You will winnow them,
and the wind will carry them away,
and the whirlwind will scatter them.
You will rejoice in the LORD.
You will glory in the Holy One of
Israel.

17 The poor and needy seek water, and
there is none.
Their tongue fails for thirst.
I, the LORD, will answer them.
I, the God of Israel, will not forsake
them.
18 I will open rivers on the bare heights,
and springs in the middle of the
valleys.
I will make the wilderness a pool of
water,
and the dry land springs of water.
19 I will put cedar, acacia, myrtle, and oil
trees in the wilderness.
I will set cypress trees, pine, and box
trees together in the desert;
20 that they may see, know, consider,
and understand together,
that the LORD's hand has done this,
and the Holy One of Israel has created
it.

21 Produce your cause," says the LORD.
"Bring out your strong reasons!" says
the King of Jacob.
22 "Let them announce and declare to us
what will happen!
Declare the former things, what they
are,
that we may consider them, and
know the latter end of them;
or show us things to come.
23 Declare the things that are to come
hereafter,
that we may know that you are gods.
Yes, do good, or do evil,
that we may be dismayed,
and see it together.
24 Behold, you are nothing,
and your work is nothing.
He who chooses you is an
abomination.

25 "I have raised up one from the north,
and he has come,
from the rising of the sun, one who
calls on my name,
and he shall come on rulers as on
mortar,
and as the potter treads clay.
26 Who has declared it from the
beginning, that we may know?
and before, that we may say, 'He is
right'?
Surely, there is no one who declares.
Surely, there is no one who shows.
Surely, there is no one who hears
your words.
27 I am the first to say to Zion, 'Behold, look
at them;'
and I will give one who brings good
news to Jerusalem.
28 When I look, there is no man,
even among them there is no
counselor who, when I ask, can
answer a word.
29 Behold, all of their deeds are vanity and
nothing.
Their molten images are wind and
confusion.

42

1 “Behold, my servant, whom I uphold,
my chosen, in whom my soul delights:
I have put my Spirit on him.
He will bring justice to the nations.
2 He will not shout,
nor raise his voice,
nor cause it to be heard in the street.
3 He won’t break a bruised reed.
He won’t quench a dimly burning wick.
He will faithfully bring justice.
4 He will not fail nor be discouraged,
until he has set justice on the earth,
and the islands wait for his law.”

5 God the LORD,
he who created the heavens and stretched them out,
he who spread out the earth and that which comes out of it,
he who gives breath to its people and spirit to those who walk in it, says:
6 “I, the LORD, have called you in righteousness.
I will hold your hand.
I will keep you,
and make you a covenant for the people,
as a light for the nations,
7 to open the blind eyes,
to bring the prisoners out of the dungeon,
and those who sit in darkness out of the prison.

8 “I am the LORD.
That is my name.
I will not give my glory to another,
nor my praise to engraved images.
9 Behold, the former things have happened
and I declare new things.
I tell you about them before they come up.”

10 Sing to the LORD a new song,
and his praise from the end of the earth,
you who go down to the sea,
and all that is therein,
the islands and their inhabitants.
11 Let the wilderness and its cities raise their voices,
with the villages that Kedar inhabits.
Let the inhabitants of Sela sing.
Let them shout from the top of the mountains!
12 Let them give glory to the LORD,
and declare his praise in the islands.
13 The LORD will go out like a mighty man.
He will stir up zeal like a man of war.
He will raise a war cry.
Yes, he will shout aloud.
He will triumph over his enemies.

14 “I have been silent a long time.
I have been quiet and restrained myself.
Now I will cry out like a travailing woman. I will both gasp and pant.
15 I will destroy mountains and hills,
and dry up all their herbs.
I will make the rivers islands,
and will dry up the pools.
16 I will bring the blind by a way that they don’t know.
I will lead them in paths that they don’t know.
I will make darkness light before them,
and crooked places straight.
I will do these things,
and I will not forsake them.

17 “Those who trust in engraved images,
who tell molten images,
‘You are our gods,’
will be turned back.
They will be utterly disappointed.

18 “Hear, you deaf,
and look, you blind,
that you may see.
19 Who is blind, but my servant?
Or who is as deaf as my messenger whom I send?
Who is as blind as he who is at peace,
and as blind as the LORD’s servant?
20 You see many things, but don’t observe.
His ears are open, but he doesn’t listen.
21 It pleased the LORD, for his righteousness’ sake, to magnify the law

and make it honorable.
22 But this is a robbed and plundered
people.
All of them are snared in holes,
and they are hidden in prisons.
They have become captives, and no one
delivers,
and a plunder, and no one says,
'Restore them!'

23 Who is there among you who will give
ear to this?
Who will listen and hear for the time
to come?
24 Who gave Jacob as plunder,
and Israel to the robbers?
Didn't the LORD, he against whom we
have sinned?
For they would not walk in his ways,
and they disobeyed his law.
25 Therefore he poured the fierceness of
his anger on him,
and the strength of battle.
It set him on fire all around, but he didn't
know.
It burned him, but he didn't take it to
heart."

43

1 But now the LORD who created you,
Jacob,
and he who formed you, Israel, says:
"Don't be afraid, for I have redeemed you.
I have called you by your name.
You are mine.
2 When you pass through the waters, I will
be with you,
and through the rivers, they will not
overflow you.
When you walk through the fire, you will
not be burned,
and flame will not scorch you.
3 For I am the LORD your God,
the Holy One of Israel,
your Savior.
I have given Egypt as your ransom,
Ethiopia and Seba in your place.
4 Since you have been precious and
honored in my sight,
and I have loved you,
therefore I will give people in your
place,
and nations instead of your life.
5 Don't be afraid, for I am with you.
I will bring your offspring from the
east,
and gather you from the west.
6 I will tell the north, 'Give them up!'
and tell the south, 'Don't hold them
back!
Bring my sons from far away,
and my daughters from the ends of
the earth—
7 everyone who is called by my name,
and whom I have created for my
glory,
whom I have formed,
yes, whom I have made.' "

8 Bring out the blind people who have
eyes,
and the deaf who have ears.
9 Let all the nations be gathered together,
and let the peoples be assembled.
Who among them can declare this,
and show us former things?
Let them bring their witnesses, that they
may be justified,
or let them hear, and say, "That is
true."

10 "You are my witnesses," says the LORD,
"With my servant whom I have
chosen;
that you may know and believe me,
and understand that I am he.
Before me there was no God formed,
neither will there be after me.
11 I myself am the LORD.
Besides me, there is no savior.
12 I have declared, I have saved, and I
have shown,
and there was no strange god among
you.
Therefore you are my witnesses",
says the LORD, "and I am God.
13 Yes, since the day was, I am he.
There is no one who can deliver out of
my hand.
I will work, and who can hinder it?"
14 The LORD, your Redeemer, the Holy
One of Israel says: "For your sake, I have
sent to Babylon, and I will bring all of
them down as fugitives, even the
Chaldeans, in the ships of their rejoicing.

15 I am the LORD, your Holy One, the
Creator of Israel, your King."
16 The LORD, who makes a way in the
sea,
and a path in the mighty waters,
17 who brings out the chariot and horse,
the army and the mighty man
(they lie down together, they shall not
rise;
they are extinct, they are quenched
like a wick) says:
18 "Don't remember the former things,
and don't consider the things of old.
19 Behold, I will do a new thing.
It springs out now.
Don't you know it?
I will even make a way in the wilderness,
and rivers in the desert.
20 The animals of the field, the jackals and
the ostriches, shall honor me,
because I give water in the
wilderness and rivers in the desert,
to give drink to my people, my chosen,
21 the people which I formed for
myself,
that they might declare my praise.

22 Yet you have not called on me, Jacob;
but you have been weary of me,
Israel.
23 You have not brought me any of your
sheep for burnt offerings,
neither have you honored me with
your sacrifices.
I have not burdened you with offerings,
nor wearied you with frankincense.
24 You have bought me no sweet cane with
money,
nor have you filled me with the fat of
your sacrifices,
but you have burdened me with your sins.
You have wearied me with your
iniquities.

25 I, even I, am he who blots out your
transgressions for my own sake;
and I will not remember your sins.
26 Put me in remembrance.
Let us plead together.
Declare your case,
that you may be justified.
27 Your first father sinned,
and your teachers have transgressed
against me.
28 Therefore I will profane the princes of
the sanctuary;
and I will make Jacob a curse,
and Israel an insult."

44

1 Yet listen now, Jacob my servant,
and Israel, whom I have chosen.
2 This is what the LORD who made you,
and formed you from the womb,
who will help you says:
"Don't be afraid, Jacob my servant;
and you, Jeshurun, whom I have
chosen.
3 For I will pour water on him who is
thirsty,
and streams on the dry ground.
I will pour my Spirit on your descendants,
and my blessing on your offspring;
4 and they will spring up among the grass,
as willows by the watercourses.
5 One will say, 'I am the LORD's.'
Another will be called by the name of
Jacob;
and another will write with his hand
'to the LORD,'
and honor the name of Israel."

6 This is what the LORD, the King of Israel,
and his Redeemer, the LORD of
Armies, says:
"I am the first, and I am the last;
and besides me there is no God.
7 Who is like me?
Who will call,
and will declare it,
and set it in order for me,
since I established the ancient
people?
Let them declare the things that are
coming,
and that will happen.
8 Don't fear,
neither be afraid.
Haven't I declared it to you long ago,
and shown it?
You are my witnesses.
Is there a God besides me?
Indeed, there is not.
I don't know any other Rock."

9 Everyone who makes a carved image is
vain.
The things that they delight in will not
profit.
Their own witnesses don't see, nor
know, that they may be
disappointed.
10 Who has fashioned a god,
or molds an image that is profitable
for nothing?
11 Behold, all his fellows will be
disappointed;
and the workmen are mere men.
Let them all be gathered together.
Let them stand up.
They will fear.
They will be put to shame together.

12 The blacksmith takes an ax,
works in the coals,
fashions it with hammers,
and works it with his strong arm.
He is hungry,
and his strength fails;
he drinks no water,
and is faint.
13 The carpenter stretches out a line.
He marks it out with a pencil.
He shapes it with planes.
He marks it out with compasses,
and shapes it like the figure of a man,
with the beauty of a man,
to reside in a house.
14 He cuts down cedars for himself,
and takes the cypress and the oak,
and strengthens for himself one
among the trees of the forest.
He plants a cypress tree,
and the rain nourishes it.
15 Then it will be for a man to burn;
and he takes some of it and warms
himself.
Yes, he burns it and bakes bread.
Yes, he makes a god and worships it;
he makes it a carved image, and falls
down to it.
16 He burns part of it in the fire.
With part of it, he eats meat.
He roasts a roast and is satisfied.
Yes, he warms himself
and says, "Aha! I am warm. I have
seen the fire."
17 The rest of it he makes into a god,
even his engraved image.
He bows down to it and worships,
and prays to it, and says, "Deliver me,
for you are my god!"

18 They don't know, neither do they
consider,
for he has shut their eyes, that they
can't see,
and their hearts, that they can't
understand.
19 No one thinks,
neither is there knowledge nor
understanding to say,
"I have burned part of it in the fire.
Yes, I have also baked bread on its
coals.
I have roasted meat and eaten it.
Shall I make the rest of it into an
abomination?
Shall I bow down to a tree trunk?"
20 He feeds on ashes.
A deceived heart has turned him
aside;
and he can't deliver his soul,
nor say, "Isn't there a lie in my right
hand?"

21 Remember 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.
22 I have blotted out, as a thick cloud, your
transgressions,
and, as a cloud, your sins.
Return to me, for I have redeemed
you.

23 Sing, you heavens, for the LORD has
done it!
Shout, you lower parts of the earth!
Break out into singing, you
mountains, O forest, all of your
trees,
for the LORD has redeemed Jacob,
and will glorify himself in Israel.

24 The LORD, your Redeemer,
and he who formed you from the
womb says:
"I am the LORD, who makes all things;

who alone stretches out the heavens;
who spreads out the earth by myself;
25 who frustrates the signs of the liars,
and makes diviners mad;
who turns wise men backward,
and makes their knowledge foolish;
26 who confirms the word of his servant,
and performs the counsel of his messengers;
who says of Jerusalem, 'She will be inhabited;'
and of the cities of Judah, 'They will be built,'
and 'I will raise up its waste places;'
27 who says to the deep, 'Be dry,'
and 'I will dry up your rivers,'
28 who says of Cyrus, 'He is my shepherd,
and shall perform all my pleasure,'
even saying of Jerusalem, 'She will be built;'
and of the temple, 'Your foundation will be laid.' "

45

1 The LORD says to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have held to subdue nations before him and strip kings of their armor, to open the doors before him, and the gates shall not be shut:
2 "I will go before you
and make the rough places smooth.
I will break the doors of bronze in pieces
and cut apart the bars of iron.
3 I will give you the treasures of darkness
and hidden riches of secret places,
that you may know that it is I, the LORD,
who calls you by your name,
even the God of Israel.
4 For Jacob my servant's sake,
and Israel my chosen,
I have called you by your name.
I have given you a title,
though you have not known me.
5 I am the LORD, and there is no one else.
Besides me, there is no God.
I will strengthen† you,
though you have not known me,
6 that they may know from the rising of the sun,
and from the west,
that there is no one besides me.
I am the LORD, and there is no one else.
7 I form the light
and create darkness.
I make peace
and create calamity.
I am the LORD,
who does all these things.

8 Rain, you heavens, from above,
and let the skies pour down righteousness.
Let the earth open, that it may produce salvation,
and let it cause righteousness to spring up with it.
I, the LORD, have created it.

9 Woe to him who strives with his Maker—
a clay pot among the clay pots of the earth!
Shall the clay ask him who fashions it,
'What are you making?'
or your work, 'He has no hands'?
10 Woe to him who says to a father, 'What have you become the father of?'
or to a mother, 'What have you given birth to?' "

11 The LORD, the Holy One of Israel
and his Maker says:
"You ask me about the things that are to come, concerning my sons,
and you command me concerning the work of my hands!
12 I have made the earth, and created man on it.
I, even my hands, have stretched out the heavens.
I have commanded all their army.
13 I have raised him up in righteousness,
and I will make all his ways straight.
He shall build my city,
and he shall let my exiles go free,
not for price nor reward," says the LORD of Armies.

14 The LORD says: "The labor of Egypt,
and the merchandise of Ethiopia,
and the Sabeans, men of stature, will come over to you,
and they will be yours.

† **45:5** or, equip

They will go after you.
They shall come over in chains.
They will bow down to you.
They will make supplication to you:
'Surely God is in you; and there is no one else.
There is no other god.
15 Most certainly you are a God who has hidden yourself,
God of Israel, the Savior.' "
16 They will be disappointed,
yes, confounded, all of them.
Those who are makers of idols will go into confusion together.
17 Israel will be saved by the LORD with an everlasting salvation.
You will not be disappointed nor confounded to ages everlasting.

18 For the LORD who created the heavens,
the God who formed the earth and made it,
who established it and didn't create it a waste,
who formed it to be inhabited says:
"I am the LORD.
There is no other.
19 I have not spoken in secret,
in a place of the land of darkness.
I didn't say to the offspring of Jacob, 'Seek me in vain.'
I, the LORD, speak righteousness.
I declare things that are right.

20 "Assemble yourselves and come.
Draw near together, you who have escaped from the nations.
Those have no knowledge who carry the wood of their engraved image,
and pray to a god that can't save.
21 Declare and present it.
Yes, let them take counsel together.
Who has shown this from ancient time?
Who has declared it of old?
Haven't I, the LORD?
There is no other God besides me, a just God and a Savior.
There is no one besides me.

22 "Look to me, and be saved, all the ends of the earth;
for I am God, and there is no other.
23 I have sworn by myself.
The word has gone out of my mouth in righteousness, and will not be revoked,
that to me every knee shall bow,
every tongue shall take an oath.
24 They will say of me,
'There is righteousness and strength only in the LORD.' "
Even to him will men come.
All those who raged against him will be disappointed.
25 All the offspring of Israel will be justified in the LORD,
and will rejoice!

46

1 Bel bows down.
Nebo stoops.
Their idols are carried by animals,
and on the livestock.
The things that you carried around are heavy loads,
a burden for the weary.
2 They stoop and they bow down together.
They could not deliver the burden,
but they have gone into captivity.

3 "Listen to me, house of Jacob,
and all the remnant of the house of Israel,
that have been carried from their birth,
that have been carried from the womb.
4 Even to old age I am he,
and even to gray hairs I will carry you.
I have made, and I will bear.
Yes, I will carry, and will deliver.

5 "To whom will you compare me, and consider my equal,
and compare me, as if we were the same?
6 Some pour out gold from the bag,
and weigh silver in the balance.
They hire a goldsmith,
and he makes it a god.
They fall down—
yes, they worship.
7 They bear it on their shoulder.
They carry it, and set it in its place,
and it stands there.

It cannot move from its place.
Yes, one may cry to it, yet it can not answer.
It cannot save him out of his trouble.

8 "Remember this, and show yourselves men.
Bring it to mind again, you transgressors.
9 Remember the former things of old;
for I am God, and there is no other.
I am God, and there is none like me.
10 I declare the end from the beginning,
and from ancient times things that are not yet done.
I say: My counsel will stand,
and I will do all that I please.
11 I call a ravenous bird from the east,
the man of my counsel from a far country.
Yes, I have spoken.
I will also bring it to pass.
I have planned.
I will also do it.

12 Listen to me, you stubborn-hearted,
who are far from righteousness!
13 I bring my righteousness near.
It is not far off,
and my salvation will not wait.
I will grant salvation to Zion,
my glory to Israel.

47

1 "Come down and sit in the dust, virgin daughter of Babylon.
Sit on the ground without a throne, daughter of the Chaldeans.
For you will no longer be called tender and delicate.
2 Take the millstones and grind flour.
Remove your veil, lift up your skirt, uncover your legs,
and wade through the rivers.
3 Your nakedness will be uncovered.
Yes, your shame will be seen.
I will take vengeance,
and will spare no one."

4 Our Redeemer, the LORD of Armies is his name,
is the Holy One of Israel.

5 "Sit in silence, and go into darkness, daughter of the Chaldeans.
For you shall no longer be called the mistress of kingdoms.
6 I was angry with my people.
I profaned my inheritance
and gave them into your hand.
You showed them no mercy.
You laid a very heavy yoke on the aged.
7 You said, 'I will be a princess forever,'
so that you didn't lay these things to your heart,
nor did you remember the results.

8 "Now therefore hear this, you who are given to pleasures,
who sit securely,
who say in your heart,
'I am, and there is no one else besides me.
I won't sit as a widow,
neither will I know the loss of children.'
9 But these two things will come to you in a moment in one day:
the loss of children and widowhood.
They will come on you in their full measure,
in the multitude of your sorceries,
and the great abundance of your enchantments.
10 For you have trusted in your wickedness.
You have said, 'No one sees me.'
Your wisdom and your knowledge has perverted you.
You have said in your heart, 'I am, and there is no one else besides me.'
11 Therefore disaster will come on you.
You won't know when it dawns.
Mischief will fall on you.
You won't be able to put it away.
Desolation will come on you suddenly,
which you don't understand.

12 "Stand now with your enchantments
and with the multitude of your sorceries,
in which you have labored from your youth,
as if you might profit,
as if you might prevail.

13 You are wearied in the multitude of
your counsels.
Now let the astrologers, the
stargazers, and the monthly
prognosticators stand up and save
you from the things that will
happen to you.
14 Behold, they are like stubble.
The fire will burn them.
They won't deliver themselves from
the power of the flame.
It won't be a coal to warm at
or a fire to sit by.
15 The things that you labored in will be
like this:
those who have trafficked with you
from your youth will each wander
in his own way.
There will be no one to save you.

48

1 "Hear this, house of Jacob,
you who are called by the name of
Israel,
and have come out of the waters of
Judah.
You swear by the LORD's name,
and make mention of the God of
Israel,
but not in truth, nor in
righteousness—
2 for they call themselves citizens of the
holy city,
and rely on the God of Israel;
the LORD of Armies is his name.
3 I have declared the former things from
of old.
Yes, they went out of my mouth, and I
revealed them.
I did them suddenly, and they
happened.
4 Because I knew that you are obstinate,
and your neck is an iron sinew,
and your brow bronze;
5 therefore I have declared it to you from
of old;
before it came to pass I showed it to
you;
lest you should say, 'My idol has done
them.
My engraved image and my molten
image has commanded them.'
6 You have heard it.
Now see all this.
And you, won't you declare it?

"I have shown you new things from this
time,
even hidden things, which you have
not known.
7 They are created now, and not from of
old.
Before today, you didn't hear them,
lest you should say, 'Behold, I knew
them.'
8 Yes, you didn't hear.
Yes, you didn't know.
Yes, from of old your ear was not
opened,
for I knew that you dealt very
treacherously,
and were called a transgressor from
the womb.
9 For my name's sake, I will defer my
anger,
and for my praise, I hold it back for
you
so that I don't cut you off.
10 Behold, I have refined you,
but not as silver.
I have chosen you in the furnace of
affliction.
11 For my own sake,
for my own sake, I will do it;
for how would my name be profaned?
I will not give my glory to another.

12 "Listen to me, O Jacob,
and Israel my called:
I am he.
I am the first.
I am also the last.
13 Yes, my hand has laid the foundation of
the earth,
and my right hand has spread out the
heavens.
when I call to them, they stand up
together.

14 "Assemble yourselves, all of you, and
hear!
Who among them has declared these
things?
He whom the LORD loves will do what he
likes to Babylon,

and his arm will be against the
Chaldeans.
15 I, even I, have spoken.
Yes, I have called him.
I have brought him
and he shall make his way
prosperous.
16 "Come near to me and hear this:

"From the beginning I have not spoken in
secret;
from the time that it happened, I was
there."

Now the Lord GOD has sent me
with his Spirit.

17 The LORD,
your Redeemer,
the Holy One of Israel, says:
"I am the LORD your God,
who teaches you to profit,
who leads you by the way that you
should go.
18 Oh that you had listened to my
commandments!
Then your peace would have been
like a river
and your righteousness like the
waves of the sea.
19 Your offspring also would have been as
the sand
and the descendants of your body like
its grains.
His name would not be cut off nor
destroyed from before me."

20 Leave Babylon!
Flee from the Chaldeans!
With the sound of joyful shouting
announce this,
tell it even to the end of the earth;
say, "The LORD has redeemed his
servant Jacob!"
21 They didn't thirst when he led them
through the deserts.
He caused the waters to flow out of
the rock for them.
He also split the rock and the waters
gushed out.

22 "There is no peace", says the LORD, "for
the wicked."

49

1 Listen, islands, to me.
Listen, you peoples, from afar:
the LORD has called me from the womb;
from the inside of my mother, he has
mentioned my name.
2 He has made my mouth like a sharp
sword.
He has hidden me in the shadow of
his hand.
He has made me a polished shaft.
He has kept me close in his quiver.
3 He said to me, "You are my servant,
Israel, in whom I will be glorified."
4 But I said, "I have labored in vain.
I have spent my strength in vain for
nothing;
yet surely the justice due to me is with the
LORD,
and my reward with my God."

5 Now the LORD, he who formed me from
the womb to be his servant,
says to bring Jacob again to him,
and to gather Israel to him,
for I am honorable in the LORD's eyes,
and my God has become my strength.
6 Indeed, he says, "It is too light a thing
that you should be my servant to
raise up the tribes of Jacob,
and to restore the preserved of Israel.
I will also give you as a light to the nations,
that you may be my salvation to the
end of the earth."
7 The LORD, the Redeemer of Israel, and
his Holy One,
says to him whom man despises, to
him whom the nation abhors, to a
servant of rulers:
"Kings shall see and rise up,
princes, and they shall worship,
because of the LORD who is faithful,
even the Holy One of Israel, who
has chosen you."

8 The LORD says, "I have answered you in
an acceptable time.
I have helped you in a day of
salvation.
I will preserve you and give you for a
covenant of the people,

to raise up the land, to make them
inherit the desolate heritage,
9 saying to those who are bound, ‘Come
out!’;
to those who are in darkness, ‘Show
yourselves!’
“They shall feed along the paths,
and their pasture shall be on all
treeless heights.
10 They shall not hunger nor thirst;
neither shall the heat nor sun strike
them,
for he who has mercy on them will
lead them.
He will guide them by springs of
water.
11 I will make all my mountains a road,
and my highways shall be exalted.
12 Behold, these shall come from afar,
and behold, these from the north and
from the west,
and these from the land of Sinim.”
13 Sing, heavens, and be joyful, earth!
Break out into singing, mountains!
For the LORD has comforted his people,
and will have compassion on his
afflicted.

14 But Zion said, “The LORD has forsaken
me,
and the Lord has forgotten me.”
15 “Can a woman forget her nursing child,
that she should not have compassion
on the son of her womb?
Yes, these may forget,
yet I will not forget you!
16 Behold, I have engraved you on the
palms of my hands.
Your walls are continually before me.
17 Your children hurry.
Your destroyers and those who
devastated you will leave you.
18 Lift up your eyes all around, and see:
all these gather themselves together,
and come to you.
As I live,” says the LORD, “you shall surely
clothe yourself with them all as
with an ornament,
and dress yourself with them, like a
bride.
19 “For, as for your waste and your
desolate places,
and your land that has been
destroyed,
surely now that land will be too small for
the inhabitants,
and those who swallowed you up will
be far away.
20 The children of your bereavement will
say in your ears,
‘This place is too small for me.
Give me a place to live in.’
21 Then you will say in your heart, ‘Who
has conceived these for me, since I
have been bereaved of my children
and am alone, an exile, and
wandering back and forth?
Who has brought these up?
Behold, I was left alone. Where were
these?’ ”

22 The Lord GOD says, “Behold, I will lift
up my hand to the nations,
and lift up my banner to the peoples.
They shall bring your sons in their bosom,
and your daughters shall be carried
on their shoulders.
23 Kings shall be your foster fathers,
and their queens your nursing
mothers.
They will bow down to you with their
faces to the earth,
and lick the dust of your feet.
Then you will know that I am the LORD;
and those who wait for me won’t be
disappointed.”

24 Shall the plunder be taken from the
mighty,
or the lawful captives be delivered?
25 But the LORD says, “Even the captives of
the mighty shall be taken away,
and the plunder retrieved from the
fierce,
for I will contend with him who contends
with you
and I will save your children.
26 I will feed those who oppress you with
their own flesh;
and they will be drunk on their own
blood, as with sweet wine.
Then all flesh shall know that I, the LORD,
am your Savior

and your Redeemer, the Mighty One
of Jacob."

50

1 The LORD says, "Where is the bill of your
mother's divorce, with which I have
put her away?
Or to which of my creditors have I
sold you?
Behold, you were sold for your iniquities,
and your mother was put away for
your transgressions.
2 Why, when I came, was there no one?
When I called, why was there no one
to answer?
Is my hand shortened at all, that it can't
redeem?
Or have I no power to deliver?
Behold, at my rebuke I dry up the sea.
I make the rivers a wilderness.
Their fish stink because there is no
water, and die of thirst.
3 I clothe the heavens with blackness.
I make sackcloth their covering."

4 The Lord GOD has given me the tongue
of those who are taught,
that I may know how to sustain with
words him who is weary.
He awakens morning by morning,
he awakens my ear to hear as those
who are taught.
5 The Lord GOD has opened my ear.
I was not rebellious.
I have not turned back.
6 I gave my back to those who beat me,
and my cheeks to those who plucked
off the hair.
I didn't hide my face from shame and
spitting.
7 For the Lord GOD will help me.
Therefore I have not been
confounded.
Therefore I have set my face like a flint,
and I know that I won't be
disappointed.
8 He who justifies me is near.
Who will bring charges against me?
Let us stand up together.
Who is my adversary?
Let him come near to me.
9 Behold, the Lord GOD will help me!
Who is he who will condemn me?
Behold, they will all grow old like a
garment.
The moths will eat them up.

10 Who among you fears the LORD
and obeys the voice of his servant?
He who walks in darkness
and has no light,
let him trust in the LORD's name,
and rely on his God.
11 Behold, all you who kindle a fire,
who adorn yourselves with torches
around yourselves,
walk in the flame of your fire,
and among the torches that you have
kindled.
You will have this from my hand:
you will lie down in sorrow.

51

1 "Listen to me, you who follow after
righteousness,
you who seek the LORD.
Look to the rock you were cut from,
and to the quarry you were dug from.
2 Look to Abraham your father,
and to Sarah who bore you;
for when he was but one I called him,
I blessed him,
and made him many.
3 For the LORD has comforted Zion.
He has comforted all her waste
places,
and has made her wilderness like
Eden,
and her desert like the garden of the
LORD.
Joy and gladness will be found in them,
thanksgiving, and the voice of
melody.

4 "Listen to me, my people;
and hear me, my nation,
for a law will go out from me,
and I will establish my justice for a
light to the peoples.
5 My righteousness is near.
My salvation has gone out,
and my arms will judge the peoples.
The islands will wait for me,
and they will trust my arm.
6 Lift up your eyes to the heavens,

and look at the earth beneath;
for the heavens will vanish away like smoke,
and the earth will wear out like a garment.
Its inhabitants will die in the same way,
but my salvation will be forever,
and my righteousness will not be abolished.

7 "Listen to me, you who know righteousness,
the people in whose heart is my law.
Don't fear the reproach of men,
and don't be dismayed at their insults.
8 For the moth will eat them up like a garment,
and the worm will eat them like wool;
but my righteousness will be forever,
and my salvation to all generations."

9 Awake, awake, put on strength, arm of the LORD!
Awake, as in the days of old,
the generations of ancient times.
Isn't it you who cut Rahab in pieces,
who pierced the monster?
10 Isn't it you who dried up the sea,
the waters of the great deep;
who made the depths of the sea a way for the redeemed to pass over?
11 Those ransomed by the LORD will return,
and come with singing to Zion.
Everlasting joy shall be on their heads.
They will obtain gladness and joy.
Sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

12 "I, even I, am he who comforts you.
Who are you, that you are afraid of man who shall die,
and of the son of man who will be made as grass?
13 Have you forgotten the LORD your Maker,
who stretched out the heavens,
and laid the foundations of the earth?
Do you live in fear continually all day because of the fury of the oppressor,
when he prepares to destroy?
Where is the fury of the oppressor?
14 The captive exile will speedily be freed.
He will not die and go down into the pit.
His bread won't fail.
15 For I am the LORD your God, who stirs up the sea
so that its waves roar.
the LORD of Armies is his name.
16 I have put my words in your mouth
and have covered you in the shadow of my hand,
that I may plant the heavens,
and lay the foundations of the earth,
and tell Zion, 'You are my people.' "

17 Awake, awake!
Stand up, Jerusalem,
you who have drunk from the LORD's hand the cup of his wrath.
You have drunken the bowl of the cup of staggering,
and drained it.
18 There is no one to guide her among all the sons to whom she has given birth;
and there is no one who takes her by the hand among all the sons whom she has brought up.
19 These two things have happened to you—
who will grieve with you?—
desolation and destruction,
and famine and the sword.
How can I comfort you?
20 Your sons have fainted.
They lie at the head of all the streets,
like an antelope in a net.
They are full of the LORD's wrath,
the rebuke of your God.

21 Therefore now hear this, you afflicted,
and drunken, but not with wine:
22 Your Lord GOD,
your God who pleads the cause of his people, says,
"Behold, I have taken out of your hand the cup of staggering,
even the bowl of the cup of my wrath.
You will not drink it any more.
23 I will put it into the hand of those who afflict you,

who have said to your soul, 'Bow
down, that we may walk over you;'
and you have laid your back as the
ground,
like a street to those who walk over."

52

1 Awake, awake! Put on your strength,
Zion.
Put on your beautiful garments,
Jerusalem, the holy city,
for from now on the uncircumcised
and the unclean will no more come
into you.
2 Shake yourself from the dust!
Arise, sit up, Jerusalem!
Release yourself from the bonds of
your neck, captive daughter of
Zion!

3 For the LORD says, "You were sold for
nothing;
and you will be redeemed without
money."

4 For the Lord GOD says:
"My people went down at the first into
Egypt to live there;
and the Assyrian has oppressed them
without cause.

5 "Now therefore, what do I do here," says
the LORD,
"seeing that my people are taken
away for nothing?
Those who rule over them mock," says the
LORD,
"and my name is blasphemed
continually all day long.
6 Therefore my people shall know my
name.
Therefore they shall know in that day
that I am he who speaks.
Behold, it is I."

7 How beautiful on the mountains are the
feet of him who brings good news,
who publishes peace,
who brings good news,
who proclaims salvation,
who says to Zion, "Your God reigns!"
8 Your watchmen lift up their voice.
Together they sing;
for they shall see eye to eye when the
LORD returns to Zion.
9 Break out into joy!
Sing together, you waste places of
Jerusalem;
for the LORD has comforted his
people.
He has redeemed Jerusalem.
10 The LORD has made his holy arm bare
in the eyes of all the nations.
All the ends of the earth have seen the
salvation of our God.

11 Depart! Depart! Go out from there!
Touch no unclean thing!
Go out from among her!
Cleanse yourselves, you who carry
the LORD's vessels.
12 For you shall not go out in haste,
neither shall you go by flight;
for the LORD will go before you,
and the God of Israel will be your rear
guard.

13 Behold, my servant will deal wisely.
He will be exalted and lifted up,
and will be very high.
14 Just as many were astonished at you—
his appearance was marred more
than any man, and his form more
than the sons of men—
15 so he will cleanse† many nations.
Kings will shut their mouths at him;
for they will see that which had not
been told them,
and they will understand that which
they had not heard.

53

1 Who has believed our message?
To whom has the LORD's arm been
revealed?
2 For he grew up before him as a tender
plant,
and as a root out of dry ground.
He has no good looks or majesty.
When we see him, there is no beauty
that we should desire him.
3 He was despised
and rejected by men,

† **52:15** or, sprinkle

a man of suffering
and acquainted with disease.
He was despised as one from whom men hide their face;
and we didn't respect him.

4 Surely he has borne our sickness
and carried our suffering;
yet we considered him plagued,
struck by God, and afflicted.
5 But he was pierced for our transgressions.
He was crushed for our iniquities.
The punishment that brought our peace was on him;
and by his wounds we are healed.
6 All we like sheep have gone astray.
Everyone has turned to his own way;
and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

7 He was oppressed,
yet when he was afflicted he didn't open his mouth.
As a lamb that is led to the slaughter,
and as a sheep that before its shearers is silent,
so he didn't open his mouth.
8 He was taken away by oppression and judgment.
As for his generation,
who considered that he was cut off out of the land of the living
and stricken for the disobedience of my people?
9 They made his grave with the wicked,
and with a rich man in his death,
although he had done no violence,
nor was any deceit in his mouth.

10 Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise him.
He has caused him to suffer.
When you make his soul an offering for sin,
he will see his offspring.
He will prolong his days
and the LORD's pleasure will prosper in his hand.
11 After the suffering of his soul,
he will see the light† and be satisfied.
My righteous servant will justify many by the knowledge of himself;
and he will bear their iniquities.
12 Therefore I will give him a portion with the great.
He will divide the plunder with the strong,
because he poured out his soul to death
and was counted with the transgressors;
yet he bore the sins of many
and made intercession for the transgressors.

54

1 "Sing, barren, you who didn't give birth!
Break out into singing, and cry aloud, you who didn't travail with child!
For more are the children of the desolate than the children of the married wife," says the LORD.
2 "Enlarge the place of your tent,
and let them stretch out the curtains of your habitations;
don't spare; lengthen your cords, and strengthen your stakes.
3 For you will spread out on the right hand and on the left;
and your offspring will possess the nations
and settle in desolate cities.

4 "Don't be afraid, for you will not be ashamed.
Don't be confounded, for you will not be disappointed.
For you will forget the shame of your youth.
You will remember the reproach of your widowhood no more.
5 For your Maker is your husband; the LORD of Armies is his name.
The Holy One of Israel is your Redeemer.
He will be called the God of the whole earth.
6 For the LORD has called you as a wife forsaken and grieved in spirit,
even a wife of youth, when she is cast off," says your God.

† **53:11** So read the Dead Sea Scrolls and Septuagint. Masoretic Text omits "the light".

7 “For a small moment I have forsaken you,
but I will gather you with great mercies.
8 In overflowing wrath I hid my face from you for a moment,
but with everlasting loving kindness I will have mercy on you,” says the LORD your Redeemer.

9 “For this is like the waters of Noah to me;
for as I have sworn that the waters of Noah will no more go over the earth,
so I have sworn that I will not be angry with you, nor rebuke you.
10 For the mountains may depart,
and the hills be removed,
but my loving kindness will not depart from you,
and my covenant of peace will not be removed,”
says the LORD who has mercy on you.

11 “You afflicted, tossed with storms, and not comforted,
behold, I will set your stones in beautiful colors,
and lay your foundations with sapphires.
12 I will make your pinnacles of rubies,
your gates of sparkling jewels,
and all your walls of precious stones.
13 All your children will be taught by the LORD,
and your children’s peace will be great.
14 You will be established in righteousness.
You will be far from oppression,
for you will not be afraid,
and far from terror,
for it shall not come near you.
15 Behold, they may gather together, but not by me.
Whoever gathers together against you will fall because of you.

16 “Behold, I have created the blacksmith who fans the coals into flame,
and forges a weapon for his work;
and I have created the destroyer to destroy.
17 No weapon that is formed against you will prevail;
and you will condemn every tongue that rises against you in judgment.
This is the heritage of the LORD’s servants,
and their righteousness is of me,”
says the LORD.

55

1 “Hey! Come, everyone who thirsts, to the waters!
Come, he who has no money, buy, and eat!
Yes, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.
2 Why do you spend money for that which is not bread,
and your labor for that which doesn’t satisfy?
Listen diligently to me, and eat that which is good,
and let your soul delight itself in richness.
3 Turn your ear, and come to me.
Hear, and your soul will live.
I will make an everlasting covenant with you, even the sure mercies of David.
4 Behold, I have given him for a witness to the peoples,
a leader and commander to the peoples.
5 Behold, you shall call a nation that you don’t know;
and a nation that didn’t know you shall run to you,
because of the LORD your God,
and for the Holy One of Israel;
for he has glorified you.”

6 Seek the LORD while he may be found.
Call on him while he is near.
7 Let the wicked forsake his way,
and the unrighteous man his thoughts.
Let him return to the LORD, and he will have mercy on him,
to our God, for he will freely pardon.

8 “For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
and your ways are not my ways,” says the LORD.

9 “For as the heavens are higher than the
earth,
so are my ways higher than your
ways,
and my thoughts than your thoughts.
10 For as the rain comes down and the
snow from the sky,
and doesn’t return there, but waters
the earth,
and makes it grow and bud,
and gives seed to the sower and bread
to the eater;
11 so is my word that goes out of my
mouth:
it will not return to me void,
but it will accomplish that which I
please,
and it will prosper in the thing I sent
it to do.
12 For you shall go out with joy,
and be led out with peace.
The mountains and the hills will break
out before you into singing;
and all the trees of the fields will clap
their hands.
13 Instead of the thorn the cypress tree
will come up;
and instead of the brier the myrtle
tree will come up.
It will make a name for the LORD,
for an everlasting sign that will not be
cut off.”

56

1 The LORD says:
“Maintain justice
and do what is right,
for my salvation is near
and my righteousness will soon be
revealed.
2 Blessed is the man who does this,
and the son of man who holds it fast;
who keeps the Sabbath without profaning
it
and keeps his hand from doing any
evil.”

3 Let no foreigner who has joined himself
to the LORD speak, saying,
“The LORD will surely separate me
from his people.”
Do not let the eunuch say, “Behold, I
am a dry tree.”

4 For the LORD says, “To the eunuchs who
keep my Sabbaths,
choose the things that please me,
and hold fast to my covenant,
5 I will give them in my house and within
my walls a memorial and a name
better than of sons and of
daughters.
I will give them an everlasting name
that will not be cut off.

6 Also the foreigners who join themselves
to the LORD
to serve him,
and to love the LORD’s name,
to be his servants,
everyone who keeps the Sabbath from
profaning it,
and holds fast my covenant,
7 I will bring these 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 peoples.”
8 The Lord GOD, who gathers the outcasts
of Israel, says,
“I will yet gather others to him,
in addition to his own who are
gathered.”

9 All you animals of the field,
come to devour,
all you animals in the forest.
10 His watchmen are blind.
They are all without knowledge.
They are all mute dogs.
They can’t bark—
dreaming, lying down, loving to
slumber.
11 Yes, the dogs are greedy.
They can never have enough.
They are shepherds who can’t
understand.
They have all turned to their own
way,
each one to his gain, from every
quarter.
12 “Come,” they say, “I will get wine,
and we will fill ourselves with strong
drink;
and tomorrow will be as today,

great beyond measure.”

57

1 The righteous perish,
and no one lays it to heart.
Merciful men are taken away,
and no one considers that the
righteous is taken away from the
evil.
2 He enters into peace.
They rest in their beds,
each one who walks in his
uprightness.

3 “But draw near here, you sons of a
sorceress,
you offspring of adulterers and
prostitutes.
4 Whom do you mock?
Against whom do you make a wide
mouth
and stick out your tongue?
Aren’t you children of disobedience
and offspring of falsehood,
5 you who inflame yourselves among the
oaks,
under every green tree;
who kill the children in the valleys,
under the clefts of the rocks?
6 Among the smooth stones of the valley is
your portion.
They, they are your lot.
You have even poured a drink offering to
them.
You have offered an offering.
Shall I be appeased for these things?
7 On a high and lofty mountain you have
set your bed.
You also went up there to offer
sacrifice.
8 You have set up your memorial behind
the doors and the posts,
for you have exposed yourself to
someone besides me,
and have gone up.
You have enlarged your bed
and made a covenant for yourself
with them.
You loved what you saw on their bed.
9 You went to the king with oil,
increased your perfumes,
sent your ambassadors far off,
and degraded yourself even to Sheol.†
10 You were wearied with the length of
your ways;
yet you didn’t say, ‘It is in vain.’
You found a reviving of your strength;
therefore you weren’t faint.

11 “Whom have you dreaded and feared,
so that you lie,
and have not remembered me, nor
laid it to your heart?
Haven’t I held my peace for a long time,
and you don’t fear me?
12 I will declare your righteousness;
and as for your works, they will not
benefit you.
13 When you cry,
let those whom you have gathered
deliver you,
but the wind will take them.
A breath will carry them all away,
but he who takes refuge in me will possess
the land,
and will inherit my holy mountain.”

14 He will say, “Build up, build up, prepare
the way!
Remove the stumbling-block out of
the way of my people.”
15 For the high and lofty One who inhabits
eternity,
whose name is Holy, says:
“I dwell in the high and holy place, with
him also who is of a contrite and
humble spirit,
to revive the spirit of the humble,
and to revive the heart of the contrite.
16 For I will not contend forever, neither
will I always be angry;
for the spirit would faint before me,
and the souls whom I have made.
17 I was angry because of the iniquity of
his covetousness and struck him.
I hid myself and was angry;
and he went on backsliding in the
way of his heart.
18 I have seen his ways, and will heal him.
I will lead him also,
and restore comforts to him and to
his mourners.

† **57:9** Sheol is the place of the dead.

19 I create the fruit of the lips:
Peace, peace, to him who is far off and to him who is near,"
says the LORD; "and I will heal them."
20 But the wicked are like the troubled sea;
for it can't rest and its waters cast up mire and mud.
21 "There is no peace", says my God,
"for the wicked."

58

1 "Cry aloud! Don't spare!
Lift up your voice like a trumpet!
Declare to my people their disobedience,
and to the house of Jacob their sins.
2 Yet they seek me daily,
and delight to know my ways.
As a nation that did righteousness,
and didn't forsake the ordinance of their God,
they ask of me righteous judgments.
They delight to draw near to God.
3 'Why have we fasted,' they say, 'and you don't see?
Why have we afflicted our soul, and you don't notice?'

"Behold, in the day of your fast you find pleasure,
and oppress all your laborers.
4 Behold, you fast for strife and contention,
and to strike with the fist of wickedness.
You don't fast today so as to make your voice to be heard on high.
5 Is this the fast that I have chosen?
A day for a man to humble his soul?
Is it to bow down his head like a reed,
and to spread sackcloth and ashes under himself?
Will you call this a fast,
and an acceptable day to the LORD?

6 "Isn't this the fast that I have chosen:
to release the bonds of wickedness,
to undo the straps of the yoke,
to let the oppressed go free,
and that you break every yoke?
7 Isn't it to distribute your bread to the hungry,
and that you bring the poor who are cast out to your house?
When you see the naked,
that you cover him;
and that you not hide yourself from your own flesh?
8 Then your light will break out as the morning,
and your healing will appear quickly;
then your righteousness shall go before you,
and the LORD's glory will be your rear guard.
9 Then you will call, and the LORD will answer.
You will cry for help, and he will say,
'Here I am.'

"If you take away from among you the yoke,
finger pointing,
and speaking wickedly;
10 and if you pour out your soul to the hungry,
and satisfy the afflicted soul,
then your light will rise in darkness,
and your obscurity will be as the noonday;
11 and the LORD will guide you continually,
satisfy your soul in dry places,
and make your bones strong.
You will be like a watered garden,
and like a spring of water
whose waters don't fail.
12 Those who will be of you will build the old waste places.
You will raise up the foundations of many generations.
You will be called Repairer of the Breach,
Restorer of Paths with Dwellings.

13 "If you turn away your foot from the Sabbath,
from doing your pleasure on my holy day,
and call the Sabbath a delight,
and the holy of the LORD honorable,
and honor it,
not doing your own ways,
nor finding your own pleasure,
nor speaking your own words,
14 then you will delight yourself in the LORD,

and I will make you to ride on the
high places of the earth,
and I will feed you with the heritage
of Jacob your father;"
for the LORD's mouth has spoken it.

59

1 Behold, the LORD's hand is not
shortened, that it can't save;
nor his ear dull, that it can't hear.
2 But your iniquities have separated you
and your God,
and your sins have hidden his face
from you,
so that he will not hear.
3 For your hands are defiled with blood,
and your fingers with iniquity.
Your lips have spoken lies.
Your tongue mutters wickedness.
4 No one sues in righteousness,
and no one pleads in truth.
They trust in vanity
and speak lies.
They conceive mischief
and give birth to iniquity.
5 They hatch adders' eggs
and weave the spider's web.
He who eats of their eggs dies;
and that which is crushed breaks out
into a viper.
6 Their webs won't become garments.
They won't cover themselves with
their works.
Their works are works of iniquity,
and acts of violence are in their
hands.
7 Their feet run to evil,
and they hurry to shed innocent
blood.
Their thoughts are thoughts of iniquity.
Desolation and destruction are in
their paths.
8 They don't know the way of peace;
and there is no justice in their ways.
They have made crooked paths for
themselves;
whoever goes in them doesn't know
peace.

9 Therefore justice is far from us,
and righteousness doesn't overtake
us.
We look for light, but see darkness;
for brightness, but we walk in
obscurity.
10 We grope for the wall like the blind.
Yes, we grope as those who have no
eyes.
We stumble at noon as if it were twilight.
Among those who are strong, we are
like dead men.
11 We all roar like bears
and moan sadly like doves.
We look for justice, but there is none,
for salvation, but it is far off from us.

12 For our transgressions are multiplied
before you,
and our sins testify against us;
for our transgressions are with us,
and as for our iniquities, we know
them:
13 transgressing and denying the LORD,
and turning away from following our
God,
speaking oppression and revolt,
conceiving and uttering from the
heart words of falsehood.
14 Justice is turned away backward,
and righteousness stands far away;
for truth has fallen in the street,
and uprightness can't enter.
15 Yes, truth is lacking;
and he who departs from evil makes
himself a prey.

The LORD saw it,
and it displeased him that there was
no justice.
16 He saw that there was no man,
and wondered that there was no
intercessor.
Therefore his own arm brought salvation
to him;
and his righteousness sustained him.
17 He put on righteousness as a
breastplate,
and a helmet of salvation on his head.
He put on garments of vengeance for
clothing,
and was clad with zeal as a mantle.
18 According to their deeds,
he will repay as appropriate:
wrath to his adversaries,
recompense to his enemies.
He will repay the islands their due.

19 So they will fear the LORD's name from the west,
and his glory from the rising of the sun;
for he will come as a rushing stream,
which the LORD's breath drives.

20 "A Redeemer will come to Zion,
and to those who turn from disobedience in Jacob," says the LORD.
21 "As for me, this is my covenant with them," says the LORD. "My Spirit who is on you, and my words which I have put in your mouth shall not depart out of your mouth, nor out of the mouth of your offspring, nor out of the mouth of your offspring's offspring," says the LORD, "from now on and forever."

60

1 "Arise, shine; for your light has come,
and the LORD's glory has risen on you!
2 For behold, darkness will cover the earth,
and thick darkness the peoples;
but the LORD will arise on you,
and his glory shall be seen on you.
3 Nations will come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your rising.

4 "Lift up your eyes all around, and see:
they all gather themselves together.
They come to you.
Your sons will come from far away,
and your daughters will be carried in arms.
5 Then you shall see and be radiant,
and your heart will thrill and be enlarged;
because the abundance of the sea will be turned to you.
The wealth of the nations will come to you.
6 A multitude of camels will cover you,
the dromedaries of Midian and Ephah.
All from Sheba will come.
They will bring gold and frankincense,
and will proclaim the praises of the LORD.
7 All the flocks of Kedar will be gathered together to you.
The rams of Nebaioth will serve you.
They will be accepted as offerings on my altar;
and I will beautify my glorious house.

8 "Who are these who fly as a cloud,
and as the doves to their windows?
9 Surely the islands will wait for me,
and the ships of Tarshish first,
to bring your sons from far away,
their silver and their gold with them,
for the name of the LORD your God,
and for the Holy One of Israel,
because he has glorified you.

10 "Foreigners will build up your walls,
and their kings will serve you;
for in my wrath I struck you,
but in my favor I have had mercy on you.
11 Your gates also shall be open continually; they shall not be shut day nor night, that men may bring to you the wealth of the nations, and their kings led captive.
12 For that nation and kingdom that will not serve you shall perish; yes, those nations shall be utterly wasted.

13 "The glory of Lebanon shall come to you, the cypress tree, the pine, and the box tree together, to beautify the place of my sanctuary; and I will make the place of my feet glorious.
14 The sons of those who afflicted you will come bowing to you;
and all those who despised you will bow themselves down at the soles of your feet.
They will call you the LORD's City,
the Zion of the Holy One of Israel.

15 "Whereas you have been forsaken and hated,
so that no one passed through you,
I will make you an eternal excellency,
a joy of many generations.

16 You will also drink the milk of the nations,
and will nurse from royal breasts.
Then you will know that I, the LORD, am your Savior,
your Redeemer,
the Mighty One of Jacob.
17 For bronze I will bring gold;
for iron I will bring silver;
for wood, bronze,
and for stones, iron.
I will also make peace your governor,
and righteousness your ruler.
18 Violence shall no more be heard in your land,
nor desolation or destruction within your borders;
but you will call your walls Salvation,
and your gates Praise.
19 The sun will be no more your light by day,
nor will the brightness of the moon give light to you,
but the LORD will be your everlasting light,
and your God will be your glory.
20 Your sun will not go down any more,
nor will your moon withdraw itself;
for the LORD will be your everlasting light,
and the days of your mourning will end.
21 Then your people will all be righteous.
They will inherit the land forever,
the branch of my planting,
the work of my hands,
that I may be glorified.
22 The little one will become a thousand,
and the small one a strong nation.
I, the LORD, will do this quickly in its time."

61

1 The Lord GOD's Spirit is on me,
because the LORD has anointed me to preach good news to the humble.
He has sent me to bind up the broken hearted,
to proclaim liberty to the captives
and release to those who are bound,†
2 to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor
and the day of vengeance of our God,
to comfort all who mourn,
3 to provide for those who mourn in Zion,
to give to them a garland for ashes,
the oil of joy for mourning,
the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness,
that they may be called trees of righteousness,
the planting of the LORD,
that he may be glorified.

4 They will rebuild the old ruins.
They will raise up the former devastated places.
They will repair the ruined cities
that have been devastated for many generations.
5 Strangers will stand and feed your flocks.
Foreigners will work your fields and your vineyards.
6 But you will be called the LORD's priests.
Men will call you the servants of our God.
You will eat the wealth of the nations.
You will boast in their glory.
7 Instead of your shame you will have double.
Instead of dishonor, they will rejoice in their portion.
Therefore in their land they will possess double.
Everlasting joy will be to them.
8 "For I, the LORD, love justice.
I hate robbery and iniquity.
I will give them their reward in truth
and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.
9 Their offspring will be known among the nations,
and their offspring among the peoples.
All who see them will acknowledge them,
that they are the offspring which the LORD has blessed."

10 I will greatly rejoice in the LORD!
My soul will be joyful in my God,
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation.

† **61:1** LXX and DSS add: recovery of sight to the blind

He has covered me with the robe of
righteousness,
as a bridegroom decks himself with a
garland
and as a bride adorns herself with her
jewels.
11 For as the earth produces its bud,
and as the garden causes the things
that are sown in it to spring up,
so the Lord GOD will cause
righteousness and praise to spring
up before all the nations.

62

1 For Zion's sake I will not hold my peace,
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not
rest,
until her righteousness shines out like the
dawn,
and her salvation like a burning lamp.
2 The nations will see your righteousness,
and all kings your glory.
You will be called by a new name,
which the LORD's mouth will name.
3 You will also be a crown of beauty in the
LORD's hand,
and a royal diadem in your God's
hand.
4 You will not be called Forsaken any
more,
nor will your land be called Desolate
any more;
but you will be called Hephzibah,†
and your land Beulah;‡
for the LORD delights in you,
and your land will be married.
5 For as a young man marries a virgin,
so your sons will marry you.
As a bridegroom rejoices over his bride,
so your God will rejoice over you.

6 I have set watchmen on your walls,
Jerusalem.
They will never be silent day nor
night.
You who call on the LORD, take no rest,
7 and give him no rest until he
establishes,
and until he makes Jerusalem a praise
on the earth.
8 The LORD has sworn by his right hand,
and by the arm of his strength,
"Surely I will no more give your grain to
be food for your enemies,
and foreigners will not drink your
new wine, for which you have
labored,
9 but those who have harvested it will eat
it, and praise the LORD.
Those who have gathered it will drink
it in the courts of my sanctuary."

10 Go through, go through the gates!
Prepare the way of the people!
Build up, build up the highway!
Gather out the stones!
Lift up a banner for the peoples.
11 Behold, the LORD has proclaimed to the
end of the earth:
"Say to the daughter of Zion,
'Behold, your salvation comes!
Behold, his reward is with him,
and his recompense before him!' "
12 They will call them "The Holy People,
The LORD's Redeemed".
You will be called "Sought Out,
A City Not Forsaken".

63

1 Who is this who comes from Edom,
with dyed garments from Bozrah?
Who is this who is glorious in his clothing,
marching in the greatness of his
strength?
"It is I who speak in righteousness,
mighty to save."
2 Why is your clothing red,
and your garments like him who
treads in the wine vat?

3 "I have trodden the wine press alone.
Of the peoples, no one was with me.
Yes, I trod them in my anger
and trampled them in my wrath.
Their lifeblood is sprinkled on my
garments,
and I have stained all my clothing.
4 For the day of vengeance was in my
heart,
and the year of my redeemed has
come.

† **62:4** Hephzibah means "I delight in her". ‡ **62:4** Beulah means "married"

5 I looked, and there was no one to help;
and I wondered that there was no one to uphold.
Therefore my own arm brought salvation to me.
My own wrath upheld me.
6 I trod down the peoples in my anger
and made them drunk in my wrath.
I poured their lifeblood out on the earth."

7 I will tell of the loving kindnesses of the LORD
and the praises of the LORD,
according to all that the LORD has given to us,
and the great goodness toward the house of Israel,
which he has given to them according to his mercies,
and according to the multitude of his loving kindnesses.
8 For he said, "Surely, they are my people,
children who will not deal falsely;"
so he became their Savior.
9 In all their affliction he was afflicted,
and the angel of his presence saved them.
In his love and in his pity he redeemed them.
He bore them,
and carried them all the days of old.

10 But they rebelled
and grieved his Holy Spirit.
Therefore he turned and became their enemy,
and he himself fought against them.

11 Then he remembered the days of old,
Moses and his people, saying,
"Where is he who brought them up out of the sea with the shepherds of his flock?
Where is he who put his Holy Spirit among them?"
12 Who caused his glorious arm to be at Moses' right hand?
Who divided the waters before them, to make himself an everlasting name?
13 Who led them through the depths,
like a horse in the wilderness,
so that they didn't stumble?
14 As the livestock that go down into the valley,
the LORD's Spirit caused them to rest.
So you led your people to make yourself a glorious name.

15 Look down from heaven,
and see from the habitation of your holiness and of your glory.
Where are your zeal and your mighty acts?
The yearning of your heart and your compassion is restrained toward me.
16 For you are our Father,
though Abraham doesn't know us,
and Israel does not acknowledge us.
You, LORD, are our Father.
Our Redeemer from everlasting is your name.
17 O LORD, why do you make us wander from your ways,
and harden our heart from your fear?
Return for your servants' sake,
the tribes of your inheritance.
18 Your holy people possessed it but a little while.
Our adversaries have trodden down your sanctuary.
19 We have become like those over whom you never ruled,
like those who were not called by your name.

64

1 Oh that you would tear the heavens,
that you would come down,
that the mountains might quake at your presence—
2 as when fire kindles the brushwood,
and the fire causes the water to boil.
Make your name known to your adversaries,
that the nations may tremble at your presence!
3 When you did awesome things which we didn't look for,
you came down, and the mountains quaked at your presence.
4 For from of old men have not heard,
nor perceived by the ear,

nor has the eye seen a God besides you,
who works for him who waits for him.
5 You meet him who rejoices and does righteousness,
those who remember you in your ways.
Behold, you were angry, and we sinned.
We have been in sin for a long time.
Shall we be saved?
6 For we have all become like one who is unclean,
and all our righteousness is like a polluted garment.
We all fade like a leaf;
and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.
7 There is no one who calls on your name,
who stirs himself up to take hold of you;
for you have hidden your face from us,
and have consumed us by means of our iniquities.

8 But now, LORD, you are our Father.
We are the clay and you our potter.
We all are the work of your hand.
9 Don't be furious, LORD.
Don't remember iniquity forever.
Look and see, we beg you,
we are all your people.
10 Your holy cities have become a wilderness.
Zion has become a wilderness,
Jerusalem a desolation.
11 Our holy and our beautiful house
where our fathers praised you
is burned with fire.
All our pleasant places are laid waste.
12 Will you hold yourself back for these things, LORD?
Will you keep silent and punish us very severely?

65

1 "I am inquired of by those who didn't ask.
I am found by those who didn't seek me.
I said, 'See me, see me,' to a nation that was not called by my name.
2 I have spread out my hands all day to a rebellious people,
who walk in a way that is not good,
after their own thoughts;
3 a people who provoke me to my face continually,
sacrificing in gardens,
and burning incense on bricks;
4 who sit among the graves,
and spend nights in secret places;
who eat pig's meat,
and broth of abominable things is in their vessels;
5 who say, 'Stay by yourself,
don't come near to me,
for I am holier than you.'
These are smoke in my nose,
a fire that burns all day.

6 "Behold, it is written before me:
I will not keep silence,
but will repay,
yes, I will repay into their bosom
7 your own iniquities and the iniquities of your fathers together", says the LORD,
"who have burned incense on the mountains,
and blasphemed me on the hills.
Therefore I will first measure their work into their bosom."

8 The LORD says,
"As the new wine is found in the cluster,
and one says, 'Don't destroy it, for a blessing is in it:'
so I will do for my servants' sake,
that I may not destroy them all.
9 I will bring offspring out of Jacob,
and out of Judah an inheritor of my mountains.
My chosen will inherit it,
and my servants will dwell there.
10 Sharon will be a fold of flocks,
and the valley of Achor a place for herds to lie down in,
for my people who have sought me.

11 "But you who forsake the LORD,
who forget my holy mountain,
who prepare a table for Fortune,

and who fill up mixed wine to
Destiny;
12 I will destine you to the sword,
and you will all bow down to the
slaughter;
because when I called, you didn't answer.
When I spoke, you didn't listen;
but you did that which was evil in my
eyes,
and chose that in which I didn't
delight."

13 Therefore the Lord GOD says,
"Behold, my servants will eat,
but you will be hungry;
behold, my servants will drink,
but you will be thirsty.
Behold, my servants will rejoice,
but you will be disappointed.
14 Behold, my servants will sing for joy of
heart,
but you will cry for sorrow of heart,
and will wail for anguish of spirit.
15 You will leave your name for a curse to
my chosen,
and the Lord GOD will kill you.
He will call his servants by another name,
16 so that he who blesses himself on
the earth will bless himself in the
God of truth;
and he who swears on the earth will
swear by the God of truth;
because the former troubles are forgotten,
and because they are hidden from my
eyes.

17 "For, behold, I create new heavens and a
new earth;
and the former things will not be
remembered,
nor come into mind.
18 But be glad and rejoice forever in that
which I create;
for, behold, I create Jerusalem to be a
delight,
and her people a joy.
19 I will rejoice in Jerusalem,
and delight in my people;
and the voice of weeping and the voice of
crying
will be heard in her no more.
20 "No more will there be an infant who
only lives a few days,
nor an old man who has not filled his
days;
for the child will die one hundred years
old,
and the sinner being one hundred
years old will be accursed.
21 They will build houses and inhabit
them.
They will plant vineyards and eat
their fruit.
22 They will not build and another inhabit.
They will not plant and another eat;
for the days of my people will be like the
days of a tree,
and my chosen will long enjoy the
work of their hands.
23 They will not labor in vain
nor give birth for calamity;
for they are the offspring of the LORD's
blessed
and their descendants with them.
24 It will happen that before they call, I
will answer;
and while they are yet speaking, I will
hear.
25 The wolf and the lamb will feed
together.
The lion will eat straw like the ox.
Dust will be the serpent's food.
They will not hurt nor destroy in all my
holy mountain,"
says the LORD.

66

1 The LORD says:
"Heaven is my throne, and the earth is my
footstool.
What kind of house will you build to
me?
Where will I rest?
2 For my hand has made all these things,
and so all these things came to be,"
says the LORD:
"but I will look to this man,
even to he who is poor and of a
contrite spirit,
and who trembles at my word.
3 He who kills an ox is as he who kills a
man;
he who sacrifices a lamb, as he who
breaks a dog's neck;

he who offers an offering, as he who
offers pig's blood;
he who burns frankincense, as he
who blesses an idol.
Yes, they have chosen their own ways,
and their soul delights in their
abominations.
4 I also will choose their delusions,
and will bring their fears on them,
because when I called, no one answered;
when I spoke, they didn't listen,
but they did that which was evil in my
eyes,
and chose that in which I didn't
delight."

5 Hear the LORD's word,
you who tremble at his word:
"Your brothers who hate you,
who cast you out for my name's sake,
have said,
'Let the LORD be glorified,
that we may see your joy;'
but it is those who shall be
disappointed.
6 A voice of tumult from the city,
a voice from the temple,
a voice of the LORD that repays his
enemies what they deserve.

7 "Before she travailed, she gave birth.
Before her pain came, she delivered a
son.
8 Who has heard of such a thing?
Who has seen such things?
Shall a land be born in one day?
Shall a nation be born at once?
For as soon as Zion travailed,
she gave birth to her children.
9 Shall I bring to the birth, and not cause to
be delivered?" says the LORD.
"Shall I who cause to give birth shut
the womb?" says your God.

10 "Rejoice with Jerusalem, and be glad for
her, all you who love her.
Rejoice for joy with her, all you who
mourn over her;
11 that you may nurse and be satisfied at
the comforting breasts;
that you may drink deeply,
and be delighted with the abundance
of her glory."

12 For the LORD says, "Behold, I will
extend peace to her like a river,
and the glory of the nations like an
overflowing stream,
and you will nurse.
You will be carried on her side,
and will be dandled on her knees.
13 As one whom his mother comforts,
so I will comfort you.
You will be comforted in Jerusalem."

14 You will see it, and your heart shall
rejoice,
and your bones will flourish like the
tender grass.
The LORD's hand will be known among
his servants;
and he will have indignation against
his enemies.

15 For, behold, the LORD will come with
fire,
and his chariots will be like the
whirlwind;
to give his anger with fierceness,
and his rebuke with flames of fire.
16 For the LORD will execute judgment by
fire and by his sword on all flesh;
and those slain by the LORD will be
many.
17 "Those who sanctify themselves and
purify themselves to go to the gardens,
following one in the middle, eating pig's
meat, abominable things, and the mouse,
they shall come to an end together," says
the LORD.
18 "For I know their works and their
thoughts. The time comes that I will
gather all nations and languages, and they
will come, and will see my glory.
19 "I will set a sign among them, and I
will send those who escape of them to the
nations, to Tarshish, Pul, and Lud, who
draw the bow, to Tubal and Javan, to
far-away islands, who have not heard my
fame, nor have seen my glory; and they
shall declare my glory among the nations.
20 They shall bring all your brothers out
of all the nations for an offering to the
LORD, on horses, in chariots, in litters, on
mules, and on camels, to my holy
mountain Jerusalem, says the LORD, as

the children of Israel bring their offering
in a clean vessel into the LORD's house.
21 Of them I will also select priests and
Levites," says the LORD.
22 "For as the new heavens and the new
earth, which I will make, shall remain
before me," says the LORD, "so your
offspring and your name shall remain.
23 It shall happen that from one new
moon to another, and from one Sabbath
to another, all flesh will come to worship
before me," says the LORD.
24 "They will go out, and look at the dead
bodies of the men who have transgressed
against me; for their worm will not die,
nor will their fire be quenched, and they
will be loathsome to all mankind."

The Book of Jeremiah

1 The words of Jeremiah the son of
Hilkiah, one of the priests who were in
Anathoth in the land of Benjamin.
2 The LORD's† word came to him in the
days of Josiah the son of Amon, king of
Judah, in the thirteenth year of his reign.
3 It came also in the days of Jehoiakim
the son of Josiah, king of Judah, to the end
of the eleventh year of Zedekiah, the son
of Josiah, king of Judah, to the carrying
away of Jerusalem captive in the fifth
month.
4 Now the LORD's word came to me,
saying,
5 "Before I formed you in the womb, I
knew you.
Before you were born, I sanctified
you.
I have appointed you a prophet to the
nations."
6 Then I said, "Ah, Lord‡ GOD! Behold,§ I
don't know how to speak; for I am a child."
7 But the LORD said to me, "Don't say, 'I
am a child;' for you must go to whomever
I send you, and you must say whatever I
command you.
8 Don't be afraid because of them, for I
am with you to rescue you," says the
LORD.
9 Then the LORD stretched out his hand
and touched my mouth. Then the LORD
said to me, "Behold, I have put my words
in your mouth.
10 Behold, I have today set you over the
nations and over the kingdoms, to uproot
and to tear down, to destroy and to
overthrow, to build and to plant."
11 Moreover the LORD's word came to
me, saying, "Jeremiah, what do you see?"
I said, "I see a branch of an almond
tree."
12 Then the LORD said to me, "You have
seen well; for I watch over my word to
perform it."
13 The LORD's word came to me the
second time, saying, "What do you see?"
I said, "I see a boiling cauldron; and it is
tipping away from the north."
14 Then the LORD said to me, "Out of the
north, evil will break out on all the
inhabitants of the land.
15 For behold, I will call all the families
of the kingdoms of the north," says the
LORD.
"They will come, and they will each set his
throne at the entrance of the gates
of Jerusalem,
and against all its walls all around,
and against all the cities of Judah.
16 I will utter my judgments against them
concerning all their wickedness,
in that they have forsaken me,
and have burned incense to other
gods,
and worshiped the works of their
own hands.
17 "You therefore put your belt on your
waist, arise, and say to them all that I
command you. Don't be dismayed at
them, lest I dismay you before them.
18 For behold, I have made you today a
fortified city, an iron pillar, and bronze
walls against the whole land—against the
kings of Judah, against its princes, against
its priests, and against the people of the
land.
19 They will fight against you, but they
will not prevail against you; for I am with
you", says the LORD, "to rescue you."

2

1 The LORD's word came to me, saying,
2 "Go and proclaim in the ears of
Jerusalem, saying, 'The LORD says,
"I remember for you the kindness of your
youth,
your love as a bride,
how you went after me in the wilderness,
in a land that was not sown.
3 Israel was holiness to the LORD,
the first fruits of his increase.
All who devour him will be held guilty.

† **1:2** When rendered in ALL CAPITAL LETTERS, "LORD" or "GOD" is the translation of God's Proper Name (Hebrew "יהוה", usually pronounced Yahweh). ‡ **1:6** The word translated "Lord" is "Adonai." § **1:6** "Behold", from "הִנֵּה", means look at, take notice, observe, see, or gaze at. It is often used as an interjection.

Evil will come on them,” ’ says the
LORD.”
4 Hear the LORD’s word, O house of
Jacob, and all the families of the house of
Israel!
5 The LORD says,
“What unrighteousness have your fathers
found in me,
that they have gone far from me,
and have walked after worthless vanity,
and have become worthless?
6 They didn’t say, ‘Where is the LORD who
brought us up out of the land of
Egypt,
who led us through the wilderness,
through a land of deserts and of pits,
through a land of drought and of the
shadow of death,
through a land that no one passed
through,
and where no man lived?’
7 I brought you into a plentiful land
to eat its fruit and its goodness;
but when you entered, you defiled my
land,
and made my heritage an
abomination.
8 The priests didn’t say, ‘Where is the
LORD?’
and those who handle the law didn’t
know me.
The rulers also transgressed against me,
and the prophets prophesied by Baal
and followed things that do not profit.
9 “Therefore I will yet contend with you,”
says the LORD,
“and I will contend with your
children’s children.
10 For pass over to the islands of Kittim,
and see.
Send to Kedar, and consider
diligently,
and see if there has been such a thing.
11 Has a nation changed its gods,
which really are no gods?
But my people have changed their
glory for that which doesn’t profit.
12 “Be astonished, you heavens, at this
and be horribly afraid.
Be very desolate,” says the LORD.
13 “For my people have committed two
evils:
they have forsaken me, the spring of
living waters,
and cut out cisterns for themselves:
broken cisterns that can’t hold
water.
14 Is Israel a slave?
Is he born into slavery?
Why has he become a captive?
15 The young lions have roared at him and
raised their voices.
They have made his land waste.
His cities are burned up, without
inhabitant.
16 The children also of Memphis and
Tahpanhes have broken the crown
of your head.
17 “Haven’t you brought this on yourself,
in that you have forsaken the LORD
your God,† when he led you by the
way?
18 Now what do you gain by going to Egypt,
to drink the waters of the Shihor?
Or why do you go on the way to
Assyria, to drink the waters of the
River?‡
19 “Your own wickedness will correct you,
and your backsliding will rebuke you.
Know therefore and see that it is an evil
and bitter thing,
that you have forsaken the LORD
your God,
and that my fear is not in you,” says
the Lord, GOD§ of Armies.
20 “For long ago I broke off your yoke,
and burst your bonds.
You said, ‘I will not serve;’
for on every high hill and under every
green tree you bowed yourself,
playing the prostitute.
21 Yet I had planted you a noble vine,
a pure and faithful seed.
How then have you turned into the
degenerate branches of a foreign
vine to me?
22 For though you wash yourself with lye,
and use much soap,

† **2:17** The Hebrew word rendered “God” is “אֱלֹהִים” (Elohim). ‡ **2:18** i.e., the Euphrates River § **2:19** When rendered in ALL CAPITAL LETTERS, “LORD” or “GOD” is the translation of God’s Proper Name (Hebrew “יהוה”, usually pronounced Yahweh).

yet your iniquity is marked before
me," says the Lord GOD.
23 "How can you say, 'I am not defiled.
I have not gone after the Baals'?
See your way in the valley.
Know what you have done.
You are a swift dromedary traversing her
ways,
24 a wild donkey used to the wilderness,
that sniffs the wind in her craving.
When she is in heat, who can turn her
away?
All those who seek her will not weary
themselves. In her month, they will
find her.
25 "Keep your feet from being bare,
and your throat from thirst.
But you said, 'It is in vain.
No, for I have loved strangers,
and I will go after them.'
26 As the thief is ashamed when he is
found,
so the house of Israel is ashamed—
they, their kings, their princes, their
priests, and their prophets,
27 who tell wood, 'You are my father,'
and a stone, 'You have given birth to
me,'
for they have turned their back to me,
and not their face,
but in the time of their trouble they
will say, 'Arise, and save us!'
28 "But where are your gods that you have
made for yourselves?
Let them arise, if they can save you in
the time of your trouble,
for you have as many gods as you
have towns, O Judah.
29 "Why will you contend with me?
You all have transgressed against
me," says the LORD.
30 "I have struck your children in vain.
They received no correction.
Your own sword has devoured your
prophets,
like a destroying lion.
31 Generation, consider the LORD's word.
Have I been a wilderness to Israel?
Or a land of thick darkness?
Why do my people say, 'We have broken
loose.
We will come to you no more'?
32 "Can a virgin forget her ornaments,
or a bride her attire?
Yet my people have forgotten me for
days without number.
33 How well you prepare your way to seek
love!
Therefore you have even taught the
wicked women your ways.
34 Also the blood of the souls of the
innocent poor is found in your
skirts.
You didn't find them breaking in,
but it is because of all these things.
35 "Yet you said, 'I am innocent.
Surely his anger has turned away
from me.'
"Behold, I will judge you,
because you say, 'I have not sinned.'
36 Why do you go about so much to change
your ways?
You will be ashamed of Egypt also,
as you were ashamed of Assyria.
37 You will also leave that place with your
hands on your head;
for the LORD has rejected those in
whom you trust,
and you won't prosper with them.

3

1 "They say, 'If a man puts away his wife,
and she goes from him, and becomes
another man's, should he return to her
again?' Wouldn't that land be greatly
polluted? But you have played the
prostitute with many lovers; yet return
again to me," says the LORD.
2 "Lift up your eyes to the bare heights,
and see! Where have you not been lain
with? You have sat waiting for them by
the road, as an Arabian in the wilderness.
You have polluted the land with your
prostitution and with your wickedness.
3 Therefore the showers have been
withheld and there has been no latter
rain; yet you have had a prostitute's
forehead and you refused to be ashamed.
4 Will you not from this time cry to me,
'My Father, you are the guide of my
youth!'?
5 " 'Will he retain his anger forever?
Will he keep it to the end?' Behold, you

have spoken and have done evil things,
and have had your way."
6 Moreover, the LORD said to me in the
days of Josiah the king, "Have you seen
that which backsliding Israel has done?
She has gone up on every high mountain
and under every green tree, and has
played the prostitute there.
7 I said after she had done all these
things, 'She will return to me;' but she
didn't return, and her treacherous sister
Judah saw it.
8 I saw when, for this very cause, that
backsliding Israel had committed
adultery, I had put her away and given
her a certificate of divorce, yet
treacherous Judah, her sister, had no fear,
but she also went and played the
prostitute.
9 Because she took her prostitution
lightly, the land was polluted, and she
committed adultery with stones and with
wood.
10 Yet for all this her treacherous sister,
Judah, has not returned to me with her
whole heart, but only in pretense," says
the LORD.
11 The LORD said to me, "Backsliding
Israel has shown herself more righteous
than treacherous Judah.
12 Go, and proclaim these words toward
the north, and say, 'Return, you
backsliding Israel,' says the LORD; 'I will
not look in anger on you, for I am
merciful,' says the LORD. 'I will not keep
anger forever.
13 Only acknowledge your iniquity, that
you have transgressed against the LORD
your God, and have scattered your ways
to the strangers under every green tree,
and you have not obeyed my voice,' " says
the LORD.
14 "Return, backsliding children," says
the LORD, "for I am a husband to you. I
will take one of you from a city, and two
from a family, and I will bring you to Zion.
15 I will give you shepherds according to
my heart, who will feed you with
knowledge and understanding.
16 It will come to pass, when you are
multiplied and increased in the land in
those days," says the LORD, "they will no
longer say, 'the ark of the LORD's
covenant!' It will not come to mind. They
won't remember it. They won't miss it,
nor will another be made.
17 At that time they will call Jerusalem
'The LORD's Throne;' and all the nations
will be gathered to it, to the LORD's name,
to Jerusalem. They will no longer walk
after the stubbornness of their evil heart.
18 In those days the house of Judah will
walk with the house of Israel, and they
will come together out of the land of the
north to the land that I gave for an
inheritance to your fathers.
19 "But I said, 'How I desire to put you
among the children, and give you a
pleasant land, a goodly heritage of the
armies of the nations!' and I said, 'You
shall call me "My Father", and shall not
turn away from following me.'
20 "Surely as a wife treacherously
departs from her husband, so you have
dealt treacherously with me, house of
Israel," says the LORD.
21 A voice is heard on the bare heights,
the weeping and the petitions of the
children of Israel; because they have
perverted their way, they have forgotten
the LORD their God.
22 Return, you backsliding children, and
I will heal your backsliding.

"Behold, we have come to you; for you
are the LORD our God.
23 Truly help from the hills, the tumult
on the mountains, is in vain. Truly the
salvation of Israel is in the LORD our God.
24 But the shameful thing has devoured
the labor of our fathers from our youth,
their flocks and their herds, their sons
and their daughters.
25 Let us lie down in our shame, and let
our confusion cover us; for we have
sinned against the LORD our God, we and
our fathers, from our youth even to this
day. We have not obeyed the LORD our
God's voice."

4

1 "If you will return, Israel," says the
LORD, "if you will return to me, and if you

will put away your abominations out of my sight; then you will not be removed;
2 and you will swear, ‘As the LORD lives,’ in truth, in justice, and in righteousness. The nations will bless themselves in him, and they will glory in him.”

3 For the LORD says to the men of Judah and to Jerusalem, “Break up your fallow ground, and don’t sow among thorns.
4 Circumcise yourselves to the LORD, and take away the foreskins of your heart, you men of Judah and inhabitants of Jerusalem; lest my wrath go out like fire, and burn so that no one can quench it, because of the evil of your doings.
5 Declare in Judah, and publish in Jerusalem; and say, ‘Blow the trumpet in the land!’ Cry aloud and say, ‘Assemble yourselves! Let’s go into the fortified cities!’
6 Set up a standard toward Zion. Flee for safety! Don’t wait; for I will bring evil from the north, and a great destruction.”

7 A lion has gone up from his thicket, and a destroyer of nations. He is on his way. He has gone out from his place, to make your land desolate, that your cities be laid waste, without inhabitant.
8 For this, clothe yourself with sackcloth, lament and wail; for the fierce anger of the LORD hasn’t turned back from us.
9 “It will happen at that day,” says the LORD, “that the heart of the king will perish, along with the heart of the princes. The priests will be astonished, and the prophets will wonder.”

10 Then I said, “Ah, Lord GOD! Surely you have greatly deceived this people and Jerusalem, saying, ‘You will have peace;’ whereas the sword reaches to the heart.”
11 At that time it will be said to this people and to Jerusalem, “A hot wind blows from the bare heights in the wilderness toward the daughter of my people, not to winnow, nor to cleanse.
12 A full wind from these will come for me. Now I will also utter judgments against them.”

13 Behold, he will come up as clouds, and his chariots will be as the whirlwind. His horses are swifter than eagles. Woe to us! For we are ruined.
14 Jerusalem, wash your heart from wickedness, that you may be saved. How long will your evil thoughts lodge within you?
15 For a voice declares from Dan, and publishes evil from the hills of Ephraim:
16 “Tell the nations, behold, publish against Jerusalem, ‘Watchers come from a far country, and raise their voice against the cities of Judah.
17 As keepers of a field, they are against her all around, because she has been rebellious against me,’ ” says the LORD.
18 “Your way and your doings have brought these things to you. This is your wickedness, for it is bitter, for it reaches to your heart.”

19 My anguish, my anguish! I am pained at my very heart! My heart trembles within me. I can’t hold my peace, because you have heard, O my soul, the sound of the trumpet, the alarm of war.
20 Destruction on destruction is decreed, for the whole land is laid waste. Suddenly my tents are destroyed, and my curtains gone in a moment.
21 How long will I see the standard and hear the sound of the trumpet?

22 “For my people are foolish. They don’t know me. They are foolish children, and they have no understanding. They are skillful in doing evil, but they don’t know how to do good.”
23 I saw the earth and, behold, it was waste and void, and the heavens, and they had no light.
24 I saw the mountains, and behold, they trembled, and all the hills moved back and forth.
25 I saw, and behold, there was no man, and all the birds of the sky had fled.
26 I saw, and behold, the fruitful field was a wilderness, and all its cities were broken down at the presence of the LORD, before his fierce anger.
27 For the LORD says, “The whole land will be a desolation; yet I will not make a full end.

28 For this the earth will mourn, and the
heavens above be black, because I have
spoken it. I have planned it, and I have not
repented, neither will I turn back from it."
29 Every city flees for the noise of the
horsemen and archers. They go into the
thickets and climb up on the rocks. Every
city is forsaken, and not a man dwells
therein.
30 You, when you are made desolate,
what will you do? Though you clothe
yourself with scarlet, though you deck
yourself with ornaments of gold, though
you enlarge your eyes with makeup, you
make yourself beautiful in vain. Your
lovers despise you. They seek your life.
31 For I have heard a voice as of a
woman in travail, the anguish as of her
who gives birth to her first child, the voice
of the daughter of Zion, who gasps for
breath, who spreads her hands, saying,
"Woe is me now! For my soul faints before
the murderers."

5

1 "Run back and forth through the
streets of Jerusalem, and see now, and
know, and seek in its wide places, if you
can find a man, if there is anyone who
does justly, who seeks truth, then I will
pardon her.
2 Though they say, 'As the LORD lives,'
surely they swear falsely."
3 O LORD, don't your eyes look on truth?
You have stricken them, but they were not
grieved. You have consumed them, but
they have refused to receive correction.
They have made their faces harder than a
rock. They have refused to return.
4 Then I said, "Surely these are poor.
They are foolish; for they don't know the
LORD's way, nor the law of their God.
5 I will go to the great men and will
speak to them, for they know the way of
the LORD, and the law of their God." But
these with one accord have broken the
yoke, and burst the bonds.
6 Therefore a lion out of the forest will
kill them. A wolf of the evenings will
destroy them. A leopard will watch
against their cities. Everyone who goes
out there will be torn in pieces, because
their transgressions are many and their
backsliding has increased.
7 "How can I pardon you? Your children
have forsaken me, and sworn by what are
no gods. When I had fed them to the full,
they committed adultery, and assembled
themselves in troops at the prostitutes'
houses.
8 They were as fed horses roaming at
large. Everyone neighed after his
neighbor's wife.
9 Shouldn't I punish them for these
things?" says the LORD. "Shouldn't my
soul be avenged on such a nation as this?
10 "Go up on her walls, and destroy, but
don't make a full end. Take away her
branches, for they are not the LORD's.
11 For the house of Israel and the house
of Judah have dealt very treacherously
against me," says the LORD.
12 They have denied the LORD, and said,
"It is not he. Evil won't come on us. We
won't see sword or famine.
13 The prophets will become wind, and
the word is not in them. Thus it will be
done to them."
14 Therefore the LORD, the God of
Armies says, "Because you speak this
word, behold, I will make my words in
your mouth fire, and this people wood,
and it will devour them.
15 Behold, I will bring a nation on you
from far away, house of Israel," says the
LORD. "It is a mighty nation. It is an
ancient nation, a nation whose language
you don't know and don't understand
what they say.
16 Their quiver is an open tomb. They
are all mighty men.
17 They will eat up your harvest and
your bread, which your sons and your
daughters should eat. They will eat up
your flocks and your herds. They will eat
up your vines and your fig trees. They will
beat down your fortified cities in which
you trust with the sword.
18 "But even in those days," says the
LORD, "I will not make a full end of you.
19 It will happen when you say, 'Why
has the LORD our God done all these
things to us?' Then you shall say to them,
'Just as you have forsaken me and served

foreign gods in your land, so you will serve strangers in a land that is not yours.'
20 "Declare this in the house of Jacob,
and publish it in Judah, saying,
21 'Hear this now, foolish people without understanding, who have eyes, and don't see, who have ears, and don't hear:
22 Don't you fear me?' says the LORD;
'Won't you tremble at my presence, who have placed the sand for the bound of the sea by a perpetual decree, that it can't pass it? Though its waves toss themselves, yet they can't prevail. Though they roar, they still can't pass over it.'
23 "But this people has a revolting and a rebellious heart. They have revolted and gone.
24 They don't say in their heart, 'Let's now fear the LORD our God, who gives rain, both the former and the latter, in its season, who preserves to us the appointed weeks of the harvest.'
25 "Your iniquities have turned away these things, and your sins have withheld good from you.
26 For wicked men are found among my people. They watch, as fowlers lie in wait. They set a trap. They catch men.
27 As a cage is full of birds, so are their houses full of deceit. Therefore they have become great, and grew rich.
28 They have grown fat. They shine; yes, they excel in deeds of wickedness. They don't plead the cause, the cause of the fatherless, that they may prosper; and they don't defend the rights of the needy.
29 "Shouldn't I punish for these things?" says the LORD. "Shouldn't my soul be avenged on such a nation as this?
30 "An astonishing and horrible thing has happened in the land.
31 The prophets prophesy falsely, and the priests rule by their own authority; and my people love to have it so. What will you do in the end of it?

6

1 "Flee for safety, you children of Benjamin, out of the middle of Jerusalem! Blow the trumpet in Tekoa and raise up a signal on Beth Haccherem, for evil looks out from the north with a great destruction.
2 I will cut off the beautiful and delicate one, the daughter of Zion.
3 Shepherds with their flocks will come to her. They will pitch their tents against her all around. They will feed everyone in his place."
4 "Prepare war against her! Arise! Let's go up at noon. Woe to us! For the day declines, for the shadows of the evening are stretched out.
5 Arise! Let's go up by night, and let's destroy her palaces."
6 For the LORD of Armies said, "Cut down trees, and cast up a mound against Jerusalem. This is the city to be visited. She is filled with oppression within herself.
7 As a well produces its waters, so she produces her wickedness. Violence and destruction is heard in her. Sickness and wounds are continually before me.
8 Be instructed, Jerusalem, lest my soul be alienated from you, lest I make you a desolation, an uninhabited land."
9 The LORD of Armies says, "They will thoroughly glean the remnant of Israel like a vine. Turn again your hand as a grape gatherer into the baskets."
10 To whom should I speak and testify, that they may hear? Behold, their ear is uncircumcised, and they can't listen. Behold, the LORD's word has become a reproach to them. They have no delight in it.
11 Therefore I am full of the LORD's wrath. I am weary with holding it in.
"Pour it out on the children in the street,
and on the assembly of young men together;
for even the husband with the wife will be taken,
the aged with him who is full of days.
12 Their houses will be turned to others,
their fields and their wives together;
for I will stretch out my hand on the inhabitants of the land, says the LORD."
13 "For from their least even to their greatest, everyone is given to covetousness.

From the prophet even to the priest,
everyone deals falsely.
14 They have healed also the hurt of my
people superficially,
saying, ‘Peace, peace!’ when there is
no peace.
15 Were they ashamed when they had
committed abomination?
No, they were not at all ashamed,
neither could they blush.
Therefore they will fall among those who
fall.
When I visit them, they will be cast
down,” says the LORD.
16 The LORD says, “Stand in the ways
and see, and ask for the old paths, ‘Where
is the good way?’ and walk in it, and you
will find rest for your souls. But they said,
‘We will not walk in it.’
17 I set watchmen over you, saying,
‘Listen to the sound of the trumpet!’ But
they said, ‘We will not listen!’
18 Therefore hear, you nations, and
know, congregation, what is among them.
19 Hear, earth! Behold, I will bring evil
on this people, even the fruit of their
thoughts, because they have not listened
to my words; and as for my law, they have
rejected it.
20 To what purpose does frankincense
from Sheba come to me, and the sweet
cane from a far country? Your burnt
offerings are not acceptable, and your
sacrifices are not pleasing to me.”
21 Therefore the LORD says, “Behold, I
will lay stumbling blocks before this
people. The fathers and the sons together
will stumble against them. The neighbor
and his friend will perish.”
22 The LORD says, “Behold, a people
comes from the north country. A great
nation will be stirred up from the
uttermost parts of the earth.
23 They take hold of bow and spear.
They are cruel, and have no mercy. Their
voice roars like the sea, and they ride on
horses, everyone set in array, as a man to
the battle, against you, daughter of Zion.”
24 We have heard its report. Our hands
become feeble. Anguish has taken hold of
us, and pains as of a woman in labor.
25 Don’t go out into the field or walk by
the way; for the sword of the enemy and
terror are on every side.
26 Daughter of my people, clothe
yourself with sackcloth, and wallow in
ashes! Mourn, as for an only son, most
bitter lamentation, for the destroyer will
suddenly come on us.
27 “I have made you a tester of metals
and a fortress among my people, that you
may know and try their way.
28 They are all grievous rebels, going
around to slander. They are bronze and
iron. All of them deal corruptly.
29 The bellows blow fiercely. The lead is
consumed in the fire. In vain they go on
refining, for the wicked are not plucked
away.
30 Men will call them rejected silver,
because the LORD has rejected them.”

7

1 The word that came to Jeremiah from
the LORD, saying,
2 “Stand in the gate of the LORD’s house,
and proclaim this word there, and say,
‘Hear the LORD’s word, all you of Judah,
who enter in at these gates to worship the
LORD.’ ”
3 The LORD of Armies, the God of Israel
says, “Amend your ways and your doings,
and I will cause you to dwell in this place.
4 Don’t trust in lying words, saying, ‘The
LORD’s temple, the LORD’s temple, the
LORD’s temple, are these.’
5 For if you thoroughly amend your
ways and your doings, if you thoroughly
execute justice between a man and his
neighbor;
6 if you don’t oppress the foreigner, the
fatherless, and the widow, and don’t shed
innocent blood in this place, and don’t
walk after other gods to your own hurt,
7 then I will cause you to dwell in this
place, in the land that I gave to your
fathers, from of old even forever more.
8 Behold, you trust in lying words that
can’t profit.
9 Will you steal, murder, commit
adultery, swear falsely, burn incense to

Baal, and walk after other gods that you have not known,
10 then come and stand before me in this house, which is called by my name, and say, 'We are delivered,' that you may do all these abominations?
11 Has this house, which is called by my name, become a den of robbers in your eyes? Behold, I myself have seen it," says the LORD.

12 "But go now to my place which was in Shiloh, where I caused my name to dwell at the first, and see what I did to it for the wickedness of my people Israel.
13 Now, because you have done all these works," says the LORD, "and I spoke to you, rising up early and speaking, but you didn't hear; and I called you, but you didn't answer;
14 therefore I will do to the house which is called by my name, in which you trust, and to the place which I gave to you and to your fathers, as I did to Shiloh.
15 I will cast you out of my sight, as I have cast out all your brothers, even the whole offspring† of Ephraim.

16 "Therefore don't pray for this people. Don't lift up a cry or prayer for them or make intercession to me; for I will not hear you.
17 Don't you see what they do in the cities of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem?
18 The children gather wood, and the fathers kindle the fire, and the women knead the dough, to make cakes to the queen of the sky, and to pour out drink offerings to other gods, that they may provoke me to anger.
19 Do they provoke me to anger?" says the LORD. "Don't they provoke themselves, to the confusion of their own faces?"

20 Therefore the Lord GOD says: "Behold, my anger and my wrath will be poured out on this place, on man, on animal, on the trees of the field, and on the fruit of the ground; and it will burn and will not be quenched."

21 The LORD of Armies, the God of Israel says: "Add your burnt offerings to your sacrifices and eat meat.
22 For I didn't speak to your fathers or command them in the day that I brought them out of the land of Egypt concerning burnt offerings or sacrifices;
23 but this thing I commanded them, saying, 'Listen to my voice, and I will be your God, and you shall be my people. Walk in all the way that I command you, that it may be well with you.'
24 But they didn't listen or turn their ear, but walked in their own counsels and in the stubbornness of their evil heart, and went backward, and not forward.
25 Since the day that your fathers came out of the land of Egypt to this day, I have sent to you all my servants the prophets, daily rising up early and sending them.
26 Yet they didn't listen to me or incline their ear, but made their neck stiff. They did worse than their fathers.

27 "You shall speak all these words to them, but they will not listen to you. You shall also call to them, but they will not answer you.
28 You shall tell them, 'This is the nation that has not listened to the LORD their God's voice, nor received instruction. Truth has perished, and is cut off from their mouth.'
29 Cut off your hair, and throw it away, and take up a lamentation on the bare heights; for the LORD has rejected and forsaken the generation of his wrath.

30 "For the children of Judah have done that which is evil in my sight," says the LORD. "They have set their abominations in the house which is called by my name, to defile it.
31 They have built the high places of Topheth, which is in the valley of the son of Hinnom, to burn their sons and their daughters in the fire, which I didn't command, nor did it come into my mind.
32 Therefore behold, the days come", says the LORD, "that it will no more be called 'Topheth' or 'The valley of the son of Hinnom', but 'The valley of Slaughter'; for

† **7:15** or, seed

they will bury in Topheth until there is no
place to bury.
33 The dead bodies of this people will be
food for the birds of the sky, and for the
animals of the earth. No one will frighten
them away.
34 Then I will cause to cease from the
cities of Judah and from the streets of
Jerusalem the voice of mirth and the voice
of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom
and the voice of the bride; for the land
will become a waste."

8

1 "At that time," says the LORD, "they
will bring the bones of the kings of Judah,
the bones of his princes, the bones of the
priests, the bones of the prophets, and the
bones of the inhabitants of Jerusalem, out
of their graves.
2 They will spread them before the sun,
the moon, and all the army of the sky,
which they have loved, which they have
served, after which they have walked,
which they have sought, and which they
have worshiped. They will not be
gathered or be buried. They will be like
dung on the surface of the earth.
3 Death will be chosen rather than life
by all the residue that remain of this evil
family, that remain in all the places where
I have driven them," says the LORD of
Armies.
4 "Moreover you shall tell them, 'The
LORD says:
" 'Do men fall, and not rise up again?
Does one turn away, and not return?
5 Why then have the people of Jerusalem
fallen back by a perpetual
backsliding?
They cling to deceit.
They refuse to return.
6 I listened and heard, but they didn't say
what is right.
No one repents of his wickedness,
saying, "What have I done?"
Everyone turns to his course,
as a horse that rushes headlong in the
battle.
7 Yes, the stork in the sky knows her
appointed times.
The turtledove, the swallow, and the
crane observe the time of their
coming;
but my people don't know the LORD's
law.

8 " 'How do you say, "We are wise, and the
LORD's law is with us"?
But, behold, the false pen of the
scribes has made that a lie.
9 The wise men are disappointed.
They are dismayed and trapped.
Behold, they have rejected the LORD's
word.
What kind of wisdom is in them?
10 Therefore I will give their wives to
others
and their fields to those who will
possess them.
For everyone from the least even to the
greatest is given to covetousness;
from the prophet even to the priest
everyone deals falsely.
11 They have healed the hurt of the
daughter of my people slightly,
saying,
"Peace, peace," when there is no
peace.
12 Were they ashamed when they had
committed abomination?
No, they were not at all ashamed.
They couldn't blush.
Therefore they will fall among those who
fall.
In the time of their visitation they will
be cast down, says the LORD.

13 " 'I will utterly consume them, says the
LORD.
No grapes will be on the vine,
no figs on the fig tree,
and the leaf will fade.
The things that I have given them
will pass away from them.' "

14 "Why do we sit still?
Assemble yourselves!
Let's enter into the fortified cities,
and let's be silent there;
for the LORD our God has put us to silence,
and given us poisoned water to drink,
because we have sinned against the
LORD.

15 We looked for peace, but no good came;
and for a time of healing, and behold, dismay!
16 The snorting of his horses is heard from Dan.
The whole land trembles at the sound of the neighing of his strong ones;
for they have come, and have devoured the land and all that is in it,
the city and those who dwell therein."
17 "For, behold, I will send serpents,
adders among you,
which will not be charmed;
and they will bite you," says the LORD.
18 Oh that I could comfort myself against sorrow!
My heart is faint within me.
19 Behold, the voice of the cry of the daughter of my people from a land that is very far off:
"Isn't the LORD in Zion?
Isn't her King in her?"

"Why have they provoked me to anger with their engraved images,
and with foreign idols?"

20 "The harvest is past.
The summer has ended,
and we are not saved."

21 For the hurt of the daughter of my people, I am hurt.
I mourn.
Dismay has taken hold of me.
22 Is there no balm in Gilead?
Is there no physician there?
Why then isn't the health of the daughter of my people recovered?

9

1 Oh that my head were waters,
and my eyes a spring of tears,
that I might weep day and night
for the slain of the daughter of my people!
2 Oh that I had in the wilderness
a lodging place of wayfaring men,
that I might leave my people
and go from them!
For they are all adulterers,
an assembly of treacherous men.
3 "They bend their tongue,
as their bow, for falsehood.
They have grown strong in the land,
but not for truth;
for they proceed from evil to evil,
and they don't know me," says the LORD.
4 "Everyone beware of his neighbor,
and don't trust in any brother;
for every brother will utterly supplant,
and every neighbor will go around like a slanderer.
5 Friends deceive each other,
and will not speak the truth.
They have taught their tongue to speak lies.
They weary themselves committing iniquity.
6 Your habitation is in the middle of deceit.
Through deceit, they refuse to know me," says the LORD.
7 Therefore the LORD of Armies says,
"Behold, I will melt them and test them;
for how should I deal with the daughter of my people?
8 Their tongue is a deadly arrow.
It speaks deceit.
One speaks peaceably to his neighbor with his mouth,
but in his heart, he waits to ambush him.
9 Shouldn't I punish them for these things?" says the LORD.
"Shouldn't my soul be avenged on a nation such as this?
10 I will weep and wail for the mountains,
and lament for the pastures of the wilderness,
because they are burned up, so that no one passes through;
Men can't hear the voice of the livestock.
Both the birds of the sky and the animals have fled.
They are gone.

11 "I will make Jerusalem heaps,
a dwelling place of jackals.
I will make the cities of Judah a desolation,
without inhabitant."
12 Who is wise enough to understand this? Who is he to whom the mouth of the LORD has spoken, that he may declare it?

Why has the land perished and burned up
like a wilderness, so that no one passes
through?
13 The LORD says, “Because they have
forsaken my law which I set before them,
and have not obeyed my voice or walked
in my ways,
14 but have walked after the
stubbornness of their own heart and after
the Baals, which their fathers taught
them.”
15 Therefore the LORD of Armies, the
God of Israel, says, “Behold, I will feed
them, even this people, with wormwood
and give them poisoned water to drink.
16 I will scatter them also among the
nations, whom neither they nor their
fathers have known. I will send the sword
after them, until I have consumed them.”
17 The LORD of Armies says,
“Consider, and call for the mourning
women, that they may come.
Send for the skillful women, that they
may come.
18 Let them make haste
and take up a wailing for us,
that our eyes may run down with tears
and our eyelids gush out with waters.
19 For a voice of wailing is heard out of
Zion,
‘How we are ruined!
We are greatly confounded
because we have forsaken the land,
because they have cast down our
dwellings.’ ”

20 Yet hear the LORD’s word, you women.
Let your ear receive the word of his
mouth.
Teach your daughters wailing.
Everyone teach her neighbor a
lamentation.
21 For death has come up into our
windows.
It has entered into our palaces
to cut off the children from outside,
and the young men from the streets.
22 Speak, “The LORD says,
“ ‘The dead bodies of men will fall as dung
on the open field,
and as the handful after the
harvester.
No one will gather them.’ ”

23 The LORD says,
“Don’t let the wise man glory in his
wisdom.
Don’t let the mighty man glory in his
might.
Don’t let the rich man glory in his
riches.
24 But let him who glories glory in this,
that he has understanding, and
knows me,
that I am the LORD who exercises loving
kindness, justice, and
righteousness on the earth,
for I delight in these things,” says the
LORD.
25 “Behold, the days come,” says the
LORD, “that I will punish all those who are
circumcised only in their flesh:
26 Egypt, Judah, Edom, the children of
Ammon, Moab, and all who have the
corners of their hair cut off, who dwell in
the wilderness, for all the nations are
uncircumcised, and all the house of Israel
are uncircumcised in heart.”

10

1 Hear the word which the LORD speaks
to you, house of Israel!
2 The LORD says,
“Don’t learn the way of the nations,
and don’t be dismayed at the signs of
the sky;
for the nations are dismayed at them.
3 For the customs of the peoples are
vanity;
for one cuts a tree out of the forest,
the work of the hands of the
workman with the ax.
4 They deck it with silver and with gold.
They fasten it with nails and with
hammers,
so that it can’t move.
5 They are like a palm tree, of turned work,
and don’t speak.
They must be carried,
because they can’t move.
Don’t be afraid of them;
for they can’t do evil,
neither is it in them to do good.”
6 There is no one like you, LORD.
You are great,
and your name is great in might.

7 Who shouldn't fear you,
King of the nations?
For it belongs to you.
Because among all the wise men of the nations,
and in all their royal estate,
there is no one like you.
8 But they are together brutish and foolish,
instructed by idols!
It is just wood.
9 There is silver beaten into plates, which is brought from Tarshish,
and gold from Uphaz,
the work of the engraver and of the hands of the goldsmith.
Their clothing is blue and purple.
They are all the work of skillful men.
10 But the LORD is the true God.
He is the living God,
and an everlasting King.
At his wrath, the earth trembles.
The nations aren't able to withstand his indignation.
11 "You shall say this to them: 'The gods that have not made the heavens and the earth will perish from the earth, and from under the heavens.' "
12 God has made the earth by his power.
He has established the world by his wisdom,
and by his understanding has he stretched out the heavens.
13 When he utters his voice,
the waters in the heavens roar,
and he causes the vapors to ascend from the ends of the earth.
He makes lightnings for the rain,
and brings the wind out of his treasuries.
14 Every man has become brutish and without knowledge.
Every goldsmith is disappointed by his engraved image;
for his molten image is falsehood,
and there is no breath in them.
15 They are vanity, a work of delusion.
In the time of their visitation they will perish.
16 The portion of Jacob is not like these;
for he is the maker of all things;
and Israel is the tribe of his inheritance.
The LORD of Armies is his name.
17 Gather up your wares out of the land,
you who live under siege.
18 For the LORD says,
"Behold, I will sling out the inhabitants of the land at this time,
and will distress them, that they may feel it."
19 Woe is me because of my injury!
My wound is serious;
but I said,
"Truly this is my grief, and I must bear it."
20 My tent has been destroyed,
and all my cords are broken.
My children have gone away from me, and they are no more.
There is no one to spread my tent any more,
to set up my curtains.
21 For the shepherds have become brutish,
and have not inquired of the LORD.
Therefore they have not prospered,
and all their flocks have scattered.
22 The voice of news, behold, it comes,
and a great commotion out of the north country,
to make the cities of Judah a desolation,
a dwelling place of jackals.
23 LORD, I know that the way of man is not in himself.
It is not in man who walks to direct his steps.
24 LORD, correct me, but gently;
not in your anger,
lest you reduce me to nothing.
25 Pour out your wrath on the nations that don't know you,
and on the families that don't call on your name;
for they have devoured Jacob.
Yes, they have devoured him, consumed him,
and have laid waste his habitation.

11

1 The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD, saying,
2 "Hear the words of this covenant, and speak to the men of Judah, and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem;

3 and say to them, the LORD, the God of
Israel says: 'Cursed is the man who
doesn't hear the words of this covenant,
4 which I commanded your fathers in
the day that I brought them out of the land
of Egypt, out of the iron furnace,' saying,
'Obey my voice and do them, according to
all which I command you; so you shall be
my people, and I will be your God;
5 that I may establish the oath which I
swore to your fathers, to give them a land
flowing with milk and honey,' as it is
today."

Then I answered, and said, "Amen,
LORD."
6 The LORD said to me, "Proclaim all
these words in the cities of Judah, and in
the streets of Jerusalem, saying, 'Hear the
words of this covenant, and do them.
7 For I earnestly protested to your
fathers in the day that I brought them up
out of the land of Egypt, even to this day,
rising early and protesting, saying, "Obey
my voice."
8 Yet they didn't obey, nor turn their ear,
but everyone walked in the stubbornness
of their evil heart. Therefore I brought on
them all the words of this covenant,
which I commanded them to do, but they
didn't do them.' "
9 The LORD said to me, "A conspiracy is
found among the men of Judah, and
among the inhabitants of Jerusalem.
10 They have turned back to the
iniquities of their forefathers, who
refused to hear my words. They have
gone after other gods to serve them. The
house of Israel and the house of Judah
have broken my covenant which I made
with their fathers.
11 Therefore the LORD says, 'Behold, I
will bring evil on them which they will
not be able to escape; and they will cry to
me, but I will not listen to them.
12 Then the cities of Judah and the
inhabitants of Jerusalem will go and cry to
the gods to which they offer incense, but
they will not save them at all in the time of
their trouble.
13 For according to the number of your
cities are your gods, Judah; and according
to the number of the streets of Jerusalem
you have set up altars to the shameful
thing, even altars to burn incense to Baal.'
14 "Therefore don't pray for this people.
Don't lift up cry or prayer for them; for I
will not hear them in the time that they
cry to me because of their trouble.
15 What has my beloved to do in my house,
since she has behaved lewdly with
many,
and the holy flesh has passed from
you?
When you do evil,
then you rejoice."

16 The LORD called your name, "A green
olive tree,
beautiful with goodly fruit."
With the noise of a great roar he has
kindled fire on it,
and its branches are broken.
17 For the LORD of Armies, who planted
you, has pronounced evil against you,
because of the evil of the house of Israel
and of the house of Judah, which they
have done to themselves in provoking me
to anger by offering incense to Baal.
18 The LORD gave me knowledge of it,
and I knew it. Then you showed me their
doings.
19 But I was like a gentle lamb that is led
to the slaughter. I didn't know that they
had devised plans against me, saying,
"Let's destroy the tree with its fruit,
and let's cut him off from the land of
the living,
that his name may be no more
remembered."
20 But, LORD of Armies, who judges
righteously,
who tests the heart and the mind,
I will see your vengeance on them;
for to you I have revealed my cause.
21 "Therefore the LORD says concerning
the men of Anathoth, who seek your life,
saying, 'You shall not prophesy in the
LORD's name, that you not die by our
hand'—
22 therefore the LORD of Armies says,
'Behold, I will punish them. The young
men will die by the sword. Their sons and
their daughters will die by famine.

23 There will be no remnant to them, for
I will bring evil on the men of Anathoth,
even the year of their visitation.' "

12

1 You are righteous, LORD,
when I contend with you;
yet I would like to plead a case with you.
Why does the way of the wicked
prosper?
Why are they all at ease who deal
very treacherously?
2 You have planted them. Yes, they have
taken root.
They grow. Yes, they produce fruit.
You are near in their mouth,
and far from their heart.
3 But you, LORD, know me.
You see me, and test my heart toward
you.
Pull them out like sheep for the slaughter,
and prepare them for the day of
slaughter.
4 How long will the land mourn,
and the herbs of the whole country
wither?
Because of the wickedness of those who
dwell therein,
the animals and birds are consumed;
because they said,
"He won't see our latter end."
5 "If you have run with the footmen,
and they have wearied you,
then how can you contend with
horses?
Though in a land of peace you are secure,
yet how will you do in the pride of the
Jordan?
6 For even your brothers, and the house of
your father,
even they have dealt treacherously
with you!
Even they have cried aloud after you!
Don't believe them,
though they speak beautiful words to
you.

7 "I have forsaken my house.
I have cast off my heritage.
I have given the dearly beloved of my
soul into the hand of her enemies.
8 My heritage has become to me as a lion
in the forest.
She has uttered her voice against me.
Therefore I have hated her.
9 Is my heritage to me as a speckled bird of
prey?
Are the birds of prey against her all
around?
Go, assemble all the animals of the field.
Bring them to devour.
10 Many shepherds have destroyed my
vineyard.
They have trodden my portion under
foot.
They have made my pleasant portion
a desolate wilderness.
11 They have made it a desolation.
It mourns to me, being desolate.
The whole land is made desolate,
because no one cares.
12 Destroyers have come on all the bare
heights in the wilderness;
for the sword of the LORD devours
from the one end of the land even
to the other end of the land.
No flesh has peace.
13 They have sown wheat,
and have reaped thorns.
They have exhausted themselves,
and profit nothing.
You will be ashamed of your fruits,
because of the LORD's fierce anger."

14 The LORD says, "Concerning all my
evil neighbors, who touch the inheritance
which I have caused my people Israel to
inherit: Behold, I will pluck them up from
off their land, and will pluck up the house
of Judah from among them.
15 It will happen that after I have
plucked them up, I will return and have
compassion on them. I will bring them
again, every man to his heritage, and
every man to his land.
16 It will happen, if they will diligently
learn the ways of my people, to swear by
my name, 'As the LORD lives;' even as they
taught my people to swear by Baal, then
they will be built up in the middle of my
people.
17 But if they will not hear, then I will
pluck up that nation, plucking up and
destroying it," says the LORD.

13

1 The LORD said to me, “Go, and buy
yourself a linen belt, and put it on your
waist, and don’t put it in water.”
2 So I bought a belt according to the
LORD’s word, and put it on my waist.
3 The LORD’s word came to me the
second time, saying,
4 “Take the belt that you have bought,
which is on your waist, and arise, go to the
Euphrates, and hide it there in a cleft of
the rock.”
5 So I went and hid it by the Euphrates,
as the LORD commanded me.
6 After many days, the LORD said to me,
“Arise, go to the Euphrates, and take the
belt from there, which I commanded you
to hide there.”
7 Then I went to the Euphrates, and dug,
and took the belt from the place where I
had hidden it; and behold, the belt was
ruined. It was profitable for nothing.
8 Then the LORD’s word came to me,
saying,
9 “The LORD says, ‘In this way I will ruin
the pride of Judah, and the great pride of
Jerusalem.
10 This evil people, who refuse to hear
my words, who walk in the stubbornness
of their heart, and have gone after other
gods to serve them and to worship them,
will even be as this belt, which is
profitable for nothing.
11 For as the belt clings to the waist of a
man, so I have caused the whole house of
Israel and the whole house of Judah to
cling to me,’ says the LORD; ‘that they may
be to me for a people, for a name, for
praise, and for glory; but they would not
hear.’
12 “Therefore you shall speak to them
this word: ‘The LORD, the God of Israel
says, “Every container should be filled
with wine.” ’ They will tell you, ‘Do we not
certainly know that every container
should be filled with wine?’
13 Then tell them, ‘The LORD says,
“Behold, I will fill all the inhabitants of
this land, even the kings who sit on
David’s throne, the priests, the prophets,
and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, with
drunkenness.
14 I will dash them one against another,
even the fathers and the sons together,”
says the LORD: “I will not pity, spare, or
have compassion, that I should not
destroy them.” ’ ”
15 Hear, and give ear.
Don’t be proud,
for the LORD has spoken.
16 Give glory to the LORD your God,
before he causes darkness,
and before your feet stumble on the
dark mountains,
and while you look for light,
he turns it into the shadow of death,
and makes it deep darkness.
17 But if you will not hear it,
my soul will weep in secret for your
pride.
My eye will weep bitterly,
and run down with tears,
because the LORD’s flock has been
taken captive.
18 Say to the king and to the queen mother,
“Humble yourselves.
Sit down, for your crowns have come
down,
even the crown of your glory.
19 The cities of the South are shut up,
and there is no one to open them.
Judah is carried away captive: all of them.
They are wholly carried away captive.
20 Lift up your eyes,
and see those who come from the
north.
Where is the flock that was given to you,
your beautiful flock?
21 What will you say when he sets over
you as head those whom you have
yourself taught to be friends to you?
Won’t sorrows take hold of you, as of
a woman in travail?
22 If you say in your heart,
“Why have these things come on me?”
Your skirts are uncovered because of the
greatness of your iniquity,
and your heels suffer violence.
23 Can the Ethiopian change his skin,
or the leopard his spots?
Then may you also do good,
who are accustomed to do evil.

24 “Therefore I will scatter them

as the stubble that passes away
by the wind of the wilderness.
25 This is your lot,
the portion measured to you from me,” says the LORD,
“because you have forgotten me,
and trusted in falsehood.”
26 Therefore I will also uncover your skirts on your face,
and your shame will appear.
27 I have seen your abominations, even your adulteries
and your neighing, the lewdness of your prostitution,
on the hills in the field.
Woe to you, Jerusalem!
You will not be made clean.
How long will it yet be?”

14

1 This is the LORD’s word that came to Jeremiah concerning the drought:
2 “Judah mourns,
and its gates languish.
They sit in black on the ground.
The cry of Jerusalem goes up.
3 Their nobles send their little ones to the waters.
They come to the cisterns,
and find no water.
They return with their vessels empty.
They are disappointed and confounded,
and cover their heads.
4 Because of the ground which is cracked,
because no rain has been in the land,
the plowmen are disappointed.
They cover their heads.
5 Yes, the doe in the field also calves and forsakes her young,
because there is no grass.
6 The wild donkeys stand on the bare heights.
They pant for air like jackals.
Their eyes fail,
because there is no vegetation.
7 Though our iniquities testify against us,
work for your name’s sake, LORD;
for our rebellions are many.
We have sinned against you.
8 You hope of Israel,
its Savior in the time of trouble,
why should you be as a foreigner in the land,
and as a wayfaring man who turns aside to stay for a night?
9 Why should you be like a scared man,
as a mighty man who can’t save?
Yet you, LORD, are in the middle of us,
and we are called by your name.
Don’t leave us.
10 The LORD says to this people:
“Even so they have loved to wander.
They have not restrained their feet.
Therefore the LORD does not accept them.
Now he will remember their iniquity,
and punish them for their sins.”
11 The LORD said to me, “Don’t pray for this people for their good.
12 When they fast, I will not hear their cry; and when they offer burnt offering and meal offering, I will not accept them; but I will consume them by the sword, by famine, and by pestilence.”
13 Then I said, “Ah, Lord GOD! Behold, the prophets tell them, ‘You will not see the sword, neither will you have famine; but I will give you assured peace in this place.’ ”
14 Then the LORD said to me, “The prophets prophesy lies in my name. I didn’t send them. I didn’t command them. I didn’t speak to them. They prophesy to you a lying vision, divination, and a thing of nothing, and the deceit of their own heart.
15 Therefore the LORD says concerning the prophets who prophesy in my name, but I didn’t send them, yet they say, ‘Sword and famine will not be in this land.’ Those prophets will be consumed by sword and famine.
16 The people to whom they prophesy will be cast out in the streets of Jerusalem because of the famine and the sword. They will have no one to bury them—them, their wives, their sons, or their daughters, for I will pour their wickedness on them.
17 “You shall say this word to them:
“ ‘Let my eyes run down with tears night and day,
and let them not cease;

for the virgin daughter of my people is
broken with a great breach,
with a very grievous wound.
18 If I go out into the field,
then behold, the slain with the sword!
If I enter into the city,
then behold, those who are sick with
famine!
For both the prophet and the priest go
about in the land,
and have no knowledge.' "

19 Have you utterly rejected Judah?
Has your soul loathed Zion?
Why have you struck us, and there is no
healing for us?
We looked for peace, but no good
came;
and for a time of healing, and behold,
dismay!
20 We acknowledge, LORD, our
wickedness,
and the iniquity of our fathers;
for we have sinned against you.
21 Do not abhor us, for your name's sake.
Do not disgrace the throne of your
glory.
Remember, and don't break your
covenant with us.
22 Are there any among the vanities of the
nations that can cause rain?
Or can the sky give showers?
Aren't you he, the LORD our God?
Therefore we will wait for you;
for you have made all these things.

15

1 Then the LORD said to me, "Though
Moses and Samuel stood before me, yet
my mind would not turn toward this
people. Cast them out of my sight, and let
them go out!
2 It will happen when they ask you,
'Where shall we go out?' then you shall
tell them, 'The LORD says:
"Such as are for death, to death;
such as are for the sword, to the sword;
such as are for the famine, to the famine;
and such as are for captivity, to
captivity." '
3 "I will appoint over them four kinds,"
says the LORD: "the sword to kill, the dogs
to tear, the birds of the sky, and the
animals of the earth, to devour and to
destroy.
4 I will cause them to be tossed back and
forth among all the kingdoms of the earth,
because of Manasseh, the son of
Hezekiah, king of Judah, for that which he
did in Jerusalem.
5 For who will have pity on you,
Jerusalem?
Who will mourn you?
Who will come to ask of your welfare?
6 You have rejected me," says the LORD.
"You have gone backward.
Therefore I have stretched out my hand
against you
and destroyed you.
I am weary of showing compassion.
7 I have winnowed them with a fan in the
gates of the land.
I have bereaved them of children.
I have destroyed my people.
They didn't return from their ways.
8 Their widows are increased more than
the sand of the seas.
I have brought on them against the
mother of the young men a
destroyer at noonday.
I have caused anguish and terrors to
fall on her suddenly.
9 She who has borne seven languishes.
She has given up the spirit.
Her sun has gone down while it was yet
day.
She has been disappointed and
confounded.
I will deliver their residue to the
sword before their enemies," says
the LORD.

10 Woe is me, my mother, that you have
borne me, a man of strife,
and a man of contention to the whole
earth!
I have not lent, neither have men lent to
me;
yet every one of them curses me.
11 The LORD said,
"Most certainly I will strengthen you for
good.
Most certainly I will cause the enemy
to make supplication to you in the
time of evil

and in the time of affliction.
12 Can one break iron,
even iron from the north, and
bronze?
13 I will give your substance and your
treasures for a plunder without
price,
and that for all your sins,
even in all your borders.
14 I will make them to pass with your
enemies into a land which you
don't know;
for a fire is kindled in my anger,
which will burn on you."

15 LORD, you know.
Remember me, visit me,
and avenge me of my persecutors.
You are patient, so don't take me away.
Know that for your sake I have
suffered reproach.
16 Your words were found,
and I ate them.
Your words were to me a joy and the
rejoicing of my heart,
for I am called by your name, LORD,
God of Armies.
17 I didn't sit in the assembly of those who
make merry and rejoice.
I sat alone because of your hand,
for you have filled me with
indignation.
18 Why is my pain perpetual,
and my wound incurable,
which refuses to be healed?
Will you indeed be to me as a deceitful
brook,
like waters that fail?
19 Therefore the LORD says,
"If you return, then I will bring you again,
that you may stand before me;
and if you take out the precious from the
vile,
you will be as my mouth.
They will return to you,
but you will not return to them.
20 I will make you to this people a fortified
bronze wall.
They will fight against you,
but they will not prevail against you;
for I am with you to save you
and to deliver you," says the LORD.
21 "I will deliver you out of the hand of the
wicked,
and I will redeem you out of the hand
of the terrible."

16

1 Then the LORD's word came to me,
saying,
2 "You shall not take a wife, neither shall
you have sons or daughters, in this place."
3 For the LORD says concerning the sons
and concerning the daughters who are
born in this place, and concerning their
mothers who bore them, and concerning
their fathers who became their father in
this land:
4 "They will die grievous deaths. They
will not be lamented, neither will they be
buried. They will be as dung on the
surface of the ground. They will be
consumed by the sword and by famine.
Their dead bodies will be food for the
birds of the sky and for the animals of the
earth."
5 For the LORD says, "Don't enter into
the house of mourning. Don't go to
lament. Don't bemoan them, for I have
taken away my peace from this people,"
says the LORD, "even loving kindness and
tender mercies.
6 Both great and small will die in this
land. They will not be buried. Men won't
lament for them, cut themselves, or make
themselves bald for them.
7 Men won't break bread for them in
mourning, to comfort them for the dead.
Men won't give them the cup of
consolation to drink for their father or for
their mother.
8 "You shall not go into the house of
feasting to sit with them, to eat and to
drink."
9 For the LORD of Armies, the God of
Israel says: "Behold, I will cause to cease
out of this place, before your eyes and in
your days, the voice of mirth and the
voice of gladness, the voice of the
bridegroom and the voice of the bride.
10 It will happen, when you tell this
people all these words, and they ask you,
'Why has the LORD pronounced all this
great evil against us?' or 'What is our

iniquity?' or 'What is our sin that we have committed against the LORD our God?'
11 then you shall tell them, 'Because your fathers have forsaken me,' says the LORD, 'and have walked after other gods, have served them, have worshiped them, have forsaken me, and have not kept my law.
12 You have done evil more than your fathers, for behold, you each walk after the stubbornness of his evil heart, so that you don't listen to me.
13 Therefore I will cast you out of this land into the land that you have not known, neither you nor your fathers. There you will serve other gods day and night, for I will show you no favor.'
14 "Therefore behold, the days come," says the LORD, "that it will no more be said, 'As the LORD lives, who brought up the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt;'
15 but, 'As the LORD lives, who brought up the children of Israel from the land of the north, and from all the countries where he had driven them.' I will bring them again into their land that I gave to their fathers.
16 "Behold, I will send for many fishermen," says the LORD, "and they will fish them up. Afterward I will send for many hunters, and they will hunt them from every mountain, from every hill, and out of the clefts of the rocks.
17 For my eyes are on all their ways. They are not hidden from my face. Their iniquity isn't concealed from my eyes.
18 First I will recompense their iniquity and their sin double, because they have polluted my land with the carcasses of their detestable things, and have filled my inheritance with their abominations."

19 LORD, my strength, my stronghold,
and my refuge in the day of affliction,
the nations will come to you from the ends of the earth,
and will say,
"Our fathers have inherited nothing but lies,
vanity and things in which there is no profit.
20 Should a man make to himself gods which yet are no gods?"

21 "Therefore behold, I will cause them to know,
this once I will cause them to know my hand and my might.
Then they will know that my name is the LORD."

17

1 "The sin of Judah is written with a pen of iron,
and with the point of a diamond.
It is engraved on the tablet of their heart,
and on the horns of your altars.
2 Even their children remember their altars
and their Asherah poles by the green trees on the high hills.
3 My mountain in the field,
I will give your substance and all your treasures for a plunder,
and your high places, because of sin, throughout all your borders.
4 You, even of yourself, will discontinue from your heritage that I gave you.
I will cause you to serve your enemies in the land which you don't know,
for you have kindled a fire in my anger which will burn forever."
5 The LORD says:
"Cursed is the man who trusts in man,
relies on strength of flesh,
and whose heart departs from the LORD.
6 For he will be like a bush in the desert,
and will not see when good comes,
but will inhabit the parched places in the wilderness,
an uninhabited salt land.

7 "Blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD,
and whose confidence is in the LORD.
8 For he will be as a tree planted by the waters,
who spreads out its roots by the river,
and will not fear when heat comes,
but its leaf will be green,

and will not be concerned in the year of drought.
It won't cease from yielding fruit.
9 The heart is deceitful above all things
and it is exceedingly corrupt.
Who can know it?

10 "I, the LORD, search the mind.
I try the heart,
even to give every man according to his ways,
according to the fruit of his doings."

11 As the partridge that sits on eggs which she has not laid,
so is he who gets riches, and not by right.
In the middle of his days, they will leave him.
At his end, he will be a fool.
12 A glorious throne, set on high from the beginning,
is the place of our sanctuary.
13 LORD, the hope of Israel,
all who forsake you will be disappointed.
Those who depart from me will be written in the earth,
because they have forsaken the LORD,
the spring of living waters.
14 Heal me, O LORD, and I will be healed.
Save me, and I will be saved;
for you are my praise.
15 Behold, they ask me,
"Where is the LORD's word?
Let it be fulfilled now."
16 As for me, I have not hurried from being a shepherd after you.
I haven't desired the woeful day. You know.
That which came out of my lips was before your face.
17 Don't be a terror to me.
You are my refuge in the day of evil.
18 Let them be disappointed who persecute me,
but don't let me be disappointed.
Let them be dismayed,
but don't let me be dismayed.
Bring on them the day of evil,
and destroy them with double destruction.
19 The LORD said this to me: "Go and stand in the gate of the children of the people, through which the kings of Judah come in and by which they go out, and in all the gates of Jerusalem.
20 Tell them, 'Hear the LORD's word, you kings of Judah, all Judah, and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, that enter in by these gates:
21 The LORD says, "Be careful, and bear no burden on the Sabbath day, nor bring it in by the gates of Jerusalem.
22 Don't carry a burden out of your houses on the Sabbath day. Don't do any work, but make the Sabbath day holy, as I commanded your fathers.
23 But they didn't listen. They didn't turn their ear, but made their neck stiff, that they might not hear, and might not receive instruction.
24 It will happen, if you diligently listen to me," says the LORD, "to bring in no burden through the gates of this city on the Sabbath day, but to make the Sabbath day holy, to do no work therein;
25 then there will enter in by the gates of this city kings and princes sitting on David's throne, riding in chariots and on horses, they and their princes, the men of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem; and this city will remain forever.
26 They will come from the cities of Judah, and from the places around Jerusalem, from the land of Benjamin, from the lowland, from the hill country, and from the South, bringing burnt offerings, sacrifices, meal offerings, and frankincense, and bringing sacrifices of thanksgiving to the LORD's house.
27 But if you will not listen to me to make the Sabbath day holy, and not to bear a burden and enter in at the gates of Jerusalem on the Sabbath day, then I will kindle a fire in its gates, and it will devour the palaces of Jerusalem. It will not be quenched." ' "

18

1 The word which came to Jeremiah

from the LORD, saying,
2 "Arise, and go down to the potter's
house, and there I will cause you to hear
my words."
3 Then I went down to the potter's
house, and behold, he was making
something on the wheels.
4 When the vessel that he made of the
clay was marred in the hand of the potter,
he made it again another vessel, as
seemed good to the potter to make it.
5 Then the LORD's word came to me,
saying,
6 "House of Israel, can't I do with you as
this potter?" says the LORD. "Behold, as
the clay in the potter's hand, so are you in
my hand, house of Israel.
7 At the instant I speak concerning a
nation, and concerning a kingdom, to
pluck up and to break down and to
destroy it,
8 if that nation, concerning which I have
spoken, turns from their evil, I will repent
of the evil that I thought to do to them.
9 At the instant I speak concerning a
nation, and concerning a kingdom, to
build and to plant it,
10 if they do that which is evil in my
sight, that they don't obey my voice, then I
will repent of the good with which I said I
would benefit them.
11 "Now therefore, speak to the men of
Judah, and to the inhabitants of
Jerusalem, saying, 'The LORD says:
"Behold, I frame evil against you, and
devise a plan against you. Everyone
return from his evil way now, and amend
your ways and your doings." '
12 But they say, 'It is in vain; for we will
walk after our own plans, and we will
each follow the stubbornness of his evil
heart.' "
13 Therefore the LORD says:
"Ask now among the nations,
'Who has heard such things?'
The virgin of Israel has done a very
horrible thing.
14 Will the snow of Lebanon fail from the
rock of the field?
Will the cold waters that flow down
from afar be dried up?
15 For my people have forgotten me.
They have burned incense to false
gods.
They have been made to stumble in their
ways
in the ancient paths,
to walk in byways, in a way not built
up,
16 to make their land an astonishment,
and a perpetual hissing.
Everyone who passes by it will be
astonished,
and shake his head.
17 I will scatter them as with an east wind
before the enemy.
I will show them the back, and not the
face,
in the day of their calamity.
18 Then they said, "Come! Let's devise
plans against Jeremiah; for the law won't
perish from the priest, nor counsel from
the wise, nor the word from the prophet.
Come, and let's strike him with the
tongue, and let's not give heed to any of
his words."
19 Give heed to me, LORD,
and listen to the voice of those who
contend with me.
20 Should evil be recompensed for good?
For they have dug a pit for my soul.
Remember how I stood before you to
speak good for them,
to turn away your wrath from them.
21 Therefore deliver up their children to
the famine,
and give them over to the power of
the sword.
Let their wives become childless and
widows.
Let their men be killed
and their young men struck by the
sword in battle.
22 Let a cry be heard from their houses
when you bring a troop suddenly on
them;
for they have dug a pit to take me
and hidden snares for my feet.
23 Yet, LORD, you know all their counsel
against me to kill me.
Don't forgive their iniquity.
Don't blot out their sin from your
sight,
Let them be overthrown before you.

Deal with them in the time of your
anger.

19

1 Thus said the LORD, “Go, and buy a
potter’s earthen container, and take some
of the elders of the people and of the
elders of the priests;
2 and go out to the valley of the son of
Hinnom, which is by the entry of the gate
Harsith, and proclaim there the words
that I will tell you.
3 Say, ‘Hear the LORD’s word, kings of
Judah and inhabitants of Jerusalem: The
LORD of Armies, the God of Israel says,
“Behold, I will bring evil on this place,
which whoever hears, his ears will tingle.
4 Because they have forsaken me, and
have defiled this place, and have burned
incense in it to other gods that they didn’t
know—they, their fathers, and the kings of
Judah—and have filled this place with the
blood of innocents,
5 and have built the high places of Baal
to burn their children in the fire for burnt
offerings to Baal, which I didn’t
command, nor speak, which didn’t even
enter into my mind.
6 Therefore, behold, the days come,”
says the LORD, “that this place will no
more be called ‘Topheth’, nor ‘The Valley
of the son of Hinnom’, but ‘The valley of
Slaughter’.
7 “ ‘ “I will make the counsel of Judah
and Jerusalem void in this place. I will
cause them to fall by the sword before
their enemies, and by the hand of those
who seek their life. I will give their dead
bodies to be food for the birds of the sky
and for the animals of the earth.
8 I will make this city an astonishment
and a hissing. Everyone who passes by it
will be astonished and hiss because of all
its plagues.
9 I will cause them to eat the flesh of
their sons and the flesh of their daughters.
They will each eat the flesh of his friend in
the siege and in the distress with which
their enemies, and those who seek their
life, will distress them.” ’
10 “Then you shall break the container
in the sight of the men who go with you,
11 and shall tell them, ‘The LORD of
Armies says: “Even so I will break this
people and this city as one breaks a
potter’s vessel, that can’t be made whole
again. They will bury in Topheth until
there is no place to bury.
12 This is what I will do to this place,”
says the LORD, “and to its inhabitants,
even making this city as Topheth.
13 The houses of Jerusalem and the
houses of the kings of Judah, which are
defiled, will be as the place of Topheth,
even all the houses on whose roofs they
have burned incense to all the army of the
sky and have poured out drink offerings
to other gods.” ’ ”
14 Then Jeremiah came from Topheth,
where the LORD had sent him to
prophesy, and he stood in the court of the
LORD’s house, and said to all the people:
15 “The LORD of Armies, the God of
Israel says, ‘Behold, I will bring on this
city and on all its towns all the evil that I
have pronounced against it, because they
have made their neck stiff, that they may
not hear my words.’ ”

20

1 Now Pashhur, the son of Immer the
priest, who was chief officer in the LORD’s
house, heard Jeremiah prophesying these
things.
2 Then Pashhur struck Jeremiah the
prophet and put him in the stocks that
were in the upper gate of Benjamin,
which was in the LORD’s house.
3 On the next day, Pashhur released
Jeremiah out of the stocks. Then Jeremiah
said to him, “The LORD has not called
your name Pashhur, but Magormissabib.†
4 For the LORD says, ‘Behold, I will make
you a terror to yourself and to all your
friends. They will fall by the sword of
their enemies, and your eyes will see it. I
will give all Judah into the hand of the
king of Babylon, and he will carry them
captive to Babylon, and will kill them with
the sword.

† **20:3** “Magormissabib” means “surrounded by terror”

5 Moreover I will give all the riches of
this city, and all its gains, and all its
precious things, yes, I will give all the
treasures of the kings of Judah into the
hand of their enemies. They will make
them captives, take them, and carry them
to Babylon.
6 You, Pashhur, and all who dwell in
your house will go into captivity. You will
come to Babylon, and there you will die,
and there you will be buried, you, and all
your friends, to whom you have
prophesied falsely.' "

7 LORD, you have persuaded me, and I
was persuaded.
You are stronger than I, and have
prevailed.
I have become a laughingstock all day.
Everyone mocks me.
8 For as often as I speak, I cry out;
I cry, "Violence and destruction!"
because the LORD's word has been made
a reproach to me,
and a derision, all day.
9 If I say that I will not make mention of
him,
or speak any more in his name,
then there is in my heart as it were a
burning fire shut up in my bones.
I am weary with holding it in.
I can't.
10 For I have heard the defaming of many:
"Terror on every side!
Denounce, and we will denounce
him!"
say all my familiar friends,
those who watch for my fall.
"Perhaps he will be persuaded,
and we will prevail against him,
and we will take our revenge on him."
11 But the LORD is with me as an awesome
mighty one.
Therefore my persecutors will
stumble,
and they won't prevail.
They will be utterly disappointed
because they have not dealt wisely,
even with an everlasting dishonor
which will never be forgotten.
12 But the LORD of Armies, who tests the
righteous,
who sees the heart and the mind,
let me see your vengeance on them,
for I have revealed my cause to you.
13 Sing to the LORD!
Praise the LORD,
for he has delivered the soul of the
needy from the hand of evildoers.
14 Cursed is the day in which I was born.
Don't let the day in which my mother
bore me be blessed.
15 Cursed is the man who brought news to
my father, saying,
"A boy is born to you," making him
very glad.
16 Let that man be as the cities which the
LORD overthrew,
and didn't repent.
Let him hear a cry in the morning,
and shouting at noontime,
17 because he didn't kill me from the
womb.
So my mother would have been my
grave,
and her womb always great.
18 Why did I come out of the womb to see
labor and sorrow,
that my days should be consumed
with shame?

21

1 The word which came to Jeremiah
from the LORD, when King Zedekiah sent
to him Pashhur the son of Malchijah, and
Zephaniah the son of Maaseiah, the priest,
saying,
2 "Please inquire of the LORD for us; for
Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon makes
war against us. Perhaps the LORD will
deal with us according to all his wondrous
works, that he may withdraw from us."
3 Then Jeremiah said to them, "Tell
Zedekiah:
4 'The LORD, the God of Israel says,
"Behold, I will turn back the weapons of
war that are in your hands, with which
you fight against the king of Babylon, and
against the Chaldeans who besiege you
outside the walls; and I will gather them
into the middle of this city.
5 I myself will fight against you with an
outstretched hand and with a strong arm,

even in anger, in wrath, and in great indignation.
6 I will strike the inhabitants of this city,
both man and animal. They will die of a
great pestilence.
7 Afterward," says the LORD, "I will
deliver Zedekiah king of Judah, his
servants, and the people, even those who
are left in this city from the pestilence,
from the sword, and from the famine, into
the hand of Nebuchadnezzar king of
Babylon, and into the hand of their
enemies, and into the hand of those who
seek their life. He will strike them with
the edge of the sword. He will not spare
them, have pity, or have mercy." '
8 "You shall say to this people, 'The
LORD says: "Behold, I set before you the
way of life and the way of death.
9 He who remains in this city will die by
the sword, by the famine, and by the
pestilence, but he who goes out and passes
over to the Chaldeans who besiege you, he
will live, and he will escape with his life.
10 For I have set my face on this city for
evil, and not for good," says the LORD. "It
will be given into the hand of the king of
Babylon, and he will burn it with fire." '
11 "Concerning the house of the king of
Judah, hear the LORD's word:
12 House of David, the LORD says,
'Execute justice in the morning,
and deliver him who is robbed out of
the hand of the oppressor,
lest my wrath go out like fire,
and burn so that no one can quench it,
because of the evil of your doings.
13 Behold, I am against you, O inhabitant
of the valley,
and of the rock of the plain,' says the
LORD.
'You that say, "Who would come down
against us?"
or, "Who would enter into our
homes?"
14 I will punish you according to the fruit
of your doings,' says the LORD;
'and I will kindle a fire in her forest,
and it will devour all that is around
her.' "

22

1 The LORD said, "Go down to the house
of the king of Judah, and speak this word
there:
2 'Hear the LORD's word, king of Judah,
who sits on David's throne—you, your
servants, and your people who enter in by
these gates.
3 The LORD says: "Execute justice and
righteousness, and deliver him who is
robbed out of the hand of the oppressor.
Do no wrong. Do no violence to the
foreigner, the fatherless, or the widow.
Don't shed innocent blood in this place.
4 For if you do this thing indeed, then
kings sitting on David's throne will enter
in by the gates of this house, riding in
chariots and on horses—they, their
servants, and their people.
5 But if you will not hear these words, I
swear by myself," says the LORD, "that
this house will become a desolation." ' "
6 For the LORD says concerning the
house of the king of Judah:
"You are Gilead to me,
the head of Lebanon.
Yet surely I will make you a wilderness,
cities which are not inhabited.
7 I will prepare destroyers against you,
everyone with his weapons,
and they will cut down your choice
cedars,
and cast them into the fire.
8 "Many nations will pass by this city,
and they will each ask his neighbor, 'Why
has the LORD done this to this great city?'
9 Then they will answer, 'Because they
abandoned the covenant of the LORD
their God, worshiped other gods, and
served them.' "
10 Don't weep for the dead.
Don't bemoan him;
but weep bitterly for him who goes away,
for he will return no more,
and not see his native country.
11 For the LORD says touching Shallum the
son of Josiah, king of Judah, who reigned
instead of Josiah his father, and who went
out of this place: "He won't return there
any more.

12 But he will die in the place where they
have led him captive. He will see this land
no more."
13 "Woe to him who builds his house by
unrighteousness,
and his rooms by injustice;
who uses his neighbor's service without
wages,
and doesn't give him his hire;
14 who says, 'I will build myself a wide
house and spacious rooms,'
and cuts out windows for himself,
with a cedar ceiling,
and painted with red.

15 "Should you reign because you strive to
excel in cedar?
Didn't your father eat and drink,
and do justice and righteousness?
Then it was well with him.
16 He judged the cause of the poor and
needy;
so then it was well.
Wasn't this to know me?"
says the LORD.
17 But your eyes and your heart are only
for your covetousness,
for shedding innocent blood,
for oppression, and for doing
violence."
18 Therefore the LORD says concerning
Jehoiakim the son of Josiah, king of Judah:
"They won't lament for him,
saying, 'Ah my brother!' or, 'Ah sister!'
They won't lament for him,
saying 'Ah lord!' or, 'Ah his glory!'
19 He will be buried with the burial of a
donkey,
drawn and cast out beyond the gates
of Jerusalem."

20 "Go up to Lebanon, and cry out.
Lift up your voice in Bashan,
and cry from Abarim;
for all your lovers have been
destroyed.
21 I spoke to you in your prosperity,
but you said, 'I will not listen.'
This has been your way from your youth,
that you didn't obey my voice.
22 The wind will feed all your shepherds,
and your lovers will go into captivity.
Surely then you will be ashamed
and confounded for all your
wickedness.
23 Inhabitant of Lebanon,
who makes your nest in the cedars,
how greatly to be pitied you will be when
pangs come on you,
the pain as of a woman in travail!
24 "As I live," says the LORD, "though
Coniah the son of Jehoiakim king of Judah
were the signet on my right hand, I would
still pluck you from there.
25 I would give you into the hand of
those who seek your life, and into the
hand of them of whom you are afraid,
even into the hand of Nebuchadnezzar
king of Babylon, and into the hand of the
Chaldeans.
26 I will cast you out with your mother
who bore you into another country,
where you were not born; and there you
will die.
27 But to the land to which their soul
longs to return, there they will not
return."
28 Is this man Coniah a despised broken
vessel?
Is he a vessel in which no one
delights?
Why are they cast out, he and his
offspring,
and cast into a land which they don't
know?
29 O earth, earth, earth,
hear the LORD's word!
30 The LORD says,
"Record this man as childless,
a man who will not prosper in his
days;
for no more will a man of his offspring
prosper,
sitting on David's throne
and ruling in Judah."

23

1 "Woe to the shepherds who destroy
and scatter the sheep of my pasture!" says
the LORD.
2 Therefore the LORD, the God of Israel,
says against the shepherds who feed my
people: "You have scattered my flock,
driven them away, and have not visited

them. Behold, I will visit on you the evil of
your doings," says the LORD.
3 "I will gather the remnant of my flock
out of all the countries where I have
driven them, and will bring them again to
their folds; and they will be fruitful and
multiply.
4 I will set up shepherds over them who
will feed them. They will no longer be
afraid or dismayed, neither will any be
lacking," says the LORD.
5 "Behold, the days come," says the LORD,
"that I will raise to David a righteous
Branch;
and he will reign as king and deal wisely,
and will execute justice and
righteousness in the land.
6 In his days Judah will be saved,
and Israel will dwell safely.
This is his name by which he will be
called:
The LORD our righteousness.
7 "Therefore, behold, the days come," says
the LORD, "that they will no more say, 'As
the LORD lives, who brought up the
children of Israel out of the land of Egypt;'
8 but, 'As the LORD lives, who brought up
and who led the offspring of the house of
Israel out of the north country, and from
all the countries where I had driven
them.' Then they will dwell in their own
land."
9 Concerning the prophets:
My heart within me is broken.
All my bones shake.
I am like a drunken man,
and like a man whom wine has
overcome,
because of the LORD,
and because of his holy words.
10 "For the land is full of adulterers;
for because of the curse the land
mourns.
The pastures of the wilderness have dried
up.
Their course is evil,
and their might is not right;
11 for both prophet and priest are profane.
Yes, in my house I have found their
wickedness," says the LORD.
12 Therefore their way will be to them as
slippery places in the darkness.
They will be driven on,
and fall therein;
for I will bring evil on them,
even the year of their visitation," says
the LORD.

13 "I have seen folly in the prophets of
Samaria.
They prophesied by Baal,
and caused my people Israel to err.
14 In the prophets of Jerusalem I have also
seen a horrible thing:
they commit adultery and walk in
lies.
They strengthen the hands of evildoers,
so that no one returns from his
wickedness.
They have all become to me as Sodom,
and its inhabitants as Gomorrah."
15 Therefore the LORD of Armies says
concerning the prophets:
"Behold, I will feed them with wormwood,
and make them drink poisoned
water;
for from the prophets of Jerusalem
ungodliness has gone out into all
the land."
16 The LORD of Armies says,
"Don't listen to the words of the prophets
who prophesy to you.
They teach you vanity.
They speak a vision of their own
heart,
and not out of the mouth of the LORD.
17 They say continually to those who
despise me,
'The LORD has said, "You will have
peace;" '
and to everyone who walks in the
stubbornness of his own heart they
say,
'No evil will come on you.'
18 For who has stood in the council of the
LORD,
that he should perceive and hear his
word?
Who has listened to my word, and
heard it?
19 Behold, the LORD's storm, his wrath,
has gone out.
Yes, a whirling storm!
It will burst on the head of the wicked.

20 The LORD's anger will not return until
he has executed
and performed the intents of his
heart.
In the latter days, you will
understand it perfectly.
21 I didn't send these prophets, yet they
ran.
I didn't speak to them, yet they
prophesied.
22 But if they had stood in my council,
then they would have caused my
people to hear my words,
and would have turned them from their
evil way,
and from the evil of their doings.

23 "Am I a God at hand," says the LORD,
"and not a God afar off?
24 Can anyone hide himself in secret
places
so that I can't see him?" says the
LORD.
"Don't I fill heaven and earth?" says
the LORD.
25 "I have heard what the prophets have
said, who prophesy lies in my name,
saying, 'I had a dream! I had a dream!'
26 How long will this be in the heart of
the prophets who prophesy lies, even the
prophets of the deceit of their own heart?
27 They intend to cause my people to
forget my name by their dreams which
they each tell his neighbor, as their
fathers forgot my name because of Baal.
28 The prophet who has a dream, let him
tell a dream; and he who has my word, let
him speak my word faithfully. What is the
straw to the wheat?" says the LORD.
29 "Isn't my word like fire?" says the
LORD; "and like a hammer that breaks the
rock in pieces?
30 "Therefore behold, I am against the
prophets," says the LORD, "who each steal
my words from his neighbor.
31 Behold, I am against the prophets,"
says the LORD, "who use their tongues,
and say, 'He says.'
32 Behold, I am against those who
prophesy lying dreams," says the LORD,
"who tell them, and cause my people to
err by their lies, and by their vain
boasting; yet I didn't send them or
command them. They don't profit this
people at all," says the LORD.
33 "When this people, or the prophet, or
a priest, asks you, saying, 'What is the
message from the LORD?' Then you shall
tell them, ' "What message? I will cast you
off," says the LORD.'
34 As for the prophet, the priest, and the
people, who say, 'The message from the
LORD,' I will even punish that man and
his household.
35 You will say everyone to his neighbor,
and everyone to his brother, 'What has
the LORD answered?' and, 'What has the
LORD said?'
36 You will mention the message from
the LORD no more, for every man's own
word has become his message; for you
have perverted the words of the living
God, of the LORD of Armies, our God.
37 You will say to the prophet, 'What has
the LORD answered you?' and, 'What has
the LORD spoken?'
38 Although you say, 'The message from
the LORD,' therefore the LORD says:
'Because you say this word, "The message
from the LORD," and I have sent to you,
telling you not to say, "The message from
the LORD,"
39 therefore behold, I will utterly forget
you, and I will cast you off with the city
that I gave to you and to your fathers,
away from my presence.
40 I will bring an everlasting reproach
on you, and a perpetual shame, which will
not be forgotten.' "

24

1 The LORD showed me, and behold,
two baskets of figs were set before the
LORD's temple, after Nebuchadnezzar
king of Babylon had carried away captive
Jeconiah the son of Jehoiakim, king of
Judah, and the princes of Judah, with the
craftsmen and smiths, from Jerusalem,
and had brought them to Babylon.
2 One basket had very good figs, like the
figs that are first-ripe; and the other
basket had very bad figs, which could not
be eaten, they were so bad.

3 Then the LORD asked me, “What do
you see, Jeremiah?”

I said, “Figs. The good figs are very
good, and the bad are very bad, so bad
that they can’t be eaten.”

4 The LORD’s word came to me, saying,
5 “The LORD, the God of Israel says:
‘Like these good figs, so I will regard the
captives of Judah, whom I have sent out of
this place into the land of the Chaldeans,
as good.
6 For I will set my eyes on them for good,
and I will bring them again to this land. I
will build them, and not pull them down. I
will plant them, and not pluck them up.
7 I will give them a heart to know me,
that I am the LORD. They will be my
people, and I will be their God; for they
will return to me with their whole heart.
8 “ ‘As the bad figs, which can’t be eaten,
they are so bad,’ surely the LORD says, ‘So
I will give up Zedekiah the king of Judah,
and his princes, and the remnant of
Jerusalem who remain in this land, and
those who dwell in the land of Egypt.
9 I will even give them up to be tossed
back and forth among all the kingdoms of
the earth for evil, to be a reproach and a
proverb, a taunt and a curse, in all places
where I will drive them.
10 I will send the sword, the famine, and
the pestilence among them, until they are
consumed from off the land that I gave to
them and to their fathers.’ ”

25

1 The word that came to Jeremiah
concerning all the people of Judah, in the
fourth year of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah,
king of Judah (this was the first year of
Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon),
2 which Jeremiah the prophet spoke to
all the people of Judah, and to all the
inhabitants of Jerusalem:
3 From the thirteenth year of Josiah the
son of Amon, king of Judah, even to this
day, these twenty-three years, the LORD’s
word has come to me, and I have spoken
to you, rising up early and speaking; but
you have not listened.
4 The LORD has sent to you all his
servants the prophets, rising up early and
sending them (but you have not listened
or inclined your ear to hear),
5 saying, “Return now everyone from
his evil way, and from the evil of your
doings, and dwell in the land that the
LORD has given to you and to your
fathers, from of old and even forever
more.
6 Don’t go after other gods to serve them
or worship them, and don’t provoke me to
anger with the work of your hands; then I
will do you no harm.”

7 “Yet you have not listened to me,” says
the LORD, “that you may provoke me to
anger with the work of your hands to
your own hurt.”

8 Therefore the LORD of Armies says:
“Because you have not heard my words,
9 behold, I will send and take all the
families of the north,” says the LORD,
“and I will send to Nebuchadnezzar the
king of Babylon, my servant, and will
bring them against this land, and against
its inhabitants, and against all these
nations around. I will utterly destroy
them, and make them an astonishment,
and a hissing, and perpetual desolations.
10 Moreover I will take from them the
voice of mirth and the voice of gladness,
the voice of the bridegroom and the voice
of the bride, the sound of the millstones,
and the light of the lamp.
11 This whole land will be a desolation,
and an astonishment; and these nations
will serve the king of Babylon seventy
years.

12 “It will happen, when seventy years
are accomplished, that I will punish the
king of Babylon and that nation,” says the
LORD, “for their iniquity. I will make the
land of the Chaldeans desolate forever.
13 I will bring on that land all my words
which I have pronounced against it, even
all that is written in this book, which
Jeremiah has prophesied against all the
nations.
14 For many nations and great kings will
make bondservants of them, even of
them. I will recompense them according

to their deeds, and according to the work of their hands."
15 For the LORD, the God of Israel, says to me: "Take this cup of the wine of wrath from my hand, and cause all the nations to whom I send you to drink it.
16 They will drink, and reel back and forth, and be insane, because of the sword that I will send among them."
17 Then I took the cup at the LORD's hand, and made all the nations to drink, to whom the LORD had sent me:
18 Jerusalem, and the cities of Judah, with its kings and its princes, to make them a desolation, an astonishment, a hissing, and a curse, as it is today;
19 Pharaoh king of Egypt, with his servants, his princes, and all his people;
20 and all the mixed people, and all the kings of the land of Uz, all the kings of the Philistines, Ashkelon, Gaza, Ekron, and the remnant of Ashdod;
21 Edom, Moab, and the children of Ammon;
22 and all the kings of Tyre, all the kings of Sidon, and the kings of the isle which is beyond the sea;
23 Dedan, Tema, Buz, and all who have the corners of their beard cut off;
24 and all the kings of Arabia, all the kings of the mixed people who dwell in the wilderness;
25 and all the kings of Zimri, all the kings of Elam, and all the kings of the Medes;
26 and all the kings of the north, far and near, one with another; and all the kingdoms of the world, which are on the surface of the earth. The king of Sheshach will drink after them.
27 "You shall tell them, 'The LORD of Armies, the God of Israel says: "Drink, and be drunk, vomit, fall, and rise no more, because of the sword which I will send among you." '
28 It shall be, if they refuse to take the cup at your hand to drink, then you shall tell them, 'The LORD of Armies says: "You shall surely drink.
29 For, behold, I begin to work evil at the city which is called by my name; and should you be utterly unpunished? You will not be unpunished; for I will call for a sword on all the inhabitants of the earth, says the LORD of Armies." '
30 "Therefore prophesy against them all these words, and tell them,
" 'The LORD will roar from on high,
and utter his voice from his holy habitation.
He will mightily roar against his fold.
He will give a shout, as those who tread grapes,
against all the inhabitants of the earth.
31 A noise will come even to the end of the earth;
for the LORD has a controversy with the nations.
He will enter into judgment with all flesh.
As for the wicked, he will give them to the sword," ' says the LORD."
32 The LORD of Armies says,
"Behold, evil will go out from nation to nation,
and a great storm will be raised up from the uttermost parts of the earth."
33 The slain of the LORD will be at that day from one end of the earth even to the other end of the earth. They won't be lamented. They won't be gathered or buried. They will be dung on the surface of the ground.
34 Wail, you shepherds, and cry.
Wallow in dust, you leader of the flock;
for the days of your slaughter and of your dispersions have fully come,
and you will fall like fine pottery.
35 The shepherds will have no way to flee.
The leader of the flock will have no escape.
36 A voice of the cry of the shepherds,
and the wailing of the leader of the flock,
for the LORD destroys their pasture.
37 The peaceful folds are brought to silence
because of the fierce anger of the LORD.
38 He has left his covert, as the lion;
for their land has become an astonishment because of the fierceness of the oppression,
and because of his fierce anger.

26

1 In the beginning of the reign of
Jehoiakim the son of Josiah, king of Judah,
this word came from the LORD:
2 "The LORD says: 'Stand in the court of
the LORD's house, and speak to all the
cities of Judah which come to worship in
the LORD's house, all the words that I
command you to speak to them. Don't
omit a word.
3 It may be they will listen, and every
man turn from his evil way, that I may
relent from the evil which I intend to do to
them because of the evil of their doings.' "
4 You shall tell them, "The LORD says: 'If
you will not listen to me, to walk in my
law which I have set before you,
5 to listen to the words of my servants
the prophets whom I send to you, even
rising up early and sending them—but you
have not listened—
6 then I will make this house like Shiloh,
and will make this city a curse to all the
nations of the earth.' "
7 The priests and the prophets and all
the people heard Jeremiah speaking these
words in the LORD's house.
8 When Jeremiah had finished speaking
all that the LORD had commanded him to
speak to all the people, the priests and the
prophets and all the people seized him,
saying, "You shall surely die!
9 Why have you prophesied in the
LORD's name, saying, 'This house will be
like Shiloh, and this city will be desolate,
without inhabitant'?" All the people were
crowded around Jeremiah in the LORD's
house.
10 When the princes of Judah heard
these things, they came up from the king's
house to the LORD's house; and they sat in
the entry of the new gate of the LORD's
house.
11 Then the priests and the prophets
spoke to the princes and to all the people,
saying, "This man is worthy of death, for
he has prophesied against this city, as you
have heard with your ears."

12 Then Jeremiah spoke to all the
princes and to all the people, saying, "The
LORD sent me to prophesy against this
house and against this city all the words
that you have heard.
13 Now therefore amend your ways and
your doings, and obey the LORD your
God's voice; then the LORD will relent
from the evil that he has pronounced
against you.
14 But as for me, behold, I am in your
hand. Do with me what is good and right
in your eyes.
15 Only know for certain that if you put
me to death, you will bring innocent
blood on yourselves, on this city, and on
its inhabitants; for in truth the LORD has
sent me to you to speak all these words in
your ears."

16 Then the princes and all the people
said to the priests and to the prophets:
"This man is not worthy of death; for he
has spoken to us in the name of the LORD
our God."
17 Then certain of the elders of the land
rose up, and spoke to all the assembly of
the people, saying,
18 "Micah the Morashtite prophesied in
the days of Hezekiah king of Judah; and
he spoke to all the people of Judah, saying,
'The LORD of Armies says:

" 'Zion will be plowed as a field,
and Jerusalem will become heaps,
and the mountain of the house as the
high places of a forest.'

19 Did Hezekiah king of Judah and all
Judah put him to death? Didn't he fear the
LORD, and entreat the favor of the LORD,
and the LORD relented of the disaster
which he had pronounced against them?
We would commit great evil against our
own souls that way!"

20 There was also a man who
prophesied in the LORD's name, Uriah the
son of Shemaiah of Kiriath Jearim; and he
prophesied against this city and against
this land according to all the words of
Jeremiah.
21 When Jehoiakim the king, with all his
mighty men and all the princes heard his
words, the king sought to put him to
death; but when Uriah heard it, he was
afraid, and fled, and went into Egypt.

22 Then Jehoiakim the king sent
Elnathan the son of Achbor and certain
men with him into Egypt.
23 They fetched Uriah out of Egypt and
brought him to Jehoiakim the king, who
killed him with the sword and cast his
dead body into the graves of the common
people.
24 But the hand of Ahikam the son of
Shaphan was with Jeremiah, so that they
didn't give him into the hand of the people
to put him to death.

27

1 In the beginning of the reign of
Jehoiakim the son of Josiah, king of Judah,
this word came to Jeremiah from the
LORD, saying,
2 the LORD says to me: "Make bonds and
bars, and put them on your neck.
3 Then send them to the king of Edom, to
the king of Moab, to the king of the
children of Ammon, to the king of Tyre,
and to the king of Sidon, by the hand of
the messengers who come to Jerusalem to
Zedekiah king of Judah.
4 Give them a command to their
masters, saying, 'The LORD of Armies, the
God of Israel says, "You shall tell your
masters:
5 'I have made the earth, the men, and
the animals that are on the surface of the
earth by my great power and by my
outstretched arm. I give it to whom it
seems right to me.
6 Now I have given all these lands into
the hand of Nebuchadnezzar the king of
Babylon, my servant. I have also given the
animals of the field to him to serve him.
7 All the nations will serve him, his son,
and his son's son, until the time of his own
land comes. Then many nations and great
kings will make him their bondservant.
8 " ' " 'It will happen that I will punish
the nation and the kingdom which will
not serve the same Nebuchadnezzar king
of Babylon, and that will not put their
neck under the yoke of the king of
Babylon,' says the LORD, 'with the sword,
with famine, and with pestilence, until I
have consumed them by his hand.
9 But as for you, don't listen to your
prophets, to your diviners, to your
dreams, to your soothsayers, or to your
sorcerers, who speak to you, saying, "You
shall not serve the king of Babylon;"
10 for they prophesy a lie to you, to
remove you far from your land, so that I
would drive you out, and you would
perish.
11 But the nation that brings their neck
under the yoke of the king of Babylon and
serves him, that nation I will let remain in
their own land,' says the LORD; 'and they
will till it and dwell in it.' " ' "
12 I spoke to Zedekiah king of Judah
according to all these words, saying,
"Bring your necks under the yoke of the
king of Babylon, and serve him and his
people, and live.
13 Why will you die, you and your
people, by the sword, by the famine, and
by the pestilence, as the LORD has spoken
concerning the nation that will not serve
the king of Babylon?
14 Don't listen to the words of the
prophets who speak to you, saying, 'You
shall not serve the king of Babylon;' for
they prophesy a lie to you.
15 For I have not sent them," says the
LORD, "but they prophesy falsely in my
name; that I may drive you out, and that
you may perish, you, and the prophets
who prophesy to you."

16 Also I spoke to the priests and to all
this people, saying, the LORD says, "Don't
listen to the words of your prophets who
prophesy to you, saying, 'Behold, the
vessels of the LORD's house will now
shortly be brought again from Babylon;'
for they prophesy a lie to you.
17 Don't listen to them. Serve the king of
Babylon, and live. Why should this city
become a desolation?
18 But if they are prophets, and if the
LORD's word is with them, let them now
make intercession to the LORD of Armies,
that the vessels which are left in the
LORD's house, in the house of the king of
Judah, and at Jerusalem, don't go to
Babylon.

19 For the LORD of Armies says
concerning the pillars, concerning the sea,
concerning the bases, and concerning the
rest of the vessels that are left in this city,
20 which Nebuchadnezzar king of
Babylon didn't take when he carried away
captive Jeconiah the son of Jehoiakim,
king of Judah, from Jerusalem to Babylon,
and all the nobles of Judah and
Jerusalem—
21 yes, the LORD of Armies, the God of
Israel, says concerning the vessels that are
left in the LORD's house, and in the house
of the king of Judah, and at Jerusalem:
22 'They will be carried to Babylon, and
there they will be, until the day that I visit
them,' says the LORD; 'then I will bring
them up, and restore them to this place.' "

28

1 That same year, in the beginning of the
reign of Zedekiah king of Judah, in the
fourth year, in the fifth month, Hananiah
the son of Azzur, the prophet, who was of
Gibeon, spoke to me in the LORD's house,
in the presence of the priests and of all the
people, saying,
2 "The LORD of Armies, the God of
Israel, says, 'I have broken the yoke of the
king of Babylon.
3 Within two full years I will bring again
into this place all the vessels of the LORD's
house that Nebuchadnezzar king of
Babylon took away from this place and
carried to Babylon.
4 I will bring again to this place Jeconiah
the son of Jehoiakim, king of Judah, with
all the captives of Judah, who went to
Babylon,' says the LORD; 'for I will break
the yoke of the king of Babylon.' "
5 Then the prophet Jeremiah said to the
prophet Hananiah in the presence of the
priests, and in the presence of all the
people who stood in the LORD's house,
6 even the prophet Jeremiah said,
"Amen! May the LORD do so. May the
LORD perform your words which you
have prophesied, to bring again the
vessels of the LORD's house, and all those
who are captives, from Babylon to this
place.
7 Nevertheless listen now to this word
that I speak in your ears, and in the ears of
all the people:
8 The prophets who have been before
me and before you of old prophesied
against many countries, and against great
kingdoms, of war, of evil, and of
pestilence.
9 As for the prophet who prophesies of
peace, when the word of the prophet
happens, then the prophet will be known,
that the LORD has truly sent him."
10 Then Hananiah the prophet took the
bar from off the prophet Jeremiah's neck,
and broke it.
11 Hananiah spoke in the presence of all
the people, saying, "The LORD says: 'Even
so I will break the yoke of
Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon from off
the neck of all the nations within two full
years.' " Then the prophet Jeremiah went
his way.
12 Then the LORD's word came to
Jeremiah, after Hananiah the prophet had
broken the bar from off the neck of the
prophet Jeremiah, saying,
13 "Go, and tell Hananiah, saying, 'The
LORD says, "You have broken the bars of
wood, but you have made in their place
bars of iron."
14 For the LORD of Armies, the God of
Israel says, "I have put a yoke of iron on
the neck of all these nations, that they
may serve Nebuchadnezzar king of
Babylon; and they will serve him. I have
also given him the animals of the field." ' "
15 Then the prophet Jeremiah said to
Hananiah the prophet, "Listen, Hananiah!
The LORD has not sent you, but you make
this people trust in a lie.
16 Therefore the LORD says, 'Behold, I
will send you away from off the surface of
the earth. This year you will die, because
you have spoken rebellion against the
LORD.' "
17 So Hananiah the prophet died the
same year in the seventh month.

29

1 Now these are the words of the letter
that Jeremiah the prophet sent from
Jerusalem to the residue of the elders of

the captivity, and to the priests, to the prophets, and to all the people whom Nebuchadnezzar had carried away captive from Jerusalem to Babylon,
2 (after Jeconiah the king, the queen mother, the eunuchs, the princes of Judah and Jerusalem, the craftsmen, and the smiths had departed from Jerusalem),
3 by the hand of Elasah the son of Shaphan and Gemariah the son of Hilkiah, (whom Zedekiah king of Judah sent to Babylon to Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon). It said:
4 The LORD of Armies, the God of Israel, says to all the captives whom I have caused to be carried away captive from Jerusalem to Babylon:
5 "Build houses and dwell in them. Plant gardens and eat their fruit.
6 Take wives and father sons and daughters. Take wives for your sons, and give your daughters to husbands, that they may bear sons and daughters. Multiply there, and don't be diminished.
7 Seek the peace of the city where I have caused you to be carried away captive, and pray to the LORD for it; for in its peace you will have peace."
8 For the LORD of Armies, the God of Israel says: "Don't let your prophets who are among you and your diviners deceive you. Don't listen to your dreams which you cause to be dreamed.
9 For they prophesy falsely to you in my name. I have not sent them," says the LORD.
10 For the LORD says, "After seventy years are accomplished for Babylon, I will visit you and perform my good word toward you, in causing you to return to this place.
11 For I know the thoughts that I think toward you," says the LORD, "thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you hope and a future.
12 You shall call on me, and you shall go and pray to me, and I will listen to you.
13 You shall seek me and find me, when you search for me with all your heart.
14 I will be found by you," says the LORD, "and I will turn again your captivity, and I will gather you from all the nations, and from all the places where I have driven you," says the LORD. "I will bring you again to the place from where I caused you to be carried away captive."
15 Because you have said, "The LORD has raised us up prophets in Babylon,"
16 the LORD says concerning the king who sits on David's throne, and concerning all the people who dwell in this city, your brothers who haven't gone with you into captivity,
17 the LORD of Armies says: "Behold, I will send on them the sword, the famine, and the pestilence, and will make them like rotten figs that can't be eaten, they are so bad.
18 I will pursue after them with the sword, with the famine, and with the pestilence, and will deliver them to be tossed back and forth among all the kingdoms of the earth, to be an object of horror, an astonishment, a hissing, and a reproach among all the nations where I have driven them,
19 because they have not listened to my words," says the LORD, "with which I sent to them my servants the prophets, rising up early and sending them; but you would not hear," says the LORD.
20 Hear therefore the LORD's word, all you captives whom I have sent away from Jerusalem to Babylon.
21 The LORD of Armies, the God of Israel, says concerning Ahab the son of Kolaiah, and concerning Zedekiah the son of Maaseiah, who prophesy a lie to you in my name: "Behold, I will deliver them into the hand of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon; and he will kill them before your eyes.
22 A curse will be taken up about them by all the captives of Judah who are in Babylon, saying, 'The LORD make you like Zedekiah and like Ahab, whom the king of Babylon roasted in the fire;'
23 because they have done foolish things in Israel, and have committed adultery with their neighbors' wives, and have spoken words in my name falsely,

which I didn't command them. I am he who knows, and am witness," says the LORD.
24 Concerning Shemaiah the Nehelamite you shall speak, saying,
25 "The LORD of Armies, the God of Israel, says, 'Because you have sent letters in your own name to all the people who are at Jerusalem, and to Zephaniah the son of Maaseiah, the priest, and to all the priests, saying,
26 "The LORD has made you priest in the place of Jehoiada the priest, that there may be officers in the LORD's house, for every man who is crazy and makes himself a prophet, that you should put him in the stocks and in shackles.
27 Now therefore, why have you not rebuked Jeremiah of Anathoth, who makes himself a prophet to you,
28 because he has sent to us in Babylon, saying, The captivity is long. Build houses, and dwell in them. Plant gardens, and eat their fruit?" ' "
29 Zephaniah the priest read this letter in the hearing of Jeremiah the prophet.
30 Then the LORD's word came to Jeremiah, saying,
31 "Send to all of the captives, saying, 'The LORD says concerning Shemaiah the Nehelamite: "Because Shemaiah has prophesied to you, and I didn't send him, and he has caused you to trust in a lie,"
32 therefore the LORD says, "Behold, I will punish Shemaiah the Nehelamite and his offspring. He will not have a man to dwell among this people. He won't see the good that I will do to my people," says the LORD, "because he has spoken rebellion against the LORD." ' "

30

1 The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD, saying,
2 "The LORD, the God of Israel, says, 'Write all the words that I have spoken to you in a book.
3 For, behold, the days come,' says the LORD, 'that I will reverse the captivity of my people Israel and Judah,' says the LORD. 'I will cause them to return to the land that I gave to their fathers, and they will possess it.' "
4 These are the words that the LORD spoke concerning Israel and concerning Judah.
5 For the LORD says:
"We have heard a voice of trembling;
    a voice of fear, and not of peace.
6 Ask now, and see whether a man travails with child.
    Why do I see every man with his hands on his waist, as a woman in travail,
    and all faces are turned pale?
7 Alas, for that day is great, so that none is like it!
    It is even the time of Jacob's trouble;
    but he will be saved out of it.
8 It will come to pass in that day, says the LORD of Armies, that I will break his yoke from off your neck,
    and will burst your bonds.
    Strangers will no more make them their bondservants;
9 but they will serve the LORD their God,
    and David their king,
    whom I will raise up to them.
10 Therefore don't be afraid, O Jacob my servant, says the LORD.
    Don't be dismayed, Israel.
For, behold, I will save you from afar,
    and save your offspring from the land of their captivity.
Jacob will return,
    and will be quiet and at ease.
    No one will make him afraid.
11 For I am with you, says the LORD, to save you;
    for I will make a full end of all the nations where I have scattered you,
    but I will not make a full end of you;
but I will correct you in measure,
    and will in no way leave you unpunished."
12 For the LORD says,
"Your hurt is incurable.
    Your wound is grievous.
13 There is no one to plead your cause,
    that you may be bound up.
    You have no healing medicines.
14 All your lovers have forgotten you.
    They don't seek you.

For I have wounded you with the wound
of an enemy,
with the chastisement of a cruel one,
for the greatness of your iniquity,
because your sins were increased.
15 Why do you cry over your injury?
Your pain is incurable.
For the greatness of your iniquity,
because your sins have increased,
I have done these things to you.
16 Therefore all those who devour you will
be devoured.
All your adversaries, everyone of
them, will go into captivity.
Those who plunder you will be plunder.
I will make all who prey on you
become prey.
17 For I will restore health to you,
and I will heal you of your wounds,"
says the LORD,
"because they have called you an outcast,
saying, 'It is Zion, whom no man seeks
after.' "
18 The LORD says:
"Behold, I will reverse the captivity of
Jacob's tents,
and have compassion on his dwelling
places.
The city will be built on its own hill,
and the palace will be inhabited in its
own place.
19 Thanksgiving will proceed out of them
with the voice of those who make
merry.
I will multiply them,
and they will not be few;
I will also glorify them,
and they will not be small.
20 Their children also will be as before,
and their congregation will be
established before me.
I will punish all who oppress them.
21 Their prince will be one of them,
and their ruler will proceed from
among them.
I will cause him to draw near,
and he will approach me;
for who is he who has had boldness to
approach me?" says the LORD.
22 "You shall be my people,
and I will be your God.
23 Behold, the LORD's storm, his wrath,
has gone out,
a sweeping storm;
it will burst on the head of the wicked.
24 The fierce anger of the LORD will not
return until he has accomplished,
and until he has performed the
intentions of his heart.
In the latter days you will understand
it."

31

1 "At that time," says the LORD, "I will be
the God of all the families of Israel, and
they will be my people."
2 The LORD says, "The people who
survive the sword found favor in the
wilderness; even Israel, when I went to
cause him to rest."
3 The LORD appeared of old to me,
saying,
"Yes, I have loved you with an everlasting
love.
Therefore I have drawn you with
loving kindness.
4 I will build you again,
and you will be built, O virgin of
Israel.
You will again be adorned with your
tambourines,
and will go out in the dances of those
who make merry.
5 Again you will plant vineyards on the
mountains of Samaria.
The planters will plant,
and will enjoy its fruit.
6 For there will be a day that the
watchmen on the hills of Ephraim
cry,
'Arise! Let's go up to Zion to the LORD
our God.' "
7 For the LORD says,
"Sing with gladness for Jacob,
and shout for the chief of the nations.
Publish, praise, and say,
'LORD, save your people,
the remnant of Israel!'
8 Behold, I will bring them from the north
country,
and gather them from the uttermost
parts of the earth,
along with the blind and the lame,

the woman with child and her who
travails with child together.
They will return as a great company.
9 They will come with weeping.
I will lead them with petitions.
I will cause them to walk by rivers of
waters,
in a straight way in which they won't
stumble;
for I am a father to Israel.
Ephraim is my firstborn.

10 "Hear the LORD's word, you nations,
and declare it in the distant islands.
Say,
'He who scattered Israel will gather him,
and keep him, as a shepherd does his
flock.'
11 For the LORD has ransomed Jacob,
and redeemed him from the hand of
him who was stronger than he.
12 They will come and sing in the height of
Zion,
and will flow to the goodness of the
LORD,
to the grain, to the new wine, to the oil,
and to the young of the flock and of
the herd.
Their soul will be as a watered garden.
They will not sorrow any more at all.
13 Then the virgin will rejoice in the dance,
the young men and the old together;
for I will turn their mourning into joy,
and will comfort them, and make
them rejoice from their sorrow.
14 I will satiate the soul of the priests with
fatness,
and my people will be satisfied with
my goodness," says the LORD.

15 The LORD says:
"A voice is heard in Ramah,
lamentation and bitter weeping,
Rachel weeping for her children.
She refuses to be comforted for her
children,
because they are no more."
16 The LORD says:
"Refrain your voice from weeping,
and your eyes from tears,
for your work will be rewarded," says
the LORD.
"They will come again from the land
of the enemy.
17 There is hope for your latter end," says
the LORD.
"Your children will come again to
their own territory.

18 "I have surely heard Ephraim grieving
thus,
'You have chastised me,
and I was chastised, as an untrained
calf.
Turn me, and I will be turned,
for you are the LORD my God.
19 Surely after that I was turned.
I repented.
After that I was instructed.
I struck my thigh.
I was ashamed, yes, even confounded,
because I bore the reproach of my
youth.'
20 Is Ephraim my dear son?
Is he a darling child?
For as often as I speak against him,
I still earnestly remember him.
Therefore my heart yearns for him.
I will surely have mercy on him," says
the LORD.

21 "Set up road signs.
Make guideposts.
Set your heart toward the highway,
even the way by which you went.
Turn again, virgin of Israel.
Turn again to these your cities.
22 How long will you go here and there,
you backsliding daughter?
For the LORD has created a new thing on
the earth:
a woman will encompass a man."

23 The LORD of Armies, the God of
Israel, says: "Yet again they will use this
speech in the land of Judah and in its
cities, when I reverse their captivity: 'The
LORD bless you, habitation of
righteousness, mountain of holiness.'
24 Judah and all its cities will dwell
therein together, the farmers, and those
who go about with flocks.

25 For I have satiated the weary soul,
and I have replenished every sorrowful
soul."
26 On this I awakened, and saw; and my
sleep was sweet to me.
27 "Behold, the days come," says the
LORD, "that I will sow the house of Israel
and the house of Judah with the seed of
man and with the seed of animal.
28 It will happen that, like as I have
watched over them to pluck up and to
break down and to overthrow and to
destroy and to afflict, so I will watch over
them to build and to plant," says the
LORD.
29 "In those days they will say no more,
" 'The fathers have eaten sour grapes,
and the children's teeth are set on
edge.'
30 But everyone will die for his own
iniquity. Every man who eats the sour
grapes, his teeth will be set on edge.
31 "Behold, the days come," says the
LORD, "that I will make a new covenant
with the house of Israel, and with the
house of Judah,
32 not according to the covenant that I
made with their fathers in the day that I
took them by the hand to bring them out
of the land of Egypt, which covenant of
mine they broke, although I was a
husband to them," says the LORD.
33 "But this is the covenant that I will
make with the house of Israel after those
days," says the LORD:
"I will put my law in their inward parts,
and I will write it in their heart.
I will be their God,
and they shall be my people.
34 They will no longer each teach his
neighbor,
and every man teach his brother,
saying, 'Know the LORD;'
for they will all know me,
from their least to their greatest,"
says the LORD,
"for I will forgive their iniquity,
and I will remember their sin no
more."
35 The LORD, who gives the sun for a light
by day,
and the ordinances of the moon and
of the stars for a light by night,
who stirs up the sea, so that its waves
roar—
the LORD of Armies is his name, says:
36 "If these ordinances depart from before
me," says the LORD,
"then the offspring of Israel also will
cease from being a nation before
me forever."
37 The LORD says: "If heaven above can be
measured,
and the foundations of the earth
searched out beneath,
then I will also cast off all the
offspring of Israel for all that they
have done," says the LORD.
38 "Behold, the days come," says the
LORD, "that the city will be built to the
LORD from the tower of Hananel to the
gate of the corner.
39 The measuring line will go out
further straight onward to the hill Gareb,
and will turn toward Goah.
40 The whole valley of the dead bodies
and of the ashes, and all the fields to the
brook Kidron, to the corner of the horse
gate toward the east, will be holy to the
LORD. It will not be plucked up or thrown
down any more forever."

32

1 This is the word that came to Jeremiah
from the LORD in the tenth year of
Zedekiah king of Judah, which was the
eighteenth year of Nebuchadnezzar.
2 Now at that time the king of Babylon's
army was besieging Jerusalem. Jeremiah
the prophet was shut up in the court of
the guard, which was in the king of
Judah's house.
3 For Zedekiah king of Judah had shut
him up, saying, "Why do you prophesy,
and say, 'The LORD says, "Behold, I will
give this city into the hand of the king of
Babylon, and he will take it;
4 and Zedekiah king of Judah won't
escape out of the hand of the Chaldeans,
but will surely be delivered into the hand
of the king of Babylon, and will speak with
him mouth to mouth, and his eyes will see
his eyes;

5 and he will bring Zedekiah to Babylon,
and he will be there until I visit him," says
the LORD, "though you fight with the
Chaldeans, you will not prosper" '?"
6 Jeremiah said, "The LORD's word
came to me, saying,
7 'Behold, Hanamel the son of Shallum
your uncle will come to you, saying, "Buy
my field that is in Anathoth; for the right
of redemption is yours to buy it." ' "
8 "So Hanamel my uncle's son came to
me in the court of the guard according to
the LORD's word, and said to me, 'Please
buy my field that is in Anathoth, which is
in the land of Benjamin; for the right of
inheritance is yours, and the redemption
is yours. Buy it for yourself.'
"Then I knew that this was the LORD's
word.
9 I bought the field that was in Anathoth
of Hanamel my uncle's son, and weighed
him the money, even seventeen shekels†
of silver.
10 I signed the deed, sealed it, called
witnesses, and weighed the money in the
balances to him.
11 So I took the deed of the purchase,
both that which was sealed, containing
the terms and conditions, and that which
was open;
12 and I delivered the deed of the
purchase to Baruch the son of Neriah, the
son of Mahseiah, in the presence of
Hanamel my uncle's son, and in the
presence of the witnesses who signed the
deed of the purchase, before all the Jews
who sat in the court of the guard.
13 "I commanded Baruch before them,
saying,
14 the LORD of Armies, the God of Israel,
says: 'Take these deeds, this deed of the
purchase which is sealed, and this deed
which is open, and put them in an earthen
vessel, that they may last many days.'
15 For the LORD of Armies, the God of
Israel says: 'Houses and fields and
vineyards will yet again be bought in this
land.'
16 Now after I had delivered the deed of
the purchase to Baruch the son of Neriah,
I prayed to the LORD, saying,
17 "Ah Lord GOD! Behold, you have
made the heavens and the earth by your
great power and by your outstretched
arm. There is nothing too hard for you.
18 You show loving kindness to
thousands, and repay the iniquity of the
fathers into the bosom of their children
after them. The great, the mighty God, the
LORD of Armies is your name:
19 great in counsel, and mighty in work;
whose eyes are open to all the ways of the
children of men, to give everyone
according to his ways, and according to
the fruit of his doings;
20 who performed signs and wonders in
the land of Egypt, even to this day, both in
Israel and among other men; and made
yourself a name, as it is today;
21 and brought your people Israel out of
the land of Egypt with signs, with
wonders, with a strong hand, with an
outstretched arm, and with great terror;
22 and gave them this land, which you
swore to their fathers to give them, a land
flowing with milk and honey.
23 They came in and possessed it, but
they didn't obey your voice and didn't
walk in your law. They have done nothing
of all that you commanded them to do.
Therefore you have caused all this evil to
come upon them.
24 "Behold, siege ramps have been
built against the city to take it. The city
is given into the hand of the Chaldeans
who fight against it, because of the
sword, of the famine, and of the
pestilence. What you have spoken has
happened. Behold, you see it.
25 You have said to me, Lord GOD,
'Buy the field for money, and call
witnesses;' whereas the city is given into
the hand of the Chaldeans."
26 Then the LORD's word came to
Jeremiah, saying,
27 "Behold, I am the LORD, the God of all
flesh. Is there anything too hard for me?
28 Therefore the LORD says: Behold, I
will give this city into the hand of the
Chaldeans, and into the hand of

† **32:9** A shekel is about 10 grams or about 0.35 ounces.

Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, and he will take it.
29 The Chaldeans, who fight against this city, will come and set this city on fire, and burn it with the houses on whose roofs they have offered incense to Baal, and poured out drink offerings to other gods, to provoke me to anger.
30 "For the children of Israel and the children of Judah have done only that which was evil in my sight from their youth; for the children of Israel have only provoked me to anger with the work of their hands, says the LORD.
31 For this city has been to me a provocation of my anger and of my wrath from the day that they built it even to this day, so that I should remove it from before my face,
32 because of all the evil of the children of Israel and of the children of Judah, which they have done to provoke me to anger—they, their kings, their princes, their priests, their prophets, the men of Judah, and the inhabitants of Jerusalem.
33 They have turned their backs to me, and not their faces. Although I taught them, rising up early and teaching them, yet they have not listened to receive instruction.
34 But they set their abominations in the house which is called by my name, to defile it.
35 They built the high places of Baal, which are in the valley of the son of Hinnom, to cause their sons and their daughters to pass through fire to Molech, which I didn't command them. It didn't even come into my mind, that they should do this abomination, to cause Judah to sin."
36 Now therefore the LORD, the God of Israel, says concerning this city, about which you say, "It is given into the hand of the king of Babylon by the sword, by the famine, and by the pestilence:"
37 "Behold, I will gather them out of all the countries where I have driven them in my anger, and in my wrath, and in great indignation; and I will bring them again to this place. I will cause them to dwell safely.
38 Then they will be my people, and I will be their God.
39 I will give them one heart and one way, that they may fear me forever, for their good and the good of their children after them.
40 I will make an everlasting covenant with them, that I will not turn away from following them, to do them good. I will put my fear in their hearts, that they may not depart from me.
41 Yes, I will rejoice over them to do them good, and I will plant them in this land assuredly with my whole heart and with my whole soul."
42 For the LORD says: "Just as I have brought all this great evil on this people, so I will bring on them all the good that I have promised them.
43 Fields will be bought in this land, about which you say, 'It is desolate, without man or animal. It is given into the hand of the Chaldeans.'
44 Men will buy fields for money, sign the deeds, seal them, and call witnesses, in the land of Benjamin, and in the places around Jerusalem, in the cities of Judah, in the cities of the hill country, in the cities of the lowland, and in the cities of the South; for I will cause their captivity to be reversed," says the LORD.

33

1 Moreover the LORD's word came to Jeremiah the second time, while he was still locked up in the court of the guard, saying,
2 "The LORD who does it, the LORD who forms it to establish it—the LORD is his name, says:
3 'Call to me, and I will answer you, and will show you great and difficult things, which you don't know.'
4 For the LORD, the God of Israel, says concerning the houses of this city and concerning the houses of the kings of Judah, which are broken down to make a defense against the mounds and against the sword:
5 'While men come to fight with the Chaldeans, and to fill them with the dead bodies of men, whom I have killed in my

anger and in my wrath, and for all whose wickedness I have hidden my face from this city,
6 behold, I will bring it health and healing, and I will cure them; and I will reveal to them abundance of peace and truth.
7 I will restore the fortunes of Judah and Israel, and will build them as at the first.
8 I will cleanse them from all their iniquity by which they have sinned against me. I will pardon all their iniquities by which they have sinned against me and by which they have transgressed against me.
9 This city will be to me for a name of joy, for praise, and for glory, before all the nations of the earth, which will hear all the good that I do to them, and will fear and tremble for all the good and for all the peace that I provide to it.' "
10 The LORD says: "Yet again there will be heard in this place, about which you say, 'It is waste, without man and without animal, even in the cities of Judah, and in the streets of Jerusalem, that are desolate, without man and without inhabitant and without animal,'
11 the voice of joy and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom and the voice of the bride, the voice of those who say, 'Give thanks to the LORD of Armies, for the LORD is good, for his loving kindness endures forever;' who bring thanksgiving into the LORD's house. For I will cause the captivity of the land to be reversed as at the first," says the LORD.
12 The LORD of Armies says: "Yet again there will be in this place, which is waste, without man and without animal, and in all its cities, a habitation of shepherds causing their flocks to lie down.
13 In the cities of the hill country, in the cities of the lowland, in the cities of the South, in the land of Benjamin, in the places around Jerusalem, and in the cities of Judah, the flocks will again pass under the hands of him who counts them," says the LORD.
14 "Behold, the days come," says the LORD, "that I will perform that good word which I have spoken concerning the house of Israel and concerning the house of Judah.
15 "In those days and at that time,
I will cause a Branch of righteousness to grow up to David.
He will execute justice and righteousness in the land.
16 In those days Judah will be saved,
and Jerusalem will dwell safely.
This is the name by which she will be called:
The LORD our righteousness."
17 For the LORD says: "David will never lack a man to sit on the throne of the house of Israel.
18 The Levitical priests won't lack a man before me to offer burnt offerings, to burn meal offerings, and to do sacrifice continually."
19 The LORD's word came to Jeremiah, saying,
20 "The LORD says: 'If you can break my covenant of the day and my covenant of the night, so that there will not be day and night in their time,
21 then my covenant could also be broken with David my servant, that he won't have a son to reign on his throne; and with the Levitical priests, my ministers.
22 As the army of the sky can't be counted, and the sand of the sea can't be measured, so I will multiply the offspring of David my servant and the Levites who minister to me.' "
23 The LORD's word came to Jeremiah, saying,
24 "Don't consider what this people has spoken, saying, 'Has the LORD cast off the two families which he chose?' Thus they despise my people, that they should be no more a nation before them."
25 The LORD says: "If my covenant of day and night fails, if I have not appointed the ordinances of heaven and earth,
26 then I will also cast away the offspring of Jacob, and of David my servant, so that I will not take of his offspring to be rulers over the offspring of Abraham, Isaac, and

Jacob; for I will cause their captivity to be reversed and will have mercy on them."

34

1 The word which came to Jeremiah from the LORD, when Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, with all his army, all the kingdoms of the earth that were under his dominion, and all the peoples, were fighting against Jerusalem and against all its cities, saying:

2 "The LORD, the God of Israel, says, 'Go, and speak to Zedekiah king of Judah, and tell him, the LORD says, "Behold, I will give this city into the hand of the king of Babylon and he will burn it with fire.

3 You won't escape out of his hand, but will surely be taken and delivered into his hand. Your eyes will see the eyes of the king of Babylon, and he will speak with you mouth to mouth. You will go to Babylon." '

4 "Yet hear the LORD's word, O Zedekiah king of Judah. The LORD says concerning you, 'You won't die by the sword.

5 You will die in peace; and with the burnings of your fathers, the former kings who were before you, so they will make a burning for you. They will lament you, saying, "Ah Lord!" for I have spoken the word,' says the LORD."

6 Then Jeremiah the prophet spoke all these words to Zedekiah king of Judah in Jerusalem,

7 when the king of Babylon's army was fighting against Jerusalem and against all the cities of Judah that were left, against Lachish and against Azekah; for these alone remained of the cities of Judah as fortified cities.

8 The word came to Jeremiah from the LORD, after King Zedekiah had made a covenant with all the people who were at Jerusalem, to proclaim liberty to them,

9 that every man should let his male servant, and every man his female servant, who is a Hebrew or a Hebrewess, go free, that no one should make bondservants of them, of a Jew his brother.

10 All the princes and all the people obeyed who had entered into the covenant, that everyone should let his male servant and everyone his female servant go free, that no one should make bondservants of them any more. They obeyed and let them go,

11 but afterwards they turned, and caused the servants and the handmaids whom they had let go free to return, and brought them into subjection for servants and for handmaids.

12 Therefore the LORD's word came to Jeremiah from the LORD, saying,

13 "The LORD, the God of Israel, says: 'I made a covenant with your fathers in the day that I brought them out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage, saying:

14 At the end of seven years, every man of you shall release his brother who is a Hebrew, who has been sold to you, and has served you six years. You shall let him go free from you. But your fathers didn't listen to me, and didn't incline their ear.

15 You had now turned, and had done that which is right in my eyes, in every man proclaiming liberty to his neighbor. You had made a covenant before me in the house which is called by my name;

16 but you turned and profaned my name, and every man caused his servant and every man his handmaid, whom you had let go free at their pleasure, to return. You brought them into subjection, to be to you for servants and for handmaids.' "

17 Therefore the LORD says: "You have not listened to me, to proclaim liberty, every man to his brother, and every man to his neighbor. Behold, I proclaim to you a liberty," says the LORD, "to the sword, to the pestilence, and to the famine. I will make you be tossed back and forth among all the kingdoms of the earth.

18 I will give the men who have transgressed my covenant, who have not performed the words of the covenant which they made before me when they cut the calf in two and passed between its parts:

19 the princes of Judah, the princes of Jerusalem, the eunuchs, the priests, and

all the people of the land, who passed between the parts of the calf.
20 I will even give them into the hand of their enemies and into the hand of those who seek their life. Their dead bodies will be food for the birds of the sky and for the animals of the earth.
21 "I will give Zedekiah king of Judah and his princes into the hands of their enemies, into the hands of those who seek their life and into the hands of the king of Babylon's army, who has gone away from you.
22 Behold, I will command," says the LORD, "and cause them to return to this city. They will fight against it, take it, and burn it with fire. I will make the cities of Judah a desolation, without inhabitant."

35

1 The word which came to Jeremiah from the LORD in the days of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah, king of Judah, saying,
2 "Go to the house of the Rechabites, and speak to them, and bring them into the LORD's house, into one of the rooms, and give them wine to drink."
3 Then I took Jaazaniah the son of Jeremiah, the son of Habazziniah, with his brothers, all his sons, and the whole house of the Rechabites;
4 and I brought them into the LORD's house, into the room of the sons of Hanan the son of Igdaliah, the man of God, which was by the room of the princes, which was above the room of Maaseiah the son of Shallum, the keeper of the threshold.
5 I set before the sons of the house of the Rechabites bowls full of wine, and cups; and I said to them, "Drink wine!"
6 But they said, "We will drink no wine; for Jonadab the son of Rechab, our father, commanded us, saying, 'You shall drink no wine, neither you nor your children, forever.
7 You shall not build a house, sow seed, plant a vineyard, or have any; but all your days you shall dwell in tents, that you may live many days in the land in which you live as nomads.'
8 We have obeyed the voice of Jonadab the son of Rechab, our father, in all that he commanded us, to drink no wine all our days, we, our wives, our sons, or our daughters;
9 and not to build houses for ourselves to dwell in. We have no vineyard, field, or seed;
10 but we have lived in tents, and have obeyed, and done according to all that Jonadab our father commanded us.
11 But when Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came up into the land, we said, 'Come! Let's go to Jerusalem for fear of the army of the Chaldeans, and for fear of the army of the Syrians; so we will dwell at Jerusalem.' "
12 Then the LORD's word came to Jeremiah, saying,
13 "The LORD of Armies, the God of Israel, says: 'Go and tell the men of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, "Will you not receive instruction to listen to my words?" says the LORD.
14 "The words of Jonadab the son of Rechab that he commanded his sons, not to drink wine, are performed; and to this day they drink none, for they obey their father's commandment; but I have spoken to you, rising up early and speaking, and you have not listened to me.
15 I have sent also to you all my servants the prophets, rising up early and sending them, saying, 'Every one of you must return now from his evil way, amend your doings, and don't go after other gods to serve them. Then you will dwell in the land which I have given to you and to your fathers;' but you have not inclined your ear, nor listened to me.
16 The sons of Jonadab the son of Rechab have performed the commandment of their father which he commanded them, but this people has not listened to me." '
17 "Therefore the LORD, the God of Armies, the God of Israel, says: 'Behold, I will bring on Judah and on all the inhabitants of Jerusalem all the evil that I have pronounced against them, because I have spoken to them, but they have not heard; and I have called to them, but they have not answered.' "
18 Jeremiah said to the house of the Rechabites, "The LORD of Armies, the God

of Israel, says: ‘Because you have obeyed the commandment of Jonadab your father, and kept all his precepts, and done according to all that he commanded you,’
19 therefore the LORD of Armies, the God of Israel, says: ‘Jonadab the son of Rechab will not lack a man to stand before me forever.’ ”

36

1 In the fourth year of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah, king of Judah, this word came to Jeremiah from the LORD, saying,
2 “Take a scroll of a book, and write in it all the words that I have spoken to you against Israel, against Judah, and against all the nations, from the day I spoke to you, from the days of Josiah even to this day.
3 It may be that the house of Judah will hear all the evil which I intend to do to them, that they may each return from his evil way; that I may forgive their iniquity and their sin.”
4 Then Jeremiah called Baruch the son of Neriah; and Baruch wrote from the mouth of Jeremiah all the LORD’s words, which he had spoken to him, on a scroll of a book.
5 Jeremiah commanded Baruch, saying, “I am restricted. I can’t go into the LORD’s house.
6 Therefore you go, and read from the scroll which you have written from my mouth, the LORD’s words, in the ears of the people in the LORD’s house on the fast day. Also you shall read them in the ears of all Judah who come out of their cities.
7 It may be they will present their supplication before the LORD, and will each return from his evil way; for the LORD has pronounced great anger and wrath against this people.”

8 Baruch the son of Neriah did according to all that Jeremiah the prophet commanded him, reading in the book the LORD’s words in the LORD’s house.
9 Now in the fifth year of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah, king of Judah, in the ninth month, all the people in Jerusalem and all the people who came from the cities of Judah to Jerusalem, proclaimed a fast before the LORD.
10 Then Baruch read the words of Jeremiah from the book in the LORD’s house, in the room of Gemariah the son of Shaphan the scribe, in the upper court, at the entry of the new gate of the LORD’s house, in the ears of all the people.

11 When Micaiah the son of Gemariah, the son of Shaphan, had heard out of the book all the LORD’s words,
12 he went down into the king’s house, into the scribe’s room; and behold, all the princes were sitting there, Elishama the scribe, Delaiah the son of Shemaiah, Elnathan the son of Achbor, Gemariah the son of Shaphan, Zedekiah the son of Hananiah, and all the princes.
13 Then Micaiah declared to them all the words that he had heard, when Baruch read the book in the ears of the people.
14 Therefore all the princes sent Jehudi the son of Nethaniah, the son of Shelemiah, the son of Cushi, to Baruch, saying, “Take in your hand the scroll in which you have read in the ears of the people, and come.”

So Baruch the son of Neriah took the scroll in his hand, and came to them.
15 They said to him, “Sit down now, and read it in our hearing.”

So Baruch read it in their hearing.

16 Now when they had heard all the words, they turned in fear one toward another, and said to Baruch, “We will surely tell the king of all these words.”
17 They asked Baruch, saying, “Tell us now, how did you write all these words at his mouth?”
18 Then Baruch answered them, “He dictated all these words to me with his mouth, and I wrote them with ink in the book.”
19 Then the princes said to Baruch, “You and Jeremiah go hide. Don’t let anyone know where you are.”

20 They went in to the king into the court, but they had laid up the scroll in the room of Elishama the scribe. Then they told all the words in the hearing of the king.

21 So the king sent Jehudi to get the scroll, and he took it out of the room of Elishama the scribe. Jehudi read it in the hearing of the king, and in the hearing of all the princes who stood beside the king.
22 Now the king was sitting in the winter house in the ninth month, and there was a fire in the brazier burning before him.
23 When Jehudi had read three or four columns, the king cut it with the penknife, and cast it into the fire that was in the brazier, until all the scroll was consumed in the fire that was in the brazier.
24 The king and his servants who heard all these words were not afraid, and didn't tear their garments.
25 Moreover Elnathan and Delaiah and Gemariah had made intercession to the king that he would not burn the scroll; but he would not listen to them.
26 The king commanded Jerahmeel the king's son, and Seraiah the son of Azriel, and Shelemiah the son of Abdeel, to arrest Baruch the scribe and Jeremiah the prophet; but the LORD hid them.
27 Then the LORD's word came to Jeremiah, after the king had burned the scroll, and the words which Baruch wrote at the mouth of Jeremiah, saying,
28 "Take again another scroll, and write in it all the former words that were in the first scroll, which Jehoiakim the king of Judah has burned.
29 Concerning Jehoiakim king of Judah you shall say, 'The LORD says: "You have burned this scroll, saying, 'Why have you written therein, saying, "The king of Babylon will certainly come and destroy this land, and will cause to cease from there man and animal"?' "
30 Therefore the LORD says concerning Jehoiakim king of Judah: "He will have no one to sit on David's throne. His dead body will be cast out in the day to the heat, and in the night to the frost.
31 I will punish him, his offspring, and his servants for their iniquity. I will bring on them, on the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and on the men of Judah, all the evil that I have pronounced against them, but they didn't listen." ' "
32 Then Jeremiah took another scroll, and gave it to Baruch the scribe, the son of Neriah, who wrote therein from the mouth of Jeremiah all the words of the book which Jehoiakim king of Judah had burned in the fire; and many similar words were added to them.

37

1 Zedekiah the son of Josiah reigned as king instead of Coniah the son of Jehoiakim, whom Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon made king in the land of Judah.
2 But neither he, nor his servants, nor the people of the land, listened to the LORD's words, which he spoke by the prophet Jeremiah.
3 Zedekiah the king sent Jehucal the son of Shelemiah and Zephaniah the son of Maaseiah, the priest, to the prophet Jeremiah, saying, "Pray now to the LORD our God for us."
4 Now Jeremiah came in and went out among the people, for they had not put him into prison.
5 Pharaoh's army had come out of Egypt; and when the Chaldeans who were besieging Jerusalem heard news of them, they withdrew from Jerusalem.
6 Then the LORD's word came to the prophet Jeremiah, saying,
7 "The LORD, the God of Israel, says, 'You shall tell the king of Judah, who sent you to me to inquire of me: "Behold, Pharaoh's army, which has come out to help you, will return to Egypt into their own land.
8 The Chaldeans will come again, and fight against this city. They will take it and burn it with fire." '
9 "The LORD says, 'Don't deceive yourselves, saying, "The Chaldeans will surely depart from us;" for they will not depart.
10 For though you had struck the whole army of the Chaldeans who fight against you, and only wounded men remained among them, they would each rise up in his tent and burn this city with fire.' "
11 When the army of the Chaldeans had withdrawn from Jerusalem for fear of Pharaoh's army,

12 then Jeremiah went out of Jerusalem
to go into the land of Benjamin, to receive
his portion there, in the middle of the
people.
13 When he was in Benjamin's gate, a
captain of the guard was there, whose
name was Irijah, the son of Shelemiah, the
son of Hananiah; and he seized Jeremiah
the prophet, saying, "You are defecting to
the Chaldeans!"
14 Then Jeremiah said, "That is false! I
am not defecting to the Chaldeans."

But he didn't listen to him; so Irijah
seized Jeremiah, and brought him to the
princes.
15 The princes were angry with
Jeremiah, and struck him, and put him in
prison in the house of Jonathan the scribe;
for they had made that the prison.

16 When Jeremiah had come into the
dungeon house and into the cells, and
Jeremiah had remained there many days,
17 then Zedekiah the king sent and had
him brought out. The king asked him
secretly in his house, "Is there any word
from the LORD?"

Jeremiah said, "There is." He also said,
"You will be delivered into the hand of the
king of Babylon."

18 Moreover Jeremiah said to King
Zedekiah, "How have I sinned against
you, against your servants, or against this
people, that you have put me in prison?
19 Now where are your prophets who
prophesied to you, saying, 'The king of
Babylon will not come against you, nor
against this land'?
20 Now please hear, my lord the king:
please let my supplication be presented
before you, that you not cause me to
return to the house of Jonathan the scribe,
lest I die there."
21 Then Zedekiah the king commanded,
and they committed Jeremiah into the
court of the guard. They gave him daily a
loaf of bread out of the bakers' street,
until all the bread in the city was gone.
Thus Jeremiah remained in the court of
the guard.

38

1 Shephatiah the son of Mattan,
Gedaliah the son of Pashhur, Jucal the son
of Shelemiah, and Pashhur the son of
Malchijah heard the words that Jeremiah
spoke to all the people, saying,
2 "The LORD says, 'He who remains in
this city will die by the sword, by the
famine, and by the pestilence, but he who
goes out to the Chaldeans will live. He will
escape with his life and he will live.'
3 The LORD says, 'This city will surely be
given into the hand of the army of the
king of Babylon, and he will take it.' "
4 Then the princes said to the king,
"Please let this man be put to death,
because he weakens the hands of the men
of war who remain in this city, and the
hands of all the people, in speaking such
words to them; for this man doesn't seek
the welfare of this people, but harm."
5 Zedekiah the king said, "Behold, he is
in your hand; for the king can't do
anything to oppose you."
6 Then they took Jeremiah and threw
him into the dungeon of Malchijah the
king's son, that was in the court of the
guard. They let down Jeremiah with
cords. In the dungeon there was no water,
but mire; and Jeremiah sank in the mire.
7 Now when Ebedmelech the Ethiopian,
a eunuch, who was in the king's house,
heard that they had put Jeremiah in the
dungeon (the king was then sitting in
Benjamin's gate),
8 Ebedmelech went out of the king's
house, and spoke to the king, saying,
9 "My lord the king, these men have
done evil in all that they have done to
Jeremiah the prophet, whom they have
cast into the dungeon. He is likely to die in
the place where he is, because of the
famine; for there is no more bread in the
city."
10 Then the king commanded
Ebedmelech the Ethiopian, saying, "Take
from here thirty men with you, and take
up Jeremiah the prophet out of the
dungeon, before he dies."
11 So Ebedmelech took the men with
him, and went into the house of the king

under the treasury, and took from there rags and worn-out garments, and let them down by cords into the dungeon to Jeremiah.
12 Ebedmelech the Ethiopian said to Jeremiah, “Now put these rags and worn-out garments under your armpits under the cords.”
Jeremiah did so.
13 So they lifted Jeremiah up with the cords, and took him up out of the dungeon; and Jeremiah remained in the court of the guard.
14 Then Zedekiah the king sent and took Jeremiah the prophet to himself into the third entry that is in the LORD’s house. Then the king said to Jeremiah, “I will ask you something. Hide nothing from me.”
15 Then Jeremiah said to Zedekiah, “If I declare it to you, will you not surely put me to death? If I give you counsel, you will not listen to me.”
16 So Zedekiah the king swore secretly to Jeremiah, saying, “As the LORD lives, who made our souls, I will not put you to death, neither will I give you into the hand of these men who seek your life.”
17 Then Jeremiah said to Zedekiah, “The LORD, the God of Armies, the God of Israel, says: ‘If you will go out to the king of Babylon’s princes, then your soul will live, and this city will not be burned with fire. You will live, along with your house.
18 But if you will not go out to the king of Babylon’s princes, then this city will be given into the hand of the Chaldeans, and they will burn it with fire, and you won’t escape out of their hand.’ ”
19 Zedekiah the king said to Jeremiah, “I am afraid of the Jews who have defected to the Chaldeans, lest they deliver me into their hand, and they mock me.”
20 But Jeremiah said, “They won’t deliver you. Obey, I beg you, the LORD’s voice, in that which I speak to you; so it will be well with you, and your soul will live.
21 But if you refuse to go out, this is the word that the LORD has shown me:
22 ‘Behold, all the women who are left in the king of Judah’s house will be brought out to the king of Babylon’s princes, and those women will say,
“Your familiar friends have turned on
you,
and have prevailed over you.
Your feet are sunk in the mire,
they have turned away from you.”
23 They will bring out all your wives and your children to the Chaldeans. You won’t escape out of their hand, but will be taken by the hand of the king of Babylon. You will cause this city to be burned with fire.’ ”
24 Then Zedekiah said to Jeremiah, “Let no man know of these words, and you won’t die.
25 But if the princes hear that I have talked with you, and they come to you, and tell you, ‘Declare to us now what you have said to the king; don’t hide it from us, and we will not put you to death; also tell us what the king said to you;’
26 then you shall tell them, ‘I presented my supplication before the king, that he would not cause me to return to Jonathan’s house, to die there.’ ”
27 Then all the princes came to Jeremiah, and asked him; and he told them according to all these words that the king had commanded. So they stopped speaking with him, for the matter was not perceived.
28 So Jeremiah stayed in the court of the guard until the day that Jerusalem was taken.

39

1 In the ninth year of Zedekiah king of Judah, in the tenth month, Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon and all his army came against Jerusalem, and besieged it.
2 In the eleventh year of Zedekiah, in the fourth month, the ninth day of the month, a breach was made in the city.
3 All the princes of the king of Babylon came in, and sat in the middle gate: Nergal Sharezer, Samgarnebo, Sarsechim the Rabsaris, Nergal Sharezer the Rabmag, with all the rest of the princes of the king of Babylon.

4 When Zedekiah the king of Judah and
all the men of war saw them, then they
fled and went out of the city by night, by
the way of the king's garden, through the
gate between the two walls; and he went
out toward the Arabah.
5 But the army of the Chaldeans pursued
them, and overtook Zedekiah in the plains
of Jericho. When they had taken him, they
brought him up to Nebuchadnezzar king
of Babylon to Riblah in the land of
Hamath; and he pronounced judgment on
him.
6 Then the king of Babylon killed
Zedekiah's sons in Riblah before his eyes.
The king of Babylon also killed all the
nobles of Judah.
7 Moreover he put out Zedekiah's eyes
and bound him in fetters, to carry him to
Babylon.
8 The Chaldeans burned the king's
house and the people's houses with fire
and broke down the walls of Jerusalem.
9 Then Nebuzaradan the captain of the
guard carried away captive into Babylon
the rest of the people who remained in the
city, the deserters also who fell away to
him, and the rest of the people who
remained.
10 But Nebuzaradan the captain of the
guard left of the poor of the people, who
had nothing, in the land of Judah, and
gave them vineyards and fields at the
same time.
11 Now Nebuchadnezzar king of
Babylon commanded Nebuzaradan the
captain of the guard concerning Jeremiah,
saying,
12 "Take him and take care of him. Do
him no harm; but do to him even as he
tells you."
13 So Nebuzaradan the captain of the
guard, Nebushazban, Rabsaris, and
Nergal Sharezer, Rabmag, and all the
chief officers of the king of Babylon
14 sent and took Jeremiah out of the
court of the guard, and committed him to
Gedaliah the son of Ahikam, the son of
Shaphan, that he should bring him home.
So he lived among the people.
15 Now the LORD's word came to
Jeremiah while he was shut up in the
court of the guard, saying,
16 "Go, and speak to Ebedmelech the
Ethiopian, saying, 'The LORD of Armies,
the God of Israel, says: "Behold, I will
bring my words on this city for evil, and
not for good; and they will be
accomplished before you in that day.
17 But I will deliver you in that day,"
says the LORD; "and you will not be given
into the hand of the men of whom you are
afraid.
18 For I will surely save you. You won't
fall by the sword, but you will escape with
your life, because you have put your trust
in me," says the LORD.' "

40

1 The word which came to Jeremiah
from the LORD, after Nebuzaradan the
captain of the guard had let him go from
Ramah, when he had taken him being
bound in chains among all the captives of
Jerusalem and Judah who were carried
away captive to Babylon.
2 The captain of the guard took Jeremiah
and said to him, "The LORD your God
pronounced this evil on this place;
3 and the LORD has brought it, and done
according as he spoke. Because you have
sinned against the LORD, and have not
obeyed his voice, therefore this thing has
come on you.
4 Now, behold, I release you today from
the chains which are on your hand. If it
seems good to you to come with me into
Babylon, come, and I will take care of you;
but if it seems bad to you to come with me
into Babylon, don't. Behold, all the land is
before you. Where it seems good and
right to you to go, go there."
5 Now while he had not yet gone back,
"Go back then," he said, "to Gedaliah the
son of Ahikam, the son of Shaphan, whom
the king of Babylon has made governor
over the cities of Judah, and dwell with
him among the people; or go wherever it
seems right to you to go."
So the captain of the guard gave him
food and a present, and let him go.

6 Then Jeremiah went to Gedaliah the
son of Ahikam to Mizpah, and lived with
him among the people who were left in
the land.
7 Now when all the captains of the
forces who were in the fields, even they
and their men, heard that the king of
Babylon had made Gedaliah the son of
Ahikam governor in the land, and had
committed to him men, women, children,
and of the poorest of the land, of those
who were not carried away captive to
Babylon,
8 then Ishmael the son of Nethaniah,
and Johanan and Jonathan the sons of
Kareah, and Seraiah the son of
Tanhumeth, and the sons of Ephai the
Netophathite, and Jezaniah the son of the
Maacathite, they and their men came to
Gedaliah to Mizpah.
9 Gedaliah the son of Ahikam the son of
Shaphan swore to them and to their men,
saying, "Don't be afraid to serve the
Chaldeans. Dwell in the land, and serve
the king of Babylon, and it will be well
with you.
10 As for me, behold, I will dwell at
Mizpah, to stand before the Chaldeans
who will come to us; but you, gather wine
and summer fruits and oil, and put them
in your vessels, and dwell in your cities
that you have taken."
11 Likewise when all the Jews who were
in Moab, and among the children of
Ammon, and in Edom, and who were in
all the countries, heard that the king of
Babylon had left a remnant of Judah, and
that he had set over them Gedaliah the
son of Ahikam, the son of Shaphan,
12 then all the Jews returned out of all
places where they were driven, and came
to the land of Judah, to Gedaliah, to
Mizpah, and gathered very much wine
and summer fruits.
13 Moreover Johanan the son of Kareah,
and all the captains of the forces who
were in the fields, came to Gedaliah to
Mizpah,
14 and said to him, "Do you know that
Baalis the king of the children of Ammon
has sent Ishmael the son of Nethaniah to
take your life?"

But Gedaliah the son of Ahikam didn't
believe them.
15 Then Johanan the son of Kareah
spoke to Gedaliah in Mizpah secretly,
saying, "Please let me go, and I will kill
Ishmael the son of Nethaniah, and no man
will know it. Why should he take your life,
that all the Jews who are gathered to you
should be scattered, and the remnant of
Judah perish?"
16 But Gedaliah the son of Ahikam said
to Johanan the son of Kareah, "You shall
not do this thing, for you speak falsely of
Ishmael."

41

1 Now in the seventh month, Ishmael
the son of Nethaniah, the son of Elishama,
of the royal offspring and one of the chief
officers of the king, and ten men with him,
came to Gedaliah the son of Ahikam to
Mizpah; and there they ate bread together
in Mizpah.
2 Then Ishmael the son of Nethaniah
arose, and the ten men who were with
him, and struck Gedaliah the son of
Ahikam the son of Shaphan with the
sword and killed him, whom the king of
Babylon had made governor over the
land.
3 Ishmael also killed all the Jews who
were with Gedaliah at Mizpah, and the
Chaldean men of war who were found
there.
4 The second day after he had killed
Gedaliah, and no man knew it,
5 men came from Shechem, from Shiloh,
and from Samaria, even eighty men,
having their beards shaved and their
clothes torn, and having cut themselves,
with meal offerings and frankincense in
their hand, to bring them to the LORD's
house.
6 Ishmael the son of Nethaniah went out
from Mizpah to meet them, weeping all
along as he went, and as he met them, he
said to them, "Come to Gedaliah the son of
Ahikam."
7 It was so, when they came into the
middle of the city, that Ishmael the son of
Nethaniah killed them, and cast them into
the middle of the pit, he, and the men who
were with him.

8 But ten men were found among those who said to Ishmael, “Don’t kill us; for we have stores hidden in the field, of wheat, and of barley, and of oil, and of honey.”
So he stopped, and didn’t kill them among their brothers.
9 Now the pit in which Ishmael cast all the dead bodies of the men whom he had killed, by the side of Gedaliah (this was that which Asa the king had made for fear of Baasha king of Israel), Ishmael the son of Nethaniah filled it with those who were killed.
10 Then Ishmael carried away captive all of the people who were left in Mizpah, even the king’s daughters, and all the people who remained in Mizpah, whom Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard had committed to Gedaliah the son of Ahikam. Ishmael the son of Nethaniah carried them away captive, and departed to go over to the children of Ammon.
11 But when Johanan the son of Kareah, and all the captains of the forces who were with him, heard of all the evil that Ishmael the son of Nethaniah had done,
12 then they took all the men, and went to fight with Ishmael the son of Nethaniah, and found him by the great waters that are in Gibeon.
13 Now when all the people who were with Ishmael saw Johanan the son of Kareah, and all the captains of the forces who were with him, then they were glad.
14 So all the people who Ishmael had carried away captive from Mizpah turned about and came back, and went to Johanan the son of Kareah.
15 But Ishmael the son of Nethaniah escaped from Johanan with eight men, and went to the children of Ammon.
16 Then Johanan the son of Kareah and all the captains of the forces who were with him took all the remnant of the people whom he had recovered from Ishmael the son of Nethaniah, from Mizpah, after he had killed Gedaliah the son of Ahikam—the men of war, with the women, the children, and the eunuchs, whom he had brought back from Gibeon.
17 They departed and lived in Geruth Chimham, which is by Bethlehem, to go to enter into Egypt
18 because of the Chaldeans; for they were afraid of them, because Ishmael the son of Nethaniah had killed Gedaliah the son of Ahikam, whom the king of Babylon made governor over the land.

42

1 Then all the captains of the forces, and Johanan the son of Kareah, and Jezaniah the son of Hoshaiah, and all the people from the least even to the greatest, came near,
2 and said to Jeremiah the prophet, “Please let our supplication be presented before you, and pray for us to the LORD your God, even for all this remnant, for we are left but a few of many, as your eyes see us,
3 that the LORD your God may show us the way in which we should walk, and the things that we should do.”
4 Then Jeremiah the prophet said to them, “I have heard you. Behold, I will pray to the LORD your God according to your words; and it will happen that whatever thing the LORD answers you, I will declare it to you. I will keep nothing back from you.”
5 Then they said to Jeremiah, “May the LORD be a true and faithful witness among us, if we don’t do according to all the word with which the LORD your God sends you to tell us.
6 Whether it is good, or whether it is bad, we will obey the voice of the LORD our God, to whom we send you; that it may be well with us, when we obey the voice of the LORD our God.”
7 After ten days, the LORD’s word came to Jeremiah.
8 Then he called Johanan the son of Kareah, and all the captains of the forces who were with him, and all the people from the least even to the greatest,
9 and said to them, “The LORD, the God of Israel, to whom you sent me to present your supplication before him, says:
10 ‘If you will still live in this land, then I will build you, and not pull you down, and I will plant you, and not pluck you up; for

I grieve over the distress that I have brought on you.
11 Don't be afraid of the king of Babylon, of whom you are afraid. Don't be afraid of him,' says the LORD, 'for I am with you to save you, and to deliver you from his hand.
12 I will grant you mercy, that he may have mercy on you, and cause you to return to your own land.
13 " 'But if you say, "We will not dwell in this land," so that you don't obey the LORD your God's voice,
14 saying, "No, but we will go into the land of Egypt, where we will see no war, nor hear the sound of the trumpet, nor have hunger of bread; and there we will dwell;" '
15 now therefore hear the LORD's word, O remnant of Judah! The LORD of Armies, the God of Israel, says, 'If you indeed set your faces to enter into Egypt, and go to live there,
16 then it will happen that the sword, which you fear, will overtake you there in the land of Egypt; and the famine, about which you are afraid, will follow close behind you there in Egypt; and you will die there.
17 So will it be with all the men who set their faces to go into Egypt to live there. They will die by the sword, by the famine, and by the pestilence. None of them will remain or escape from the evil that I will bring on them.'
18 For the LORD of Armies, the God of Israel, says: 'As my anger and my wrath has been poured out on the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so my wrath will be poured out on you, when you enter into Egypt; and you will be an object of horror, an astonishment, a curse, and a reproach; and you will see this place no more.'
19 "The LORD has spoken concerning you, remnant of Judah, 'Don't go into Egypt!' Know certainly that I have testified to you today.
20 For you have dealt deceitfully against your own souls; for you sent me to the LORD your God, saying, 'Pray for us to the LORD our God; and according to all that the LORD our God says, so declare to us, and we will do it.'
21 I have declared it to you today; but you have not obeyed the LORD your God's voice in anything for which he has sent me to you.
22 Now therefore know certainly that you will die by the sword, by the famine, and by the pestilence in the place where you desire to go to live."

43

1 When Jeremiah had finished speaking to all the people all the words of the LORD their God, with which the LORD their God had sent him to them, even all these words,
2 then Azariah the son of Hoshaiah, Johanan the son of Kareah, and all the proud men spoke, saying to Jeremiah, "You speak falsely. The LORD our God has not sent you to say, 'You shall not go into Egypt to live there;'
3 but Baruch the son of Neriah has turned you against us, to deliver us into the hand of the Chaldeans, that they may put us to death or carry us away captive to Babylon."
4 So Johanan the son of Kareah, and all the captains of the forces, and all the people, didn't obey the LORD's voice, to dwell in the land of Judah.
5 But Johanan the son of Kareah and all the captains of the forces took all the remnant of Judah, who had returned from all the nations where they had been driven, to live in the land of Judah—
6 the men, the women, the children, the king's daughters, and every person who Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard had left with Gedaliah the son of Ahikam, the son of Shaphan; and Jeremiah the prophet, and Baruch the son of Neriah.
7 They came into the land of Egypt, for they didn't obey the LORD's voice; and they came to Tahpanhes.
8 Then the LORD's word came to Jeremiah in Tahpanhes, saying,
9 "Take great stones in your hand and hide them in mortar in the brick work which is at the entry of Pharaoh's house in

Tahpanhes, in the sight of the men of Judah.
10 Tell them, the LORD of Armies, the God of Israel, says: 'Behold, I will send and take Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon, my servant, and will set his throne on these stones that I have hidden; and he will spread his royal pavilion over them.
11 He will come, and will strike the land of Egypt; such as are for death will be put to death, and such as are for captivity to captivity, and such as are for the sword to the sword.
12 I will kindle a fire in the houses of the gods of Egypt. He will burn them, and carry them away captive. He will array himself with the land of Egypt, as a shepherd puts on his garment; and he will go out from there in peace.
13 He will also break the pillars of Beth Shemesh that is in the land of Egypt; and he will burn the houses of the gods of Egypt with fire.' "

44

1 The word that came to Jeremiah concerning all the Jews who lived in the land of Egypt, who lived at Migdol, and at Tahpanhes, and at Memphis, and in the country of Pathros, saying,
2 "The LORD of Armies, the God of Israel, says: 'You have seen all the evil that I have brought on Jerusalem, and on all the cities of Judah. Behold, today they are a desolation, and no man dwells in them,
3 because of their wickedness which they have committed to provoke me to anger, in that they went to burn incense, to serve other gods that they didn't know, neither they, nor you, nor your fathers.
4 However I sent to you all my servants the prophets, rising up early and sending them, saying, "Oh, don't do this abominable thing that I hate."
5 But they didn't listen and didn't incline their ear. They didn't turn from their wickedness, to stop burning incense to other gods.
6 Therefore my wrath and my anger was poured out, and was kindled in the cities of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem; and they are wasted and desolate, as it is today.'
7 "Therefore now the LORD, the God of Armies, the God of Israel, says: 'Why do you commit great evil against your own souls, to cut off from yourselves man and woman, infant and nursing child out of the middle of Judah, to leave yourselves no one remaining,
8 in that you provoke me to anger with the works of your hands, burning incense to other gods in the land of Egypt where you have gone to live, that you may be cut off, and that you may be a curse and a reproach among all the nations of the earth?
9 Have you forgotten the wickedness of your fathers, the wickedness of the kings of Judah, the wickedness of their wives, your own wickedness, and the wickedness of your wives which they committed in the land of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem?
10 They are not humbled even to this day, neither have they feared, nor walked in my law, nor in my statutes, that I set before you and before your fathers.'
11 "Therefore the LORD of Armies, the God of Israel, says: 'Behold, I will set my face against you for evil, even to cut off all Judah.
12 I will take the remnant of Judah that have set their faces to go into the land of Egypt to live there, and they will all be consumed. They will fall in the land of Egypt. They will be consumed by the sword and by the famine. They will die, from the least even to the greatest, by the sword and by the famine. They will be an object of horror, an astonishment, a curse, and a reproach.
13 For I will punish those who dwell in the land of Egypt, as I have punished Jerusalem, by the sword, by the famine, and by the pestilence;
14 so that none of the remnant of Judah, who have gone into the land of Egypt to live there, will escape or be left to return into the land of Judah, to which they have a desire to return to dwell there; for no

one will return except those who will escape.' "
15 Then all the men who knew that their wives burned incense to other gods, and all the women who stood by, a great assembly, even all the people who lived in the land of Egypt, in Pathros, answered Jeremiah, saying,
16 "As for the word that you have spoken to us in the LORD's name, we will not listen to you.
17 But we will certainly perform every word that has gone out of our mouth, to burn incense to the queen of the sky and to pour out drink offerings to her, as we have done, we and our fathers, our kings and our princes, in the cities of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem; for then we had plenty of food, and were well, and saw no evil.
18 But since we stopped burning incense to the queen of the sky, and pouring out drink offerings to her, we have lacked all things, and have been consumed by the sword and by the famine."
19 The women said, "When we burned incense to the queen of the sky and poured out drink offerings to her, did we make her cakes to worship her, and pour out drink offerings to her, without our husbands?"
20 Then Jeremiah said to all the people—to the men and to the women, even to all the people who had given him an answer, saying,
21 "The incense that you burned in the cities of Judah, and in the streets of Jerusalem, you and your fathers, your kings and your princes, and the people of the land, didn't the LORD remember them, and didn't it come into his mind?
22 Thus the LORD could no longer bear it, because of the evil of your doings and because of the abominations which you have committed. Therefore your land has become a desolation, an astonishment, and a curse, without inhabitant, as it is today.
23 Because you have burned incense and because you have sinned against the LORD, and have not obeyed the LORD's voice, nor walked in his law, nor in his statutes, nor in his testimonies; therefore this evil has happened to you, as it is today."
24 Moreover Jeremiah said to all the people, including all the women, "Hear the LORD's word, all Judah who are in the land of Egypt!
25 The LORD of Armies, the God of Israel, says, 'You and your wives have both spoken with your mouths, and with your hands have fulfilled it, saying, "We will surely perform our vows that we have vowed, to burn incense to the queen of the sky, and to pour out drink offerings to her."
" 'Establish then your vows, and perform your vows.'
26 "Therefore hear the LORD's word, all Judah who dwell in the land of Egypt: 'Behold, I have sworn by my great name,' says the LORD, 'that my name will no more be named in the mouth of any man of Judah in all the land of Egypt, saying, "As the Lord GOD lives."
27 Behold, I watch over them for evil, and not for good; and all the men of Judah who are in the land of Egypt will be consumed by the sword and by the famine, until they are all gone.
28 Those who escape the sword will return out of the land of Egypt into the land of Judah few in number. All the remnant of Judah, who have gone into the land of Egypt to live there, will know whose word will stand, mine or theirs.
29 " 'This will be the sign to you,' says the LORD, 'that I will punish you in this place, that you may know that my words will surely stand against you for evil.'
30 The LORD says, 'Behold, I will give Pharaoh Hophra king of Egypt into the hand of his enemies and into the hand of those who seek his life, just as I gave Zedekiah king of Judah into the hand of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, who was his enemy and sought his life.' "

45

1 The message that Jeremiah the prophet spoke to Baruch the son of

Neriah, when he wrote these words in a book at the mouth of Jeremiah, in the fourth year of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah, king of Judah, saying,
2 "The LORD, the God of Israel, says to you, Baruch:
3 'You said, "Woe is me now! For the LORD has added sorrow to my pain! I am weary with my groaning, and I find no rest." '
4 "You shall tell him, the LORD says: 'Behold, that which I have built, I will break down, and that which I have planted I will pluck up; and this in the whole land.
5 Do you seek great things for yourself? Don't seek them; for, behold, I will bring evil on all flesh,' says the LORD, 'but I will let you escape with your life wherever you go.' "

46

1 The LORD's word which came to Jeremiah the prophet concerning the nations.
2 Of Egypt: concerning the army of Pharaoh Necoh king of Egypt, which was by the river Euphrates in Carchemish, which Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon struck in the fourth year of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah, king of Judah.
3 "Prepare the buckler and shield,
and draw near to battle!
4 Harness the horses, and get up, you horsemen,
and stand up with your helmets.
Polish the spears,
put on the coats of mail.
5 Why have I seen it?
They are dismayed and are turned backward.
Their mighty ones are beaten down,
have fled in haste,
and don't look back.
Terror is on every side,"
says the LORD.
6 "Don't let the swift flee away,
nor the mighty man escape.
In the north by the river Euphrates
they have stumbled and fallen.
7 "Who is this who rises up like the Nile,
like rivers whose waters surge?
8 Egypt rises up like the Nile,
like rivers whose waters surge.
He says, 'I will rise up. I will cover the earth.
I will destroy cities and its inhabitants.'
9 Go up, you horses!
Rage, you chariots!
Let the mighty men go out:
Cush and Put, who handle the shield;
and the Ludim, who handle and bend the bow.
10 For that day is of the Lord, GOD of Armies,
a day of vengeance,
that he may avenge himself of his adversaries.
The sword will devour and be satiated,
and will drink its fill of their blood;
for the Lord, GOD† of Armies, has a sacrifice in the north country by the river Euphrates.
11 Go up into Gilead, and take balm, virgin daughter of Egypt.
You use many medicines in vain.
There is no healing for you.
12 The nations have heard of your shame,
and the earth is full of your cry;
for the mighty man has stumbled against the mighty,
they both fall together."

13 The word that the LORD spoke to Jeremiah the prophet, how that Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon should come and strike the land of Egypt:
14 "Declare in Egypt,
publish in Migdol,
and publish in Memphis and in Tahpanhes;
say, 'Stand up, and prepare,
for the sword has devoured around you.'
15 Why are your strong ones swept away?
They didn't stand, because the LORD pushed them.
16 He made many to stumble.
Yes, they fell on one another.

† **46:10** When rendered in ALL CAPITAL LETTERS, "LORD" or "GOD" is the translation of God's Proper Name (Hebrew "יהוה", usually pronounced Yahweh).

They said, ‘Arise! Let’s go again to our
own people,
and to the land of our birth,
from the oppressing sword.’
17 They cried there, ‘Pharaoh king of Egypt
is but a noise;
he has let the appointed time pass by.’

18 “As I live,” says the King,
whose name is the LORD of Armies,
“surely like Tabor among the mountains,
and like Carmel by the sea,
so he will come.
19 You daughter who dwells in Egypt,
furnish yourself to go into captivity;
for Memphis will become a desolation,
and will be burned up,
without inhabitant.

20 “Egypt is a very beautiful heifer;
but destruction out of the north has
come.
It has come.
21 Also her hired men in the middle of her
are like calves of the stall,
for they also are turned back.
They have fled away together.
They didn’t stand,
for the day of their calamity has come
on them,
the time of their visitation.
22 Its sound will go like the serpent,
for they will march with an army,
and come against her with axes, as
wood cutters.
23 They will cut down her forest,” says the
LORD,
“though it can’t be searched;
because they are more than the locusts,
and are innumerable.
24 The daughter of Egypt will be
disappointed;
she will be delivered into the hand of
the people of the north.”
25 The LORD of Armies, the God of
Israel, says: “Behold, I will punish Amon
of No, and Pharaoh, and Egypt, with her
gods and her kings, even Pharaoh, and
those who trust in him.
26 I will deliver them into the hand of
those who seek their lives, and into the
hand of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon,
and into the hand of his servants.
Afterwards it will be inhabited, as in the
days of old,” says the LORD.
27 “But don’t you be afraid, Jacob my
servant.
Don’t be dismayed, Israel;
for, behold, I will save you from afar,
and your offspring from the land of
their captivity.
Jacob will return,
and will be quiet and at ease.
No one will make him afraid.
28 Don’t be afraid, O Jacob my servant,”
says the LORD,
“for I am with you;
for I will make a full end of all the
nations where I have driven you,
but I will not make a full end of you,
but I will correct you in measure,
and will in no way leave you
unpunished.”

47

1 The LORD’s word that came to
Jeremiah the prophet concerning the
Philistines, before Pharaoh struck Gaza.
2 The LORD says:
“Behold, waters rise up out of the north,
and will become an overflowing
stream,
and will overflow the land and all that is
therein,
the city and those who dwell therein.
The men will cry,
and all the inhabitants of the land will
wail.
3 At the noise of the stamping of the hoofs
of his strong ones,
at the rushing of his chariots,
at the rumbling of his wheels,
the fathers don’t look back for their
children
because their hands are so feeble,
4 because of the day that comes to destroy
all the Philistines,
to cut off from Tyre and Sidon every
helper who remains;
for the LORD will destroy the Philistines,
the remnant of the isle of Caphtor.
5 Baldness has come on Gaza;
Ashkelon is brought to nothing.
You remnant of their valley,
how long will you cut yourself?

6 “ ‘You sword of the LORD, how long will
it be before you are quiet?
Put yourself back into your scabbard;
rest, and be still.’

7 “How can you be quiet,
since the LORD has given you a
command?
Against Ashkelon, and against the
seashore,
there he has appointed it.”

48

1 Of Moab. The LORD of Armies, the God
of Israel, says:
“Woe to Nebo!
For it is laid waste.
Kiriathaim is disappointed.
It is taken.
Misgab† is put to shame
and broken down.
2 The praise of Moab is no more.
In Heshbon they have devised evil
against her:
‘Come! Let’s cut her off from being a
nation.’
You also, Madmen, will be brought to
silence.
The sword will pursue you.
3 The sound of a cry from Horonaim,
desolation and great destruction!
4 Moab is destroyed.
Her little ones have caused a cry to be
heard.
5 For they will go up by the ascent of
Luhith with continual weeping.
For at the descent of Horonaim they
have heard the distress of the cry of
destruction.
6 Flee! Save your lives!
Be like the juniper bush in the
wilderness.
7 For, because you have trusted in your
works and in your treasures,
you also will be taken.
Chemosh will go out into captivity,
his priests and his princes together.
8 The destroyer will come on every city,
and no city will escape;
the valley also will perish,
and the plain will be destroyed, as the
LORD has spoken.

9 Give wings to Moab,
that she may fly and get herself away:
and her cities will become a desolation,
without anyone to dwell in them.

10 “Cursed is he who does the work of the
LORD negligently;
and cursed is he who keeps back his
sword from blood.

11 “Moab has been at ease from his youth,
and he has settled on his dregs,
and has not been emptied from vessel to
vessel,
neither has he gone into captivity;
therefore his taste remains in him,
and his scent is not changed.
12 Therefore behold, the days come,” says
the LORD,
“that I will send to him those who
pour off,
and they will pour him off;
and they will empty his vessels,
and break their containers in pieces.
13 Moab will be ashamed of Chemosh,
as the house of Israel was ashamed of
Bethel, their confidence.

14 “How do you say, ‘We are mighty men,
and valiant men for the war’?
15 Moab is laid waste,
and they have gone up into his cities,
and his chosen young men have gone
down to the slaughter,”
says the King, whose name is the
LORD of Armies.
16 “The calamity of Moab is near to come,
and his affliction hurries fast.
17 All you who are around him, bemoan
him;
and all you who know his name, say,
‘How the strong staff is broken,
the beautiful rod!’

18 “You daughter who dwells in Dibon,
come down from your glory,
and sit in thirst;
for the destroyer of Moab has come up
against you.
He has destroyed your strongholds.
19 Inhabitant of Aroer, stand by the way
and watch.

† **48:1** or, The stronghold

Ask him who flees, and her who escapes;
say, 'What has been done?'
20 Moab is disappointed;
for it is broken down.
Wail and cry!
Tell it by the Arnon, that Moab is laid waste.
21 Judgment has come on the plain country—
on Holon, on Jahzah, on Mephaath,
22 on Dibon, on Nebo, on Beth Diblathaim,
23 on Kiriathaim, on Beth Gamul, on Beth Meon,
24 on Kerioth, on Bozrah,
and on all the cities of the land of Moab, far or near.
25 The horn of Moab is cut off,
and his arm is broken," says the LORD.

26 "Make him drunk,
for he magnified himself against the LORD.
Moab will wallow in his vomit,
and he also will be in derision.
27 For wasn't Israel a derision to you?
Was he found among thieves?
For as often as you speak of him,
you shake your head.
28 You inhabitants of Moab, leave the cities, and dwell in the rock.
Be like the dove that makes her nest over the mouth of the abyss.

29 "We have heard of the pride of Moab.
He is very proud in his loftiness, his pride,
his arrogance, and the arrogance of his heart.
30 I know his wrath," says the LORD, "that it is nothing;
his boastings have done nothing.
31 Therefore I will wail for Moab.
Yes, I will cry out for all Moab.
They will mourn for the men of Kir Heres.
32 With more than the weeping of Jazer
I will weep for you, vine of Sibmah.
Your branches passed over the sea.
They reached even to the sea of Jazer.
The destroyer has fallen on your summer fruits
and on your vintage.
33 Gladness and joy is taken away from the fruitful field
and from the land of Moab.
I have caused wine to cease from the wine presses.
No one will tread with shouting.
The shouting will be no shouting.
34 From the cry of Heshbon even to Elealeh,
even to Jahaz they have uttered their voice,
from Zoar even to Horonaim, to Eglath Shelishiyah;
for the waters of Nimrim will also become desolate.
35 Moreover I will cause to cease in Moab," says the LORD,
"him who offers in the high place,
and him who burns incense to his gods.
36 Therefore my heart sounds for Moab like flutes,
and my heart sounds like flutes for the men of Kir Heres.
Therefore the abundance that he has gotten has perished.
37 For every head is bald,
and every beard clipped.
There are cuttings on all the hands,
and sackcloth on the waist.
38 On all the housetops of Moab,
and in its streets, there is lamentation everywhere;
for I have broken Moab like a vessel in which no one delights," says the LORD.
39 "How it is broken down!
How they wail!
How Moab has turned the back with shame!
So will Moab become a derision
and a terror to all who are around him."
40 For the LORD says: "Behold, he will fly as an eagle,
and will spread out his wings against Moab.
41 Kerioth is taken,
and the strongholds are seized.
The heart of the mighty men of Moab at that day
will be as the heart of a woman in her pangs.

42 Moab will be destroyed from being a
people,
because he has magnified himself
against the LORD.
43 Terror, the pit, and the snare are on you,
inhabitant of Moab," says the LORD.
44 "He who flees from the terror will fall
into the pit;
and he who gets up out of the pit will
be taken in the snare,
for I will bring on him, even on Moab,
the year of their visitation," says the
LORD.

45 "Those who fled stand without strength
under the shadow of Heshbon;
for a fire has gone out of Heshbon,
and a flame from the middle of Sihon,
and has devoured the corner of Moab,
and the crown of the head of the
tumultuous ones.
46 Woe to you, O Moab!
The people of Chemosh are undone;
for your sons are taken away captive,
and your daughters into captivity.

47 "Yet I will reverse the captivity of Moab
in the latter days,"
says the LORD.
Thus far is the judgment of Moab.

49

1 Of the children of Ammon. The LORD
says:
"Has Israel no sons?
Has he no heir?
Why then does Malcam possess Gad,
and his people dwell in its cities?
2 Therefore behold, the days come,"
says the LORD,
"that I will cause an alarm of war to be
heard against Rabbah of the
children of Ammon,
and it will become a desolate heap,
and her daughters will be burned
with fire;
then Israel will possess those who
possessed him,"
says the LORD.
3 "Wail, Heshbon, for Ai is laid waste!
Cry, you daughters of Rabbah!
Clothe yourself in sackcloth.
Lament, and run back and forth
among the fences;
for Malcam will go into captivity,
his priests and his princes together.
4 Why do you boast in the valleys,
your flowing valley, backsliding
daughter?
You trusted in her treasures,
saying, 'Who will come to me?'
5 Behold, I will bring a terror on you,"
says the Lord, GOD of Armies,
"from all who are around you.
All of you will be driven completely
out,
and there will be no one to gather
together the fugitives.

6 "But afterward I will reverse the
captivity of the children of
Ammon,"
says the LORD.

7 Of Edom, the LORD of Armies says:
"Is wisdom no more in Teman?
Has counsel perished from the
prudent?
Has their wisdom vanished?
8 Flee! Turn back!
Dwell in the depths, inhabitants of
Dedan;
for I will bring the calamity of Esau
on him when I visit him.
9 If grape gatherers came to you,
would they not leave some gleaning
grapes?
If thieves came by night,
wouldn't they steal until they had
enough?
10 But I have made Esau bare,
I have uncovered his secret places,
and he will not be able to hide
himself.
His offspring is destroyed,
with his brothers and his neighbors;
and he is no more.
11 Leave your fatherless children.
I will preserve them alive.
Let your widows trust in me."
12 For the LORD says: "Behold, they to
whom it didn't pertain to drink of the cup
will certainly drink; and are you he who
will altogether go unpunished? You won't
go unpunished, but you will surely drink.

13 For I have sworn by myself," says the
LORD, "that Bozrah will become an
astonishment, a reproach, a waste, and a
curse. All its cities will be perpetual
wastes."
14 I have heard news from the LORD,
and an ambassador is sent among the
nations,
saying, "Gather yourselves together!
Come against her!
Rise up to the battle!"

15 "For, behold, I have made you small
among the nations,
and despised among men.
16 As for your terror,
the pride of your heart has deceived
you,
O you who dwell in the clefts of the rock,
who hold the height of the hill,
though you should make your nest as high
as the eagle,
I will bring you down from there,"
says the LORD.
17 "Edom will become an astonishment.
Everyone who passes by it will be
astonished,
and will hiss at all its plagues.
18 As in the overthrow of Sodom and
Gomorrah and its neighbor cities,"
says the LORD,
"no man will dwell there,
neither will any son of man live
therein.

19 "Behold, he will come up like a lion
from the pride of the Jordan against
the strong habitation;
for I will suddenly make them run
away from it,
and whoever is chosen,
I will appoint him over it.
For who is like me?
Who will appoint me a time?
Who is the shepherd who will stand
before me?"
20 Therefore hear the counsel of the LORD,
that he has taken against Edom,
and his purposes that he has
purposed against the inhabitants of
Teman:
Surely they will drag them away,
the little ones of the flock.
Surely he will make their habitation
desolate over them.
21 The earth trembles at the noise of their
fall;
there is a cry, the noise which is
heard in the Red Sea.
22 Behold, he will come up and fly as the
eagle,
and spread out his wings against
Bozrah.
The heart of the mighty men of Edom
at that day will be as the heart of a
woman in her pangs.

23 Of Damascus:
"Hamath and Arpad are confounded,
for they have heard evil news.
They have melted away.
There is sorrow on the sea.
It can't be quiet.
24 Damascus has grown feeble,
she turns herself to flee,
and trembling has seized her.
Anguish and sorrows have taken hold of
her,
as of a woman in travail.
25 How is the city of praise not forsaken,
the city of my joy?
26 Therefore her young men will fall in
her streets,
and all the men of war will be
brought to silence in that day,"
says the LORD of Armies.
27 "I will kindle a fire in the wall of
Damascus,
and it will devour the palaces of Ben
Hadad."

28 Of Kedar, and of the kingdoms of Hazor,
which Nebuchadnezzar king of
Babylon struck, The LORD says:
"Arise, go up to Kedar,
and destroy the children of the east.
29 They will take their tents and their
flocks.
they will carry away for themselves
their curtains,
all their vessels, and their camels;
and they will cry to them, 'Terror on
every side!'
30 Flee!
Wander far off!

Dwell in the depths, you inhabitants of
Hazor," says the LORD;
"for Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon
has taken counsel against you,
and has conceived a purpose against
you.
31 Arise! Go up to a nation that is at ease,
that dwells without care," says the
LORD;
"that has neither gates nor bars,
that dwells alone.
32 Their camels will be a booty,
and the multitude of their livestock a
plunder.
I will scatter to all winds those who have
the corners of their beards cut off;
and I will bring their calamity from
every side of them,"
says the LORD.
33 Hazor will be a dwelling place of
jackals,
a desolation forever.
No man will dwell there,
neither will any son of man live
therein."

34 The LORD's word that came to
Jeremiah the prophet concerning Elam, in
the beginning of the reign of Zedekiah
king of Judah, saying,
35 "The LORD of Armies says:
'Behold, I will break the bow of Elam,
the chief of their might.
36 I will bring on Elam the four winds
from the four quarters of the sky,
and will scatter them toward all those
winds.
There will be no nation where the
outcasts of Elam will not come.
37 I will cause Elam to be dismayed before
their enemies,
and before those who seek their life.
I will bring evil on them, even my fierce
anger,' says the LORD;
'and I will send the sword after them,
until I have consumed them.
38 I will set my throne in Elam,
and will destroy from there king and
princes,' says the LORD.
39 'But it will happen in the latter days
that I will reverse the captivity of
Elam,' says the LORD."

50

1 The word that the LORD spoke
concerning Babylon, concerning the land
of the Chaldeans, by Jeremiah the
prophet.
2 "Declare among the nations and publish,
and set up a standard;
publish, and don't conceal;
say, 'Babylon has been taken,
Bel is disappointed,
Merodach is dismayed!
Her images are disappointed.
Her idols are dismayed.'
3 For a nation comes up out of the north
against her,
which will make her land desolate,
and no one will dwell in it.
They have fled.
They are gone,
both man and animal.

4 "In those days, and in that time," says the
LORD,
"the children of Israel will come,
they and the children of Judah
together;
they will go on their way weeping,
and will seek the LORD their God.
5 They will inquire concerning Zion with
their faces turned toward it,
saying, 'Come, and join yourselves to
the LORD in an everlasting
covenant
that will not be forgotten.'
6 My people have been lost sheep.
Their shepherds have caused them to
go astray.
They have turned them away on the
mountains.
They have gone from mountain to
hill.
They have forgotten their resting
place.
7 All who found them have devoured
them.
Their adversaries said, 'We are not
guilty,
because they have sinned against the
LORD,
the habitation of righteousness,
even the LORD, the hope of their
fathers.'

8 “Flee out of the middle of Babylon!
Go out of the land of the Chaldeans,
and be as the male goats before the flocks.
9 For, behold, I will stir up
and cause to come up against Babylon
a company of great nations from the north country;
and they will set themselves in array against her.
She will be taken from there.
Their arrows will be as of an expert mighty man.
None of them will return in vain.
10 Chaldea will be a prey.
All who prey on her will be satisfied,” says the LORD.

11 “Because you are glad,
because you rejoice,
O you who plunder my heritage,
because you are wanton as a heifer that treads out the grain,
and neigh as strong horses,
12 your mother will be utterly disappointed.
She who bore you will be confounded.
Behold, she will be the least of the nations,
a wilderness, a dry land, and a desert.
13 Because of the LORD’s wrath she won’t be inhabited,
but she will be wholly desolate.
Everyone who goes by Babylon will be astonished,
and hiss at all her plagues.
14 Set yourselves in array against Babylon all around,
all you who bend the bow;
shoot at her.
Spare no arrows,
for she has sinned against the LORD.
15 Shout against her all around.
She has submitted herself.
Her bulwarks have fallen.
Her walls have been thrown down,
for it is the vengeance of the LORD.
Take vengeance on her.
As she has done, do to her.
16 Cut off the sower from Babylon,
and him who handles the sickle in the time of harvest.
For fear of the oppressing sword,
they will each return to their own people,
and they will each flee to their own land.

17 “Israel is a hunted sheep.
The lions have driven him away.
First, the king of Assyria devoured him,
and now at last Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon has broken his bones.”
18 Therefore the LORD of Armies, the God of Israel, says:
“Behold, I will punish the king of Babylon and his land,
as I have punished the king of Assyria.
19 I will bring Israel again to his pasture,
and he will feed on Carmel and Bashan.
His soul will be satisfied on the hills of Ephraim and in Gilead.
20 In those days, and in that time,” says the LORD,
“the iniquity of Israel will be sought for,
and there will be none,
also the sins of Judah,
and they won’t be found;
for I will pardon them whom I leave as a remnant.

21 “Go up against the land of Merathaim,
even against it, and against the inhabitants of Pekod.
Kill and utterly destroy after them,” says the LORD,
“and do according to all that I have commanded you.
22 A sound of battle is in the land,
and of great destruction.
23 How the hammer of the whole earth is cut apart and broken!
How Babylon has become a desolation among the nations!
24 I have laid a snare for you,
and you are also taken, Babylon,
and you weren’t aware.
You are found,
and also caught,
because you have fought against the LORD.
25 The LORD has opened his armory,
and has brought out the weapons of his indignation;

for the Lord, GOD† of Armies, has a
work to do in the land of the
Chaldeans.
26 Come against her from the farthest
border.
Open her storehouses.
Cast her up as heaps.
Destroy her utterly.
Let nothing of her be left.
27 Kill all her bulls.
Let them go down to the slaughter.
Woe to them! For their day has come,
the time of their visitation.
28 Listen to those who flee and escape out
of the land of Babylon,
to declare in Zion the vengeance of
the LORD our God,
the vengeance of his temple.

29 "Call together the archers against
Babylon,
all those who bend the bow.
Encamp against her all around.
Let none of it escape.
Pay her back according to her work.
According to all that she has done, do
to her;
for she has been proud against the LORD,
against the Holy One of Israel.
30 Therefore her young men will fall in
her streets.
All her men of war will be brought to
silence in that day," says the LORD.
31 "Behold, I am against you, you proud
one," says the Lord, GOD of Armies;
"for your day has come,
the time that I will visit you.
32 The proud one will stumble and fall,
and no one will raise him up.
I will kindle a fire in his cities,
and it will devour all who are around
him."
33 The LORD of Armies says: "The children
of Israel and the children of Judah
are oppressed together.
All who took them captive hold them
fast.
They refuse to let them go.
34 Their Redeemer is strong.
The LORD of Armies is his name.
He will thoroughly plead their cause,
that he may give rest to the earth,
and disquiet the inhabitants of
Babylon.

35 "A sword is on the Chaldeans," says the
LORD,
"and on the inhabitants of Babylon,
on her princes,
and on her wise men.
36 A sword is on the boasters,
and they will become fools.
A sword is on her mighty men,
and they will be dismayed.
37 A sword is on their horses,
on their chariots,
and on all the mixed people who are
in the middle of her;
and they will become as women.
A sword is on her treasures,
and they will be robbed.
38 A drought is on her waters,
and they will be dried up;
for it is a land of engraved images,
and they are mad over idols.
39 Therefore the wild animals of the desert
with the wolves will dwell there.
The ostriches will dwell therein.
It will be inhabited no more forever,
neither will it be lived in from
generation to generation.
40 As when God overthrew Sodom and
Gomorrah and its neighbor cities,"
says the LORD,
"so no man will dwell there,
neither will any son of man live
therein.

41 "Behold, a people comes from the north.
A great nation and many kings will be
stirred up from the uttermost parts
of the earth.
42 They take up bow and spear.
They are cruel, and have no mercy.
Their voice roars like the sea.
They ride on horses,
everyone set in array,
as a man to the battle,
against you, daughter of Babylon.
43 The king of Babylon has heard the news
of them,

† **50:25** When rendered in ALL CAPITAL LETTERS, "LORD" or "GOD" is the translation of God's Proper Name (Hebrew "יהוה", usually pronounced Yahweh).

and his hands become feeble.
Anguish has taken hold of him,
pains as of a woman in labor.
44 Behold, the enemy will come up like a lion
from the thickets of the Jordan
against the strong habitation;
for I will suddenly make them run away from it.
Whoever is chosen,
I will appoint him over it,
for who is like me?
Who will appoint me a time?
Who is the shepherd who can stand before me?”
45 Therefore hear the counsel of the LORD that he has taken against Babylon;
and his purposes
that he has purposed against the land of the Chaldeans:
Surely they will drag them away,
even the little ones of the flock.
Surely he will make their habitation desolate over them.
46 The earth trembles at the noise of the taking of Babylon.
The cry is heard among the nations.

51

1 The LORD says:
“Behold, I will raise up against Babylon,
and against those who dwell in Lebkamai, a destroying wind.
2 I will send to Babylon strangers, who will winnow her.
They will empty her land;
for in the day of trouble they will be against her all around.
3 Against him who bends, let the archer bend his bow,
also against him who lifts himself up in his coat of mail.
Don’t spare her young men!
Utterly destroy all her army!
4 They will fall down slain in the land of the Chaldeans,
and thrust through in her streets.
5 For Israel is not forsaken, nor Judah, by his God,
by the LORD of Armies;
though their land is full of guilt against the Holy One of Israel.
6 “Flee out of the middle of Babylon!
Everyone save his own life!
Don’t be cut off in her iniquity,
for it is the time of the LORD’s vengeance.
He will give to her a recompense.
7 Babylon has been a golden cup in the LORD’s hand,
who made all the earth drunk.
The nations have drunk of her wine;
therefore the nations have gone mad.
8 Babylon has suddenly fallen and been destroyed!
Wail for her!
Take balm for her pain.
Perhaps she may be healed.

9 “We would have healed Babylon,
but she is not healed.
Forsake her,
and let’s each go into his own country;
for her judgment reaches to heaven,
and is lifted up even to the skies.
10 ‘The LORD has produced our righteousness.
Come, and let’s declare in Zion the work of the LORD our God.’

11 “Make the arrows sharp!
Hold the shields firmly!
The LORD has stirred up the spirit of the kings of the Medes,
because his purpose is against Babylon, to destroy it;
for it is the vengeance of the LORD,
the vengeance of his temple.
12 Set up a standard against the walls of Babylon!
Make the watch strong!
Set the watchmen,
and prepare the ambushes;
for the LORD has both purposed and done
that which he spoke concerning the inhabitants of Babylon.
13 You who dwell on many waters,
abundant in treasures,
your end has come, the measure of your covetousness.
14 The LORD of Armies has sworn by himself, saying,
‘Surely I will fill you with men,
as with locusts,

and they will lift up a shout against
you.’

15 “He has made the earth by his power.
He has established the world by his
wisdom.
By his understanding he has
stretched out the heavens.
16 When he utters his voice,
there is a roar of waters in the
heavens,
and he causes the vapors to ascend
from the ends of the earth.
He makes lightning for the rain,
and brings the wind out of his
treasuries.

17 “Every man has become stupid and
without knowledge.
Every goldsmith is disappointed by
his image,
for his molten images are falsehood,
and there is no breath in them.
18 They are vanity,
a work of delusion.
In the time of their visitation, they
will perish.
19 The portion of Jacob is not like these,
for he formed all things,
including the tribe of his inheritance.
The LORD of Armies is his name.

20 “You are my battle ax and weapons of
war.
With you I will break the nations into
pieces.
With you I will destroy kingdoms.
21 With you I will break in pieces
the horse and his rider.
22 With you I will break in pieces
the chariot and him who rides
therein.
With you I will break in pieces
man and woman.
With you I will break in pieces
the old man and the youth.
With you I will break in pieces
the young man and the virgin.
23 With you I will break in pieces
the shepherd and his flock.
With you I will break in pieces
the farmer and his yoke.
With you I will break in pieces
governors and deputies.
24 “I will give to Babylon and to all the
inhabitants of Chaldea all their evil that
they have done in Zion in your sight,” says
the LORD.
25 “Behold, I am against you, destroying
mountain,” says the LORD,
“which destroys all the earth.
I will stretch out my hand on you,
roll you down from the rocks,
and will make you a burned
mountain.
26 They won’t take a cornerstone from
you,
nor a stone for foundations;
but you will be desolate forever,” says
the LORD.

27 “Set up a standard in the land!
Blow the trumpet among the nations!
Prepare the nations against her!
Call together against her the
kingdoms of Ararat, Minni, and
Ashkenaz!
Appoint a marshal against her!
Cause the horses to come up as the
swarming locusts!
28 Prepare against her the nations,
the kings of the Medes, its governors,
and all its deputies, and all the land
of their dominion!
29 The land trembles and is in pain;
for the purposes of the LORD against
Babylon stand,
to make the land of Babylon a
desolation, without inhabitant.
30 The mighty men of Babylon have
stopped fighting,
they remain in their strongholds.
Their might has failed.
They have become as women.
Her dwelling places are set on fire.
Her bars are broken.
31 One runner will run to meet another,
and one messenger to meet another,
to show the king of Babylon that his
city is taken on every quarter.
32 So the passages are seized.
They have burned the reeds with fire.
The men of war are frightened.”
33 For the LORD of Armies, the God of
Israel says:

"The daughter of Babylon is like a
threshing floor at the time when it
is trodden.
Yet a little while, and the time of
harvest comes for her."

34 "Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon
has devoured me.
He has crushed me.
He has made me an empty vessel.
He has, like a monster, swallowed me up.
He has filled his mouth with my
delicacies.
He has cast me out.
35 May the violence done to me and to my
flesh be on Babylon!"
the inhabitant of Zion will say; and,
"May my blood be on the inhabitants of
Chaldea!"
will Jerusalem say.

36 Therefore the LORD says:
"Behold, I will plead your cause,
and take vengeance for you.
I will dry up her sea,
and make her fountain dry.
37 Babylon will become heaps,
a dwelling place for jackals,
an astonishment, and a hissing,
without inhabitant.
38 They will roar together like young lions.
They will growl as lions' cubs.
39 When they are inflamed, I will make
their feast,
and I will make them drunk,
that they may rejoice,
and sleep a perpetual sleep,
and not wake up," says the LORD.

40 "I will bring them down like lambs to
the slaughter,
like rams with male goats.

41 "How Sheshach is taken!
How the praise of the whole earth is
seized!
How Babylon has become a
desolation among the nations!
42 The sea has come up on Babylon.
She is covered with the multitude of
its waves.
43 Her cities have become a desolation,
a dry land, and a desert,
a land in which no man dwells.
No son of man passes by it.
44 I will execute judgment on Bel in
Babylon,
and I will bring out of his mouth that
which he has swallowed up.
The nations will not flow any more to him.
Yes, the wall of Babylon will fall.

45 "My people, go away from the middle of
her,
and each of you save yourselves from
the LORD's fierce anger.
46 Don't let your heart faint.
Don't fear for the news that will be
heard in the land.
For news will come one year,
and after that in another year news
will come,
and violence in the land,
ruler against ruler.
47 Therefore behold, the days come that I
will execute judgment on the
engraved images of Babylon;
and her whole land will be
confounded.
All her slain will fall in the middle of
her.
48 Then the heavens and the earth,
and all that is therein,
will sing for joy over Babylon;
for the destroyers will come to her
from the north," says the LORD.

49 "As Babylon has caused the slain of
Israel to fall,
so the slain of all the land will fall at
Babylon.
50 You who have escaped the sword, go!
Don't stand still!
Remember the LORD from afar,
and let Jerusalem come into your
mind."

51 "We are confounded
because we have heard reproach.
Confusion has covered our faces,
for strangers have come into the
sanctuaries of the LORD's house."

52 "Therefore behold, the days come," says
the LORD,
"that I will execute judgment on her
engraved images;

and through all her land the
wounded will groan.
53 Though Babylon should mount up to the
sky,
and though she should fortify the
height of her strength,
yet destroyers will come to her from
me," says the LORD.

54 "The sound of a cry comes from
Babylon,
and of great destruction from the
land of the Chaldeans!
55 For the LORD lays Babylon waste,
and destroys out of her the great
voice!
Their waves roar like many waters.
The noise of their voice is uttered.
56 For the destroyer has come on her,
even on Babylon.
Her mighty men are taken.
Their bows are broken in pieces,
for the LORD is a God of retribution.
He will surely repay.
57 I will make her princes, her wise men,
her governors, her deputies, and her
mighty men drunk.
They will sleep a perpetual sleep,
and not wake up,"
says the King, whose name is the
LORD of Armies.
58 The LORD of Armies says:
"The wide walls of Babylon will be utterly
overthrown.
Her high gates will be burned with
fire.
The peoples will labor for vanity,
and the nations for the fire;
and they will be weary."
59 The word which Jeremiah the
prophet commanded Seraiah the son of
Neriah, the son of Mahseiah, when he
went with Zedekiah the king of Judah to
Babylon in the fourth year of his reign.
Now Seraiah was chief quartermaster.
60 Jeremiah wrote in a book all the evil
that should come on Babylon, even all
these words that are written concerning
Babylon.
61 Jeremiah said to Seraiah, "When you
come to Babylon, then see that you read
all these words,
62 and say, 'LORD, you have spoken
concerning this place, to cut it off, that no
one will dwell in it, neither man nor
animal, but that it will be desolate
forever.'
63 It will be, when you have finished
reading this book, that you shall bind a
stone to it, and cast it into the middle of
the Euphrates.
64 Then you shall say, 'Thus will Babylon
sink, and will not rise again because of the
evil that I will bring on her; and they will
be weary.' "

Thus far are the words of Jeremiah.

52

1 Zedekiah was twenty-one years old
when he began to reign. He reigned
eleven years in Jerusalem. His mother's
name was Hamutal the daughter of
Jeremiah of Libnah.
2 He did that which was evil in the
LORD's sight, according to all that
Jehoiakim had done.
3 For through the LORD's anger this
happened in Jerusalem and Judah, until
he had cast them out from his presence.

Zedekiah rebelled against the king of
Babylon.
4 In the ninth year of his reign, in the
tenth month, in the tenth day of the
month, Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon
came, he and all his army, against
Jerusalem, and encamped against it; and
they built forts against it round about.
5 So the city was besieged to the
eleventh year of King Zedekiah.

6 In the fourth month, in the ninth day
of the month, the famine was severe in
the city, so that there was no bread for the
people of the land.
7 Then a breach was made in the city,
and all the men of war fled, and went out
of the city by night by the way of the gate
between the two walls, which was by the
king's garden. Now the Chaldeans were
against the city all around. The men of
war went toward the Arabah,
8 but the army of the Chaldeans pursued
the king, and overtook Zedekiah in the

plains of Jericho; and all his army was scattered from him.
9 Then they took the king, and carried him up to the king of Babylon to Riblah in the land of Hamath; and he pronounced judgment on him.
10 The king of Babylon killed the sons of Zedekiah before his eyes. He also killed all the princes of Judah in Riblah.
11 He put out the eyes of Zedekiah; and the king of Babylon bound him in fetters, and carried him to Babylon, and put him in prison until the day of his death.
12 Now in the fifth month, in the tenth day of the month, which was the nineteenth year of King Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard, who stood before the king of Babylon, came into Jerusalem.
13 He burned the LORD's house, and the king's house; and all the houses of Jerusalem, even every great house, he burned with fire.
14 All the army of the Chaldeans, who were with the captain of the guard, broke down all the walls of Jerusalem all around.
15 Then Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard carried away captive of the poorest of the people, and the rest of the people who were left in the city, and those who fell away, who defected to the king of Babylon, and the rest of the multitude.
16 But Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard left of the poorest of the land to be vineyard keepers and farmers.
17 The Chaldeans broke the pillars of bronze that were in the LORD's house and the bases and the bronze sea that were in the LORD's house in pieces, and carried all of their bronze to Babylon.
18 They also took away the pots, the shovels, the snuffers, the basins, the spoons, and all the vessels of bronze with which they ministered.
19 The captain of the guard took away the cups, the fire pans, the basins, the pots, the lamp stands, the spoons, and the bowls; that which was of gold, as gold, and that which was of silver, as silver.
20 They took the two pillars, the one sea, and the twelve bronze bulls that were under the bases, which King Solomon had made for the LORD's house. The bronze of all these vessels was without weight.
21 As for the pillars, the height of the one pillar was eighteen cubits;† and a line of twelve cubits encircled it; and its thickness was four fingers. It was hollow.
22 A capital of bronze was on it; and the height of the one capital was five cubits,‡ with network and pomegranates on the capital all around, all of bronze. The second pillar also had the same, with pomegranates.
23 There were ninety-six pomegranates on the sides; all the pomegranates were one hundred on the network all around.
24 The captain of the guard took Seraiah the chief priest, and Zephaniah the second priest, and the three keepers of the threshold,
25 and out of the city he took an officer who was set over the men of war; and seven men of those who saw the king's face, who were found in the city; and the scribe of the captain of the army, who mustered the people of the land; and sixty men of the people of the land, who were found in the middle of the city.
26 Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard took them, and brought them to the king of Babylon to Riblah.
27 The king of Babylon struck them, and put them to death at Riblah in the land of Hamath.
So Judah was carried away captive out of his land.
28 This is the number of the people whom Nebuchadnezzar carried away captive:
in the seventh year, three thousand twenty-three Jews;
29 in the eighteenth year of Nebuchadnezzar, he carried away captive from Jerusalem eight hundred thirty-two persons;

† **52:21** A cubit is the length from the tip of the middle finger to the elbow on a man's arm, or about 18 inches or 46 centimeters. ‡ **52:22** A cubit is the length from the tip of the middle finger to the elbow on a man's arm, or about 18 inches or 46 centimeters.

30 in the twenty-third year of
Nebuchadnezzar, Nebuzaradan the
captain of the guard carried away captive
of the Jews seven hundred forty-five
people.
All the people numbered four thousand
six hundred.
31 In the thirty-seventh year of the
captivity of Jehoiachin king of Judah, in
the twelfth month, in the twenty-fifth day
of the month, Evilmerodach king of
Babylon, in the first year of his reign,
lifted up the head of Jehoiachin king of
Judah, and released him from prison.
32 He spoke kindly to him, and set his
throne above the throne of the kings who
were with him in Babylon,
33 and changed his prison garments.
Jehoiachin ate bread before him
continually all the days of his life.
34 For his allowance, there was a
continual allowance given him by the
king of Babylon, every day a portion until
the day of his death, all the days of his life.

The Lamentations of Jeremiah

1 How the city sits solitary,
that was full of people!
She has become as a widow,
who was great among the nations!
She who was a princess among the provinces
has become a slave!

2 She weeps bitterly in the night.
Her tears are on her cheeks.
Among all her lovers
she has no one to comfort her.
All her friends have dealt treacherously with her.
They have become her enemies.

3 Judah has gone into captivity because of affliction
and because of great servitude.
She dwells among the nations.
She finds no rest.
All her persecutors overtook her in her distress.

4 The roads to Zion mourn,
because no one comes to the solemn assembly.
All her gates are desolate.
Her priests sigh.
Her virgins are afflicted,
and she herself is in bitterness.

5 Her adversaries have become the head.
Her enemies prosper;
for the LORD† has afflicted her for the multitude of her transgressions.
Her young children have gone into captivity before the adversary.

6 All majesty has departed from the daughter of Zion.
Her princes have become like deer that find no pasture.
They have gone without strength before the pursuer.

7 Jerusalem remembers in the days of her affliction and of her miseries
all her pleasant things that were from the days of old;
when her people fell into the hand of the adversary,
and no one helped her.
The adversaries saw her.
They mocked at her desolations.

8 Jerusalem has grievously sinned.
Therefore she has become unclean.
All who honored her despise her,
because they have seen her nakedness.
Yes, she sighs and turns backward.

9 Her filthiness was in her skirts.
She didn't remember her latter end.
Therefore she has come down astoundingly.
She has no comforter.
"See, LORD, my affliction;
for the enemy has magnified himself."

10 The adversary has spread out his hand on all her pleasant things;
for she has seen that the nations have entered into her sanctuary,
concerning whom you commanded that they should not enter into your assembly.

11 All her people sigh.
They seek bread.
They have given their pleasant things for food to refresh their soul.
"Look, LORD, and see,
for I have become despised."

12 "Is it nothing to you, all you who pass by?
Look, and see if there is any sorrow like my sorrow,
which is brought on me,
with which the LORD has afflicted me in the day of his fierce anger.

13 "From on high has he sent fire into my bones,
and it prevails against them.

† **1:5** When rendered in ALL CAPITAL LETTERS, "LORD" or "GOD" is the translation of God's Proper Name (Hebrew "יהוה", usually pronounced Yahweh).

He has spread a net for my feet.
He has turned me back.
He has made me desolate and I faint all day long.

14 "The yoke of my transgressions is bound by his hand.
They are knit together.
They have come up on my neck.
He made my strength fail.
The Lord‡ has delivered me into their hands,
against whom I am not able to stand.

15 "The Lord has set at nothing all my mighty men within me.
He has called a solemn assembly against me to crush my young men.
The Lord has trodden the virgin daughter of Judah as in a wine press.

16 "For these things I weep.
My eye, my eye runs down with water,
because the comforter who should refresh my soul is far from me.
My children are desolate,
because the enemy has prevailed."

17 Zion spreads out her hands.
There is no one to comfort her.
The LORD has commanded concerning Jacob,
that those who are around him should be his adversaries.
Jerusalem is among them as an unclean thing.

18 "The LORD is righteous,
for I have rebelled against his commandment.
Please hear all you peoples,
and see my sorrow.
My virgins and my young men have gone into captivity.

19 "I called for my lovers,
but they deceived me.
My priests and my elders gave up the spirit in the city,
while they sought food for themselves to refresh their souls.

20 "Look, LORD; for I am in distress.
My heart is troubled.
My heart turns over within me,
for I have grievously rebelled.
Abroad, the sword bereaves.
At home, it is like death.

21 "They have heard that I sigh.
There is no one to comfort me.
All my enemies have heard of my trouble.
They are glad that you have done it.
You will bring the day that you have proclaimed,
and they will be like me.

22 "Let all their wickedness come before you.
Do to them as you have done to me for all my transgressions.
For my sighs are many,
and my heart is faint.

2

1 How has the Lord covered the daughter of Zion with a cloud in his anger!
He has cast the beauty of Israel down from heaven to the earth,
and hasn't remembered his footstool in the day of his anger.

2 The Lord has swallowed up all the dwellings of Jacob
without pity.
He has thrown down in his wrath the strongholds of the daughter of Judah.
He has brought them down to the ground.
He has profaned the kingdom and its princes.

3 He has cut off all the horn of Israel in fierce anger.
He has drawn back his right hand from before the enemy.
He has burned up Jacob like a flaming fire,
which devours all around.

4 He has bent his bow like an enemy.

‡ **1:14** The word translated "Lord" is "Adonai."

He has stood with his right hand as an adversary.
He has killed all that were pleasant to the eye.
In the tent of the daughter of Zion, he has poured out his wrath like fire.

5 The Lord has become as an enemy.
He has swallowed up Israel.
He has swallowed up all her palaces.
He has destroyed his strongholds.
He has multiplied mourning and lamentation in the daughter of Judah.

6 He has violently taken away his tabernacle,
as if it were a garden.
He has destroyed his place of assembly.
The LORD has caused solemn assembly and Sabbath to be forgotten in Zion.
In the indignation of his anger, he has despised the king and the priest.

7 The Lord has cast off his altar.
He has abhorred his sanctuary.
He has given the walls of her palaces into the hand of the enemy.
They have made a noise in the LORD's house,
as in the day of a solemn assembly.

8 The LORD has purposed to destroy the wall of the daughter of Zion.
He has stretched out the line.
He has not withdrawn his hand from destroying;
He has made the rampart and wall lament.
They languish together.

9 Her gates have sunk into the ground.
He has destroyed and broken her bars.
Her king and her princes are among the nations where the law is not.
Yes, her prophets find no vision from the LORD.

10 The elders of the daughter of Zion sit on the ground.
They keep silence.
They have cast up dust on their heads.
They have clothed themselves with sackcloth.
The virgins of Jerusalem hang down their heads to the ground.

11 My eyes fail with tears.
My heart is troubled.
My bile is poured on the earth,
because of the destruction of the daughter of my people,
because the young children and the infants swoon in the streets of the city.

12 They ask their mothers,
"Where is grain and wine?"
when they swoon as the wounded in the streets of the city,
when their soul is poured out into their mothers' bosom.

13 What shall I testify to you?
What shall I liken to you, daughter of Jerusalem?
What shall I compare to you,
that I may comfort you, virgin daughter of Zion?
For your breach is as big as the sea.
Who can heal you?

14 Your prophets have seen false and foolish visions for you.
They have not uncovered your iniquity,
to reverse your captivity,
but have seen for you false revelations and causes of banishment.

15 All that pass by clap their hands at you.
They hiss and wag their head at the daughter of Jerusalem, saying,
"Is this the city that men called 'The perfection of beauty,
the joy of the whole earth'?"

16 All your enemies have opened their mouth wide against you.
They hiss and gnash their teeth.
They say, "We have swallowed her up.
Certainly this is the day that we looked for.

We have found it.
We have seen it."

17 The LORD has done that which he planned.
He has fulfilled his word that he commanded in the days of old.
He has thrown down,
and has not pitied.
He has caused the enemy to rejoice over you.
He has exalted the horn of your adversaries.

18 Their heart cried to the Lord.
O wall of the daughter of Zion,
let tears run down like a river day and night.
Give yourself no relief.
Don't let your eyes rest.

19 Arise, cry out in the night,
at the beginning of the watches!
Pour out your heart like water before the face of the Lord.
Lift up your hands toward him for the life of your young children,
who faint for hunger at the head of every street.

20 "Look, LORD, and see to whom you have done thus!
Should the women eat their offspring,
the children that they held and bounced on their knees?
Should the priest and the prophet be killed in the sanctuary of the Lord?

21 "The youth and the old man lie on the ground in the streets.
My virgins and my young men have fallen by the sword.
You have killed them in the day of your anger.
You have slaughtered, and not pitied.

22 "You have called, as in the day of a solemn assembly, my terrors on every side.
There was no one that escaped or remained in the day of the LORD's anger.
My enemy has consumed those whom I have cared for and brought up.

3

1 I am the man who has seen affliction by the rod of his wrath.
2 He has led me and caused me to walk in darkness,
and not in light.
3 Surely he turns his hand against me again and again all day long.

4 He has made my flesh and my skin old.
He has broken my bones.
5 He has built against me,
and surrounded me with bitterness and hardship.
6 He has made me dwell in dark places,
as those who have been long dead.

7 He has walled me about, so that I can't go out.
He has made my chain heavy.
8 Yes, when I cry, and call for help,
he shuts out my prayer.
9 He has walled up my ways with cut stone.
He has made my paths crooked.

10 He is to me as a bear lying in wait,
as a lion in hiding.
11 He has turned away my path,
and pulled me in pieces.
He has made me desolate.
12 He has bent his bow,
and set me as a mark for the arrow.

13 He has caused the shafts of his quiver to enter into my kidneys.
14 I have become a derision to all my people,
and their song all day long.
15 He has filled me with bitterness.
He has stuffed me with wormwood.

16 He has also broken my teeth with gravel.
He has covered me with ashes.
17 You have removed my soul far away from peace.
I forgot prosperity.
18 I said, "My strength has perished,

along with my expectation from the
LORD.”

19 Remember my affliction and my misery,
the wormwood and the bitterness.
20 My soul still remembers them,
and is bowed down within me.
21 This I recall to my mind;
therefore I have hope.

22 It is because of the LORD’s loving
kindnesses that we are not
consumed,
because his mercies don’t fail.
23 They are new every morning.
Great is your faithfulness.
24 “The LORD is my portion,” says my soul.
“Therefore I will hope in him.”

25 The LORD is good to those who wait for
him,
to the soul who seeks him.
26 It is good that a man should hope
and quietly wait for the salvation of
the LORD.
27 It is good for a man that he bear the
yoke in his youth.

28 Let him sit alone and keep silence,
because he has laid it on him.
29 Let him put his mouth in the dust,
if it is so that there may be hope.
30 Let him give his cheek to him who
strikes him.
Let him be filled full of reproach.

31 For the Lord will not cast off forever.
32 For though he causes grief,
yet he will have compassion
according to the multitude of his
loving kindnesses.
33 For he does not afflict willingly,
nor grieve the children of men.

34 To crush under foot all the prisoners of
the earth,
35 to turn away the right of a man
before the face of the Most High,
36 to subvert a man in his cause, the
Lord doesn’t approve.

37 Who is he who says, and it comes to
pass,
when the Lord doesn’t command it?
38 Doesn’t evil and good come out of the
mouth of the Most High?
39 Why should a living man complain,
a man for the punishment of his sins?

40 Let us search and try our ways,
and turn again to the LORD.
41 Let’s lift up our heart with our hands to
God† in the heavens.
42 “We have transgressed and have
rebelled.
You have not pardoned.

43 “You have covered us with anger and
pursued us.
You have killed.
You have not pitied.
44 You have covered yourself with a cloud,
so that no prayer can pass through.
45 You have made us an off-scouring and
refuse
in the middle of the peoples.

46 “All our enemies have opened their
mouth wide against us.
47 Terror and the pit have come on us,
devastation and destruction.”

48 My eye runs down with streams of
water,
for the destruction of the daughter of
my people.
49 My eye pours down
and doesn’t cease,
without any intermission,
50 until the LORD looks down,
and sees from heaven.
51 My eye affects my soul,
because of all the daughters of my
city.

52 They have chased me relentlessly like a
bird,
those who are my enemies without
cause.
53 They have cut off my life in the
dungeon,
and have cast a stone on me.
54 Waters flowed over my head.

† **3:41** The Hebrew word rendered “God” is “אֱלֹהִים” (Elohim).

I said, “I am cut off.”

55 I called on your name, LORD,
out of the lowest dungeon.
56 You heard my voice:
“Don’t hide your ear from my sighing,
and my cry.”

57 You came near in the day that I called on you.
You said, “Don’t be afraid.”

58 Lord, you have pleaded the causes of my soul.
You have redeemed my life.
59 LORD, you have seen my wrong.
Judge my cause.
60 You have seen all their vengeance
and all their plans against me.

61 You have heard their reproach, LORD,
and all their plans against me,
62 the lips of those that rose up against me,
and their plots against me all day long.
63 You see their sitting down and their rising up.
I am their song.

64 You will pay them back, LORD,
according to the work of their hands.
65 You will give them hardness of heart,
your curse to them.
66 You will pursue them in anger,
and destroy them from under the heavens of the LORD.

4

1 How the gold has become dim!
The most pure gold has changed!
The stones of the sanctuary are poured out
at the head of every street.

2 The precious sons of Zion,
comparable to fine gold,
how they are esteemed as earthen pitchers,
the work of the hands of the potter!

3 Even the jackals offer their breast.
They nurse their young ones.
But the daughter of my people has become cruel,
like the ostriches in the wilderness.

4 The tongue of the nursing child clings to the roof of his mouth for thirst.
The young children ask for bread,
and no one breaks it for them.

5 Those who ate delicacies are desolate in the streets.
Those who were brought up in purple embrace dunghills.

6 For the iniquity of the daughter of my people is greater than the sin of Sodom,
which was overthrown as in a moment.
No hands were laid on her.

7 Her nobles were purer than snow.
They were whiter than milk.
They were more ruddy in body than rubies.
Their polishing was like sapphire.

8 Their appearance is blacker than a coal.
They are not known in the streets.
Their skin clings to their bones.
It is withered.
It has become like wood.

9 Those who are killed with the sword are better than those who are killed with hunger;
for these pine away, stricken through,
for lack of the fruits of the field.

10 The hands of the pitiful women have boiled their own children.
They were their food in the destruction of the daughter of my people.

11 The LORD has accomplished his wrath.
He has poured out his fierce anger.
He has kindled a fire in Zion,
which has devoured its foundations.

12 The kings of the earth didn’t believe,
neither did all the inhabitants of the world,

that the adversary and the enemy
would enter into the gates of
Jerusalem.

13 It is because of the sins of her prophets
and the iniquities of her priests,
that have shed the blood of the just in
the middle of her.

14 They wander as blind men in the
streets.
They are polluted with blood,
So that men can't touch their
garments.

15 "Go away!" they cried to them.
"Unclean! Go away! Go away! Don't
touch!
When they fled away and wandered, men
said among the nations,
"They can't live here any more."

16 The LORD's anger has scattered them.
He will not pay attention to them any
more.
They didn't respect the persons of the
priests.
They didn't favor the elders.

17 Our eyes still fail,
looking in vain for our help.
In our watching we have watched for
a nation that could not save.

18 They hunt our steps,
so that we can't go in our streets.
Our end is near.
Our days are fulfilled,
for our end has come.

19 Our pursuers were swifter than the
eagles of the sky.
They chased us on the mountains.
They set an ambush for us in the
wilderness.

20 The breath of our nostrils,
the anointed of the LORD,
was taken in their pits;
of whom we said,
under his shadow we will live among
the nations.

21 Rejoice and be glad, daughter of Edom,
who dwells in the land of Uz.
The cup will pass through to you also.
You will be drunken,
and will make yourself naked.

22 The punishment of your iniquity is
accomplished, daughter of Zion.
He will no more carry you away into
captivity.
He will visit your iniquity, daughter of
Edom.
He will uncover your sins.

5

1 Remember, LORD, what has come on us.
Look, and see our reproach.
2 Our inheritance has been turned over to
strangers,
our houses to aliens.
3 We are orphans and fatherless.
Our mothers are as widows.
4 We must pay for water to drink.
Our wood is sold to us.
5 Our pursuers are on our necks.
We are weary, and have no rest.
6 We have given our hands to the
Egyptians,
and to the Assyrians, to be satisfied
with bread.
7 Our fathers sinned, and are no more.
We have borne their iniquities.
8 Servants rule over us.
There is no one to deliver us out of
their hand.
9 We get our bread at the peril of our lives,
because of the sword in the
wilderness.
10 Our skin is black like an oven,
because of the burning heat of
famine.
11 They ravished the women in Zion,
the virgins in the cities of Judah.
12 Princes were hanged up by their hands.
The faces of elders were not honored.
13 The young men carry millstones.
The children stumbled under loads of
wood.
14 The elders have ceased from the gate,
and the young men from their music.
15 The joy of our heart has ceased.
Our dance is turned into mourning.
16 The crown has fallen from our head.
Woe to us, for we have sinned!
17 For this our heart is faint.

For these things our eyes are dim:
18 for the mountain of Zion, which is
desolate.
The foxes walk on it.

19 You, LORD, remain forever.
Your throne is from generation to
generation.
20 Why do you forget us forever,
and forsake us for so long a time?
21 Turn us to yourself, LORD, and we will
be turned.
Renew our days as of old.
22 But you have utterly rejected us.
You are very angry against us.

The Book of Ezekiel

1 Now in the thirtieth year, in the fourth
month, in the fifth day of the month, as I
was among the captives by the river
Chebar, the heavens were opened, and I
saw visions of God.†
2 In the fifth of the month, which was
the fifth year of King Jehoiachin's
captivity,
3 the LORD's‡ word came to Ezekiel the
priest, the son of Buzi, in the land of the
Chaldeans by the river Chebar; and the
LORD's hand was there on him.
4 I looked, and behold,§ a stormy wind
came out of the north: a great cloud, with
flashing lightning, and a brightness
around it, and out of the middle of it as it
were glowing metal, out of the middle of
the fire.
5 Out of its center came the likeness of
four living creatures. This was their
appearance: They had the likeness of a
man.
6 Everyone had four faces, and each one
of them had four wings.
7 Their feet were straight feet. The sole
of their feet was like the sole of a calf's
foot; and they sparkled like burnished
bronze.
8 They had the hands of a man under
their wings on their four sides. The four of
them had their faces and their wings like
this:
9 Their wings were joined to one
another. They didn't turn when they
went. Each one went straight forward.
10 As for the likeness of their faces, they
had the face of a man. The four of them
had the face of a lion on the right side. The
four of them had the face of an ox on the
left side. The four of them also had the
face of an eagle.
11 Such were their faces. Their wings
were spread out above. Two wings of
each one touched another, and two
covered their bodies.
12 Each one went straight forward.
Where the spirit was to go, they went.
They didn't turn when they went.
13 As for the likeness of the living
creatures, their appearance was like
burning coals of fire, like the appearance
of torches. The fire went up and down
among the living creatures. The fire was
bright, and lightning went out of the fire.
14 The living creatures ran and returned
as the appearance of a flash of lightning.
15 Now as I saw the living creatures,
behold, there was one wheel on the earth
beside the living creatures, for each of the
four faces of it.
16 The appearance of the wheels and
their work was like a beryl. The four of
them had one likeness. Their appearance
and their work was as it were a wheel
within a wheel.
17 When they went, they went in their
four directions. They didn't turn when
they went.
18 As for their rims, they were high and
dreadful; and the four of them had their
rims full of eyes all around.
19 When the living creatures went, the
wheels went beside them. When the
living creatures were lifted up from the
earth, the wheels were lifted up.
20 Wherever the spirit was to go, they
went. The spirit was to go there. The
wheels were lifted up beside them; for the
spirit of the living creature was in the
wheels.
21 When those went, these went. When
those stood, these stood. When those were
lifted up from the earth, the wheels were
lifted up beside them; for the spirit of the
living creature was in the wheels.
22 Over the head of the living creature
there was the likeness of an expanse, like
an awesome crystal to look at, stretched
out over their heads above.
23 Under the expanse, their wings were
straight, one toward the other. Each one

† **1:1** The Hebrew word rendered "God" is "אֱלֹהִים" (Elohim). ‡ **1:3** When rendered in ALL CAPITAL LETTERS, "LORD" or "GOD" is the translation of God's Proper Name (Hebrew "יהוה", usually pronounced Yahweh). § **1:4** "Behold", from "הִנֵּה", means look at, take notice, observe, see, or gaze at. It is often used as an interjection.

had two which covered on this side, and each one had two which covered their bodies on that side.
24 When they went, I heard the noise of their wings like the noise of great waters, like the voice of the Almighty, a noise of tumult like the noise of an army. When they stood, they let down their wings.
25 There was a voice above the expanse that was over their heads. When they stood, they let down their wings.
26 Above the expanse that was over their heads was the likeness of a throne, as the appearance of a sapphire† stone. On the likeness of the throne was a likeness as the appearance of a man on it above.
27 I saw as it were glowing metal, as the appearance of fire within it all around, from the appearance of his waist and upward; and from the appearance of his waist and downward I saw as it were the appearance of fire, and there was brightness around him.
28 As the appearance of the rainbow that is in the cloud in the day of rain, so was the appearance of the brightness all around.
This was the appearance of the likeness of the LORD's glory. When I saw it, I fell on my face, and I heard a voice of one that spoke.

2

1 He said to me, "Son of man, stand on your feet, and I will speak with you."
2 The Spirit entered into me when he spoke to me, and set me on my feet; and I heard him who spoke to me.
3 He said to me, "Son of man, I send you to the children of Israel, to a nation of rebels who have rebelled against me. They and their fathers have transgressed against me even to this very day.
4 The children are impudent and stiff-hearted. I am sending you to them, and you shall tell them, 'This is what the Lord† GOD says.'
5 They, whether they will hear, or whether they will refuse—for they are a rebellious house—yet they will know that there has been a prophet among them.
6 You, son of man, don't be afraid of them, neither be afraid of their words, though briers and thorns are with you, and you dwell among scorpions. Don't be afraid of their words, nor be dismayed at their looks, though they are a rebellious house.
7 You shall speak my words to them, whether they will hear or whether they will refuse; for they are most rebellious.
8 But you, son of man, hear what I tell you. Don't be rebellious like that rebellious house. Open your mouth, and eat that which I give you."
9 When I looked, behold, a hand was stretched out to me; and behold, a scroll of a book was in it.
10 He spread it before me. It was written within and without; and lamentations, mourning, and woe were written in it.

3

1 He said to me, "Son of man, eat what you find. Eat this scroll, and go, speak to the house of Israel."
2 So I opened my mouth, and he caused me to eat the scroll.
3 He said to me, "Son of man, eat this scroll that I give you and fill your belly and your bowels with it."
Then I ate it. It was as sweet as honey in my mouth.
4 He said to me, "Son of man, go to the house of Israel, and speak my words to them.
5 For you are not sent to a people of a strange speech and of a hard language, but to the house of Israel—
6 not to many peoples of a strange speech and of a hard language, whose words you can't understand. Surely, if I sent you to them, they would listen to you.
7 But the house of Israel will not listen to you, for they will not listen to me; for all the house of Israel are obstinate† and hard-hearted.
8 Behold, I have made your face hard against their faces, and your forehead hard against their foreheads.

† **1:26** or, lapis lazuli † **2:4** The word translated "Lord" is "Adonai." † **3:7** Literally, have a hard forehead

9 I have made your forehead as a
diamond, harder than flint. Don't be
afraid of them, neither be dismayed at
their looks, though they are a rebellious
house."
10 Moreover he said to me, "Son of man,
receive in your heart and hear with your
ears all my words that I speak to you.
11 Go to them of the captivity, to the
children of your people, and speak to
them, and tell them, 'This is what the Lord
GOD says,' whether they will hear, or
whether they will refuse."
12 Then the Spirit lifted me up, and I
heard behind me the voice of a great
rushing, saying, "Blessed be the LORD's
glory from his place."
13 I heard the noise of the wings of the
living creatures as they touched one
another, and the noise of the wheels
beside them, even the noise of a great
rushing.
14 So the Spirit lifted me up, and took me
away; and I went in bitterness, in the heat
of my spirit; and the LORD's hand was
strong on me.
15 Then I came to them of the captivity
at Tel Aviv who lived by the river Chebar,
and to where they lived; and I sat there
overwhelmed among them seven days.
16 At the end of seven days, the LORD's
word came to me, saying,
17 "Son of man, I have made you a
watchman to the house of Israel.
Therefore hear the word from my mouth,
and warn them from me.
18 When I tell the wicked, 'You will
surely die;' and you give him no warning,
nor speak to warn the wicked from his
wicked way, to save his life, that wicked
man will die in his iniquity; but I will
require his blood at your hand.
19 Yet if you warn the wicked, and he
doesn't turn from his wickedness, nor
from his wicked way, he will die in his
iniquity; but you have delivered your
soul."
20 "Again, when a righteous man turns
from his righteousness and commits
iniquity, and I lay a stumbling block
before him, he will die. Because you have
not given him warning, he will die in his
sin, and his righteous deeds which he has
done will not be remembered; but I will
require his blood at your hand.
21 Nevertheless if you warn the
righteous man, that the righteous not sin,
and he does not sin, he will surely live,
because he took warning; and you have
delivered your soul."
22 The LORD's hand was there on me;
and he said to me, "Arise, go out into the
plain, and I will talk with you there."
23 Then I arose, and went out into the
plain, and behold, the LORD's glory stood
there, like the glory which I saw by the
river Chebar. Then I fell on my face.
24 Then the Spirit entered into me and
set me on my feet. He spoke with me, and
said to me, "Go, shut yourself inside your
house.
25 But you, son of man, behold, they will
put ropes on you, and will bind you with
them, and you will not go out among
them.
26 I will make your tongue stick to the
roof of your mouth so that you will be
mute and will not be able to correct them,
for they are a rebellious house.
27 But when I speak with you, I will open
your mouth, and you shall tell them, 'This
is what the Lord GOD says.' He who hears,
let him hear; and he who refuses, let him
refuse; for they are a rebellious house."

4

1 "You also, son of man, take a tile, and
lay it before yourself, and portray on it a
city, even Jerusalem.
2 Lay siege against it, build forts against
it, and cast up a mound against it. Also set
camps against it and plant battering rams
against it all around.
3 Take for yourself an iron pan and set it
for a wall of iron between you and the
city. Then set your face toward it. It will
be besieged, and you shall lay siege
against it. This shall be a sign to the house
of Israel.
4 "Moreover lie on your left side, and lay
the iniquity of the house of Israel on it.
According to the number of the days that

you shall lie on it, you shall bear their iniquity.
5 For I have appointed the years of their iniquity to be to you a number of days, even three hundred ninety days. So you shall bear the iniquity of the house of Israel.
6 "Again, when you have accomplished these, you shall lie on your right side, and shall bear the iniquity of the house of Judah. I have appointed forty days, each day for a year, to you.
7 You shall set your face toward the siege of Jerusalem, with your arm uncovered; and you shall prophesy against it.
8 Behold, I put ropes on you, and you shall not turn yourself from one side to the other, until you have accomplished the days of your siege.
9 "Take for yourself also wheat, barley, beans, lentils, millet, and spelt, and put them in one vessel. Make bread of it. According to the number of the days that you will lie on your side, even three hundred ninety days, you shall eat of it.
10 Your food which you shall eat shall be by weight, twenty shekels† a day. From time to time you shall eat it.
11 You shall drink water by measure, the sixth part of a hin.‡ From time to time you shall drink.
12 You shall eat it as barley cakes, and you shall bake it in their sight with dung that comes out of man."
13 The LORD said, "Even thus will the children of Israel eat their bread unclean, among the nations where I will drive them."
14 Then I said, "Ah Lord GOD! Behold, my soul has not been polluted; for from my youth up even until now I have not eaten of that which dies of itself, or is torn of animals. No abominable meat has come into my mouth!"
15 Then he said to me, "Behold, I have given you cow's dung for man's dung, and you shall prepare your bread on it."
16 Moreover he said to me, "Son of man, behold, I will break the staff of bread in Jerusalem. They will eat bread by weight, and with fearfulness. They will drink water by measure, and in dismay;
17 that they may lack bread and water, be dismayed one with another, and pine away in their iniquity.

5

1 "You, son of man, take a sharp sword. You shall take it as a barber's razor to yourself, and shall cause it to pass over your head and over your beard. Then take balances to weigh and divide the hair.
2 A third part you shall burn in the fire in the middle of the city, when the days of the siege are fulfilled. You shall take a third part, and strike with the sword around it. A third part you shall scatter to the wind, and I will draw out a sword after them.
3 You shall take a small number of these and bind them in the folds of your robe.
4 Of these again you shall take, and cast them into the middle of the fire, and burn them in the fire. From it a fire will come out into all the house of Israel.
5 "The Lord GOD says: 'This is Jerusalem. I have set her in the middle of the nations, and countries are around her.
6 She has rebelled against my ordinances in doing wickedness more than the nations, and against my statutes more than the countries that are around her; for they have rejected my ordinances, and as for my statutes, they have not walked in them.'
7 "Therefore the Lord GOD says: 'Because you are more turbulent than the nations that are around you, and have not walked in my statutes, neither have kept my ordinances, neither have followed the ordinances of the nations that are around you;
8 therefore the Lord GOD says: 'Behold, I, even I, am against you; and I will execute judgments among you in the sight of the nations.
9 I will do in you that which I have not done, and which I will not do anything like it any more, because of all your abominations.

† **4:10** A shekel is about 10 grams or about 0.35 ounces.
‡ **4:11** A hin is about 6.5 liters or 1.7 gallons.

10 Therefore the fathers will eat the sons
within you, and the sons will eat their
fathers. I will execute judgments on you;
and I will scatter the whole remnant of
you to all the winds.
11 Therefore as I live,' says the Lord
GOD, 'surely, because you have defiled my
sanctuary with all your detestable things,
and with all your abominations, therefore
I will also diminish you. My eye won't
spare, and I will have no pity.
12 A third part of you will die with the
pestilence, and they will be consumed
with famine within you. A third part will
fall by the sword around you. A third part
I will scatter to all the winds, and will
draw out a sword after them.
13 " 'Thus my anger will be
accomplished, and I will cause my wrath
toward them to rest, and I will be
comforted. They will know that I, the
LORD, have spoken in my zeal, when I
have accomplished my wrath on them.
14 " 'Moreover I will make you a
desolation and a reproach among the
nations that are around you, in the sight
of all that pass by.
15 So it will be a reproach and a taunt,
an instruction and an astonishment, to
the nations that are around you, when I
execute judgments on you in anger and in
wrath, and in wrathful rebukes—I, the
LORD, have spoken it—
16 when I send on them the evil arrows
of famine that are for destruction, which I
will send to destroy you. I will increase
the famine on you and will break your
staff of bread.
17 I will send on you famine and evil
animals, and they will bereave you.
Pestilence and blood will pass through
you. I will bring the sword on you. I, the
LORD, have spoken it.' "

6

1 The LORD's word came to me, saying,
2 "Son of man, set your face toward the
mountains of Israel, and prophesy to
them,
3 and say, 'You mountains of Israel, hear
the word of the Lord GOD! The Lord GOD
says to the mountains and to the hills, to
the watercourses and to the valleys:
"Behold, I, even I, will bring a sword on
you, and I will destroy your high places.
4 Your altars will become desolate, and
your incense altars will be broken. I will
cast down your slain men before your
idols.
5 I will lay the dead bodies of the
children of Israel before their idols. I will
scatter your bones around your altars.
6 In all your dwelling places, the cities
will be laid waste and the high places will
be desolate, so that your altars may be
laid waste and made desolate, and your
idols may be broken and cease, and your
incense altars may be cut down, and your
works may be abolished.
7 The slain will fall among you, and you
will know that I am the LORD.
8 " ' "Yet I will leave a remnant, in that
you will have some that escape the sword
among the nations, when you are
scattered through the countries.
9 Those of you that escape will
remember me among the nations where
they are carried captive, how I have been
broken with their lewd heart, which has
departed from me, and with their eyes,
which play the prostitute after their idols.
Then they will loathe themselves in their
own sight for the evils which they have
committed in all their abominations.
10 They will know that I am the LORD. I
have not said in vain that I would do this
evil to them." '
11 "The Lord GOD says: 'Strike with your
hand, and stamp with your foot, and say,
"Alas!", because of all the evil
abominations of the house of Israel; for
they will fall by the sword, by the famine,
and by the pestilence.
12 He who is far off will die of the
pestilence. He who is near will fall by the
sword. He who remains and is besieged
will die by the famine. Thus I will
accomplish my wrath on them.
13 You will know that I am the LORD
when their slain men are among their
idols around their altars, on every high
hill, on all the tops of the mountains,
under every green tree, and under every

thick oak—the places where they offered pleasant aroma to all their idols.
14 I will stretch out my hand on them and make the land desolate and waste, from the wilderness toward Diblah, throughout all their habitations. Then they will know that I am the LORD.' "

7

1 Moreover the LORD's word came to me, saying,
2 "You, son of man, the Lord GOD says to the land of Israel, 'An end! The end has come on the four corners of the land.
3 Now the end is on you, and I will send my anger on you, and will judge you according to your ways. I will bring on you all your abominations.
4 My eye will not spare you, neither will I have pity; but I will bring your ways on you, and your abominations will be among you. Then you will know that I am the LORD.'
5 "The Lord GOD says: 'A disaster! A unique disaster! Behold, it comes.
6 An end has come. The end has come! It awakes against you. Behold, it comes.
7 Your doom has come to you, inhabitant of the land! The time has come! The day is near, a day of tumult, and not of joyful shouting, on the mountains.
8 Now I will shortly pour out my wrath on you, and accomplish my anger against you, and will judge you according to your ways. I will bring on you all your abominations.
9 My eye won't spare, neither will I have pity. I will punish you according to your ways. Your abominations will be among you. Then you will know that I, the LORD, strike.
10 " 'Behold, the day! Behold, it comes! Your doom has gone out. The rod has blossomed. Pride has budded.
11 Violence has risen up into a rod of wickedness. None of them will remain, nor of their multitude, nor of their wealth. There will be nothing of value among them.
12 The time has come! The day draws near. Don't let the buyer rejoice, nor the seller mourn; for wrath is on all its multitude.
13 For the seller won't return to that which is sold, although they are still alive; for the vision concerns the whole multitude of it. None will return. None will strengthen himself in the iniquity of his life.
14 They have blown the trumpet, and have made all ready; but no one goes to the battle, for my wrath is on all its multitude.
15 " 'The sword is outside, and the pestilence and the famine within. He who is in the field will die by the sword. He who is in the city will be devoured by famine and pestilence.
16 But of those who escape, they will escape and will be on the mountains like doves of the valleys, all of them moaning, everyone in his iniquity.
17 All hands will be feeble, and all knees will be weak as water.
18 They will also clothe themselves with sackcloth, and horror will cover them. Shame will be on all faces, and baldness on all their heads.
19 They will cast their silver in the streets, and their gold will be as an unclean thing. Their silver and their gold won't be able to deliver them in the day of the LORD's wrath. They won't satisfy their souls or fill their bellies; because it has been the stumbling block of their iniquity.
20 As for the beauty of his ornament, he set it in majesty; but they made the images of their abominations and their detestable things therein. Therefore I have made it to them as an unclean thing.
21 I will give it into the hands of the strangers for a prey, and to the wicked of the earth for a plunder; and they will profane it.
22 I will also turn my face from them, and they will profane my secret place. Robbers will enter into it, and profane it.
23 " 'Make chains, for the land is full of bloody crimes, and the city is full of violence.
24 Therefore I will bring the worst of the nations, and they will possess their houses. I will also make the pride of the

strong to cease. Their holy places will be profaned.
25 Destruction comes! They will seek peace, and there will be none.
26 Mischief will come on mischief, and rumor will be on rumor. They will seek a vision of the prophet; but the law will perish from the priest, and counsel from the elders.
27 The king will mourn, and the prince will be clothed with desolation. The hands of the people of the land will be troubled. I will do to them after their way, and according to their own judgments I will judge them. Then they will know that I am the LORD.' "

8

1 In the sixth year, in the sixth month, in the fifth day of the month, as I sat in my house, and the elders of Judah sat before me, the Lord GOD's hand fell on me there.
2 Then I saw, and behold, a likeness as the appearance of fire—from the appearance of his waist and downward, fire, and from his waist and upward, as the appearance of brightness, as it were glowing metal.
3 He stretched out the form of a hand, and took me by a lock of my head; and the Spirit lifted me up between earth and the sky, and brought me in the visions of God to Jerusalem, to the door of the gate of the inner court that looks toward the north, where there was the seat of the image of jealousy, which provokes to jealousy.
4 Behold, the glory of the God of Israel was there, according to the appearance that I saw in the plain.
5 Then he said to me, "Son of man, lift up your eyes now the way toward the north."
So I lifted up my eyes the way toward the north, and saw, northward of the gate of the altar this image of jealousy in the entry.
6 He said to me, "Son of man, do you see what they do? Even the great abominations that the house of Israel commit here, that I should go far off from my sanctuary? But you will again see yet other great abominations."
7 He brought me to the door of the court; and when I looked, behold, a hole in the wall.
8 Then he said to me, "Son of man, dig now in the wall."
When I had dug in the wall, I saw a door.
9 He said to me, "Go in, and see the wicked abominations that they do here."
10 So I went in and looked, and saw every form of creeping things, abominable animals, and all the idols of the house of Israel, portrayed around on the wall.
11 Seventy men of the elders of the house of Israel stood before them. In the middle of them Jaazaniah the son of Shaphan stood, every man with his censer in his hand; and the smell of the cloud of incense went up.
12 Then he said to me, "Son of man, have you seen what the elders of the house of Israel do in the dark, every man in his rooms of imagery? For they say, 'The LORD doesn't see us. The LORD has forsaken the land.' "
13 He said also to me, "You will again see more of the great abominations which they do."
14 Then he brought me to the door of the gate of the LORD's house which was toward the north; and I saw the women sit there weeping for Tammuz.
15 Then he said to me, "Have you seen this, son of man? You will again see yet greater abominations than these."
16 He brought me into the inner court of the LORD's house; and I saw at the door of the LORD's temple, between the porch and the altar, there were about twenty-five men with their backs toward the LORD's temple and their faces toward the east. They were worshiping the sun toward the east.
17 Then he said to me, "Have you seen this, son of man? Is it a light thing to the house of Judah that they commit the abominations which they commit here? For they have filled the land with violence, and have turned again to provoke me to anger. Behold, they put the branch to their nose.

18 Therefore I will also deal in wrath.
My eye won't spare, neither will I have
pity. Though they cry in my ears with a
loud voice, yet I will not hear them."

9

1 Then he cried in my ears with a loud
voice, saying, "Cause those who are in
charge of the city to draw near, each man
with his destroying weapon in his hand."
2 Behold, six men came from the way of
the upper gate, which lies toward the
north, every man with his slaughter
weapon in his hand. One man in the
middle of them was clothed in linen, with
a writer's inkhorn by his side. They went
in, and stood beside the bronze altar.
3 The glory of the God of Israel went up
from the cherub, whereupon it was, to the
threshold of the house; and he called to
the man clothed in linen, who had the
writer's inkhorn by his side.
4 The LORD said to him, "Go through the
middle of the city, through the middle of
Jerusalem, and set a mark on the
foreheads of the men that sigh and that
cry over all the abominations that are
done within it."
5 To the others he said in my hearing,
"Go through the city after him, and strike.
Don't let your eye spare, neither have pity.
6 Kill utterly the old man, the young
man, the virgin, little children and
women; but don't come near any man on
whom is the mark. Begin at my
sanctuary."
Then they began at the old men who
were before the house.
7 He said to them, "Defile the house, and
fill the courts with the slain. Go out!"
They went out, and struck in the city.
8 While they were killing, and I was left,
I fell on my face, and cried, and said, "Ah
Lord GOD! Will you destroy all the residue
of Israel in your pouring out of your
wrath on Jerusalem?"
9 Then he said to me, "The iniquity of
the house of Israel and Judah is
exceedingly great, and the land is full of
blood, and the city full of perversion; for
they say, 'The LORD has forsaken the land,
and the LORD doesn't see.'
10 As for me also, my eye won't spare,
neither will I have pity, but I will bring
their way on their head."
11 Behold, the man clothed in linen, who
had the inkhorn by his side, reported the
matter, saying, "I have done as you have
commanded me."

10

1 Then I looked, and see, in the expanse
that was over the head of the cherubim
there appeared above them as it were a
sapphire† stone, as the appearance of the
likeness of a throne.
2 He spoke to the man clothed in linen,
and said, "Go in between the whirling
wheels, even under the cherub, and fill
both your hands with coals of fire from
between the cherubim, and scatter them
over the city."
He went in as I watched.
3 Now the cherubim stood on the right
side of the house when the man went in;
and the cloud filled the inner court.
4 The LORD's glory mounted up from
the cherub, and stood over the threshold
of the house; and the house was filled
with the cloud, and the court was full of
the brightness of the LORD's glory.
5 The sound of the wings of the
cherubim was heard even to the outer
court, as the voice of God Almighty when
he speaks.
6 It came to pass, when he commanded
the man clothed in linen, saying, "Take
fire from between the whirling wheels,
from between the cherubim," that he
went in and stood beside a wheel.
7 The cherub stretched out his hand
from between the cherubim to the fire
that was between the cherubim, and took
some of it, and put it into the hands of him
who was clothed in linen, who took it and
went out.
8 The form of a man's hand appeared
here in the cherubim under their wings.
9 I looked, and behold, there were four
wheels beside the cherubim, one wheel
beside one cherub, and another wheel

† **10:1** or, lapis lazuli

beside another cherub. The appearance of the wheels was like a beryl stone.
10 As for their appearance, the four of them had one likeness, like a wheel within a wheel.
11 When they went, they went in their four directions. They didn't turn as they went, but to the place where the head looked they followed it. They didn't turn as they went.
12 Their whole body, including their backs, their hands, their wings, and the wheels, were full of eyes all around, even the wheels that the four of them had.
13 As for the wheels, they were called in my hearing, "the whirling wheels".
14 Every one of them had four faces. The first face was the face of the cherub. The second face was the face of a man. The third face was the face of a lion. The fourth was the face of an eagle.
15 The cherubim mounted up. This is the living creature that I saw by the river Chebar.
16 When the cherubim went, the wheels went beside them; and when the cherubim lifted up their wings to mount up from the earth, the wheels also didn't turn from beside them.
17 When they stood, these stood. When they mounted up, these mounted up with them; for the spirit of the living creature was in them.
18 The LORD's glory went out from over the threshold of the house and stood over the cherubim.
19 The cherubim lifted up their wings and mounted up from the earth in my sight when they went out, with the wheels beside them. Then they stood at the door of the east gate of the LORD's house; and the glory of the God of Israel was over them above.
20 This is the living creature that I saw under the God of Israel by the river Chebar; and I knew that they were cherubim.
21 Every one had four faces, and every one four wings. The likeness of the hands of a man was under their wings.
22 As for the likeness of their faces, they were the faces which I saw by the river Chebar, their appearances and themselves. They each went straight forward.

11

1 Moreover the Spirit lifted me up and brought me to the east gate of the LORD's house, which looks eastward. Behold, twenty-five men were at the door of the gate; and I saw among them Jaazaniah the son of Azzur, and Pelatiah the son of Benaiah, princes of the people.
2 He said to me, "Son of man, these are the men who devise iniquity, and who give wicked counsel in this city;
3 who say, 'The time is not near to build houses. This is the cauldron, and we are the meat.'
4 Therefore prophesy against them. Prophesy, son of man."

5 The LORD's Spirit fell on me, and he said to me, "Speak, 'The LORD says: "Thus you have said, house of Israel; for I know the things that come into your mind.
6 You have multiplied your slain in this city, and you have filled its streets with the slain."
7 " 'Therefore the Lord GOD says: "Your slain whom you have laid in the middle of it, they are the meat, and this is the cauldron; but you will be brought out of the middle of it.
8 You have feared the sword; and I will bring the sword on you," says the Lord GOD.
9 "I will bring you out of the middle of it, and deliver you into the hands of strangers, and will execute judgments among you.
10 You will fall by the sword. I will judge you in the border of Israel. Then you will know that I am the LORD.
11 This will not be your cauldron, neither will you be the meat in the middle of it. I will judge you in the border of Israel.
12 You will know that I am the LORD, for you have not walked in my statutes. You have not executed my ordinances, but have done after the ordinances of the nations that are around you." ' "

13 When I prophesied, Pelatiah the son
of Benaiah died. Then I fell down on my
face, and cried with a loud voice, and said,
"Ah Lord GOD! Will you make a full end of
the remnant of Israel?"
14 The LORD's word came to me, saying,
15 "Son of man, your brothers, even
your brothers, the men of your relatives,
and all the house of Israel, all of them, are
the ones to whom the inhabitants of
Jerusalem have said, 'Go far away from
the LORD. This land has been given to us
for a possession.'
16 "Therefore say, 'The Lord GOD says:
"Whereas I have removed them far off
among the nations, and whereas I have
scattered them among the countries, yet I
will be to them a sanctuary for a little
while in the countries where they have
come." '
17 "Therefore say, 'The Lord GOD says:
"I will gather you from the peoples, and
assemble you out of the countries where
you have been scattered, and I will give
you the land of Israel."
18 " 'They will come there, and they will
take away all its detestable things and all
its abominations from there.
19 I will give them one heart, and I will
put a new spirit within them. I will take
the stony heart out of their flesh, and will
give them a heart of flesh,
20 that they may walk in my statutes,
and keep my ordinances, and do them.
They will be my people, and I will be their
God.
21 But as for them whose heart walks
after the heart of their detestable things
and their abominations, I will bring their
way on their own heads,' says the Lord
GOD."
22 Then the cherubim lifted up their
wings, and the wheels were beside them.
The glory of the God of Israel was over
them above.
23 The LORD's glory went up from the
middle of the city, and stood on the
mountain which is on the east side of the
city.
24 The Spirit lifted me up, and brought
me in the vision by the Spirit of God into
Chaldea, to the captives.

So the vision that I had seen went up
from me.
25 Then I spoke to the captives all the
things that the LORD had shown me.

12

1 The LORD's word also came to me,
saying,
2 "Son of man, you dwell in the middle
of the rebellious house, who have eyes to
see, and don't see, who have ears to hear,
and don't hear; for they are a rebellious
house.
3 "Therefore, you son of man, prepare
your baggage for moving, and move by
day in their sight. You shall move from
your place to another place in their sight.
It may be they will consider, though they
are a rebellious house.
4 You shall bring out your baggage by
day in their sight, as baggage for moving.
You shall go out yourself at evening in
their sight, as when men go out into exile.
5 Dig through the wall in their sight, and
carry your baggage out that way.
6 In their sight you shall bear it on your
shoulder, and carry it out in the dark. You
shall cover your face, so that you don't see
the land, for I have set you for a sign to the
house of Israel."
7 I did so as I was commanded. I
brought out my baggage by day, as
baggage for moving, and in the evening I
dug through the wall with my hand. I
brought it out in the dark, and bore it on
my shoulder in their sight.
8 In the morning, the LORD's word came
to me, saying,
9 "Son of man, hasn't the house of Israel,
the rebellious house, said to you, 'What
are you doing?'
10 "Say to them, 'The Lord GOD says:
"This burden concerns the prince in
Jerusalem, and all the house of Israel
among whom they are." '
11 "Say, 'I am your sign. As I have done,
so will it be done to them. They will go
into exile, into captivity.
12 " 'The prince who is among them will
bear his baggage on his shoulder in the
dark, and will go out. They will dig

through the wall to carry things out that way. He will cover his face, because he will not see the land with his eyes.
13 I will also spread my net on him, and he will be taken in my snare. I will bring him to Babylon to the land of the Chaldeans; yet he will not see it, though he will die there.
14 I will scatter toward every wind all who are around him to help him, and all his bands. I will draw out the sword after them.
15 " 'They will know that I am the LORD when I disperse them among the nations and scatter them through the countries.
16 But I will leave a few men of them from the sword, from the famine, and from the pestilence, that they may declare all their abominations among the nations where they come. Then they will know that I am the LORD.' "
17 Moreover the LORD's word came to me, saying,
18 "Son of man, eat your bread with quaking, and drink your water with trembling and with fearfulness.
19 Tell the people of the land, 'The Lord GOD says concerning the inhabitants of Jerusalem and the land of Israel: "They will eat their bread with fearfulness and drink their water in dismay, that her land may be desolate, and all that is therein, because of the violence of all those who dwell therein.
20 The cities that are inhabited will be laid waste, and the land will be a desolation. Then you will know that I am the LORD." ' "
21 The LORD's word came to me, saying,
22 "Son of man, what is this proverb that you have in the land of Israel, saying, 'The days are prolonged, and every vision fails'?
23 Tell them therefore, 'The Lord GOD says: "I will make this proverb to cease, and they will no more use it as a proverb in Israel;" ' but tell them, ' "The days are at hand, and the fulfillment of every vision.
24 For there will be no more any false vision nor flattering divination within the house of Israel.
25 For I am the LORD. I will speak, and the word that I speak will be performed. It will be no more deferred; for in your days, rebellious house, I will speak the word and will perform it," says the Lord GOD.' "
26 Again the LORD's word came to me, saying,
27 "Son of man, behold, they of the house of Israel say, 'The vision that he sees is for many days to come, and he prophesies of times that are far off.'
28 "Therefore tell them, 'The Lord GOD says: "None of my words will be deferred any more, but the word which I speak will be performed," says the Lord GOD.' "

13

1 The LORD's word came to me, saying,
2 "Son of man, prophesy against the prophets of Israel who prophesy, and say to those who prophesy out of their own heart, 'Hear the LORD's word:
3 The Lord GOD says, "Woe to the foolish prophets, who follow their own spirit, and have seen nothing!
4 Israel, your prophets have been like foxes in the waste places.
5 You have not gone up into the gaps or built up the wall for the house of Israel, to stand in the battle in the LORD's day.
6 They have seen falsehood and lying divination, who say, 'The LORD says;' but the LORD has not sent them. They have made men to hope that the word would be confirmed.
7 Haven't you seen a false vision, and haven't you spoken a lying divination, in that you say, 'The LORD says;' but I have not spoken?"
8 " 'Therefore the Lord GOD says: "Because you have spoken falsehood and seen lies, therefore, behold, I am against you," says the Lord GOD.
9 "My hand will be against the prophets who see false visions and who utter lying divinations. They will not be in the council of my people, neither will they be written in the writing of the house of Israel, neither will they enter into the land of Israel. Then you will know that I am the Lord GOD."
10 " 'Because, even because they have seduced my people, saying, "Peace;" and

there is no peace. When one builds up a wall, behold, they plaster it with whitewash.
11 Tell those who plaster it with whitewash that it will fall. There will be an overflowing shower; and you, great hailstones, will fall. A stormy wind will tear it.
12 Behold, when the wall has fallen, won't it be said to you, "Where is the plaster with which you have plastered it?"

13 " 'Therefore the Lord GOD says: "I will even tear it with a stormy wind in my wrath. There will be an overflowing shower in my anger, and great hailstones in wrath to consume it.
14 So I will break down the wall that you have plastered with whitewash, and bring it down to the ground, so that its foundation will be uncovered. It will fall, and you will be consumed in the middle of it. Then you will know that I am the LORD.
15 Thus I will accomplish my wrath on the wall, and on those who have plastered it with whitewash. I will tell you, 'The wall is no more, nor those who plastered it—
16 to wit, the prophets of Israel who prophesy concerning Jerusalem, and who see visions of peace for her, and there is no peace,' " says the Lord GOD.' "

17 You, son of man, set your face against the daughters of your people, who prophesy out of their own heart; and prophesy against them,
18 and say, "The Lord GOD says: 'Woe to the women who sew magic bands on all elbows and make veils for the head of persons of every stature to hunt souls! Will you hunt the souls of my people and save souls alive for yourselves?
19 You have profaned me among my people for handfuls of barley and for pieces of bread, to kill the souls who should not die and to save the souls alive who should not live, by your lying to my people who listen to lies.'

20 "Therefore the Lord GOD says: 'Behold, I am against your magic bands, with which you hunt the souls to make them fly, and I will tear them from your arms. I will let the souls fly free, even the souls whom you ensnare like birds.
21 I will also tear your veils and deliver my people out of your hand; and they will no longer be in your hand to be ensnared. Then you will know that I am the LORD.
22 Because with lies you have grieved the heart of the righteous, whom I have not made sad; and strengthened the hands of the wicked, that he should not return from his wicked way, and be saved alive.
23 Therefore you shall no more see false visions nor practice divination. I will deliver my people out of your hand. Then you will know that I am the LORD.' "

14

1 Then some of the elders of Israel came to me and sat before me.
2 The LORD's word came to me, saying,
3 "Son of man, these men have taken their idols into their heart, and put the stumbling block of their iniquity before their face. Should I be inquired of at all by them?
4 Therefore speak to them and tell them, 'The Lord GOD says: "Every man of the house of Israel who takes his idols into his heart and puts the stumbling block of his iniquity before his face then comes to the prophet, I the LORD will answer him there according to the multitude of his idols,
5 that I may take the house of Israel in their own heart, because they are all estranged from me through their idols." '
6 "Therefore tell the house of Israel, 'The Lord GOD says: "Return, and turn yourselves from your idols! Turn away your faces from all your abominations.
7 " ' "For everyone of the house of Israel, or of the strangers who live in Israel, who separates himself from me and takes his idols into his heart, and puts the stumbling block of his iniquity before his face, and comes to the prophet to inquire for himself of me, I the LORD will answer him by myself.
8 I will set my face against that man and will make him an astonishment, for a sign and a proverb, and I will cut him off from

among my people. Then you will know that I am the LORD.
9 “ ‘ “If the prophet is deceived and speaks a word, I, the LORD, have deceived that prophet, and I will stretch out my hand on him, and will destroy him from among my people Israel.
10 They will bear their iniquity. The iniquity of the prophet will be even as the iniquity of him who seeks him,
11 that the house of Israel may no more go astray from me, neither defile themselves any more with all their transgressions; but that they may be my people, and I may be their God,” says the Lord GOD.’ ”
12 The LORD’s word came to me, saying,
13 “Son of man, when a land sins against me by committing a trespass, and I stretch out my hand on it, and break the staff of its bread and send famine on it, and cut off from it man and animal—
14 though these three men, Noah, Daniel, and Job, were in it, they would deliver only their own souls by their righteousness,” says the Lord GOD.
15 “If I cause evil animals to pass through the land, and they ravage it and it is made desolate, so that no man may pass through because of the animals—
16 though these three men were in it, as I live,” says the Lord GOD, “they would deliver neither sons nor daughters. They only would be delivered, but the land would be desolate.
17 “Or if I bring a sword on that land, and say, ‘Sword, go through the land, so that I cut off from it man and animal’—
18 though these three men were in it, as I live,” says the Lord GOD, “they would deliver neither sons nor daughters, but they only would be delivered themselves.
19 “Or if I send a pestilence into that land, and pour out my wrath on it in blood, to cut off from it man and animal—
20 though Noah, Daniel, and Job, were in it, as I live,” says the Lord GOD, “they would deliver neither son nor daughter; they would deliver only their own souls by their righteousness.”
21 For the Lord GOD says: “How much more when I send my four severe judgments on Jerusalem—the sword, the famine, the evil animals, and the pestilence—to cut off from it man and animal!
22 Yet, behold, there will be left a remnant in it that will be carried out, both sons and daughters. Behold, they will come out to you, and you will see their way and their doings. Then you will be comforted concerning the evil that I have brought on Jerusalem, even concerning all that I have brought on it.
23 They will comfort you, when you see their way and their doings; then you will know that I have not done all that I have done in it without cause,” says the Lord GOD.

15

1 The LORD’s word came to me, saying,
2 “Son of man, what is the vine tree more than any tree, the vine branch which is among the trees of the forest?
3 Will wood be taken of it to make anything? Will men take a pin of it to hang any vessel on it?
4 Behold, it is cast into the fire for fuel; the fire has devoured both its ends, and the middle of it is burned. Is it profitable for any work?
5 Behold, when it was whole, it was suitable for no work. How much less, when the fire has devoured it, and it has been burned, will it yet be suitable for any work?”
6 Therefore the Lord GOD says: “As the vine wood among the trees of the forest, which I have given to the fire for fuel, so I will give the inhabitants of Jerusalem.
7 I will set my face against them. They will go out from the fire, but the fire will still devour them. Then you will know that I am the LORD, when I set my face against them.
8 I will make the land desolate, because they have acted unfaithfully,” says the Lord GOD.

16

1 Again the LORD’s word came to me, saying,

2 “Son of man, cause Jerusalem to know
her abominations;
3 and say, ‘The Lord GOD says to
Jerusalem: “Your origin and your birth is
of the land of the Canaanite. An Amorite
was your father, and your mother was a
Hittite.
4 As for your birth, in the day you were
born your navel was not cut. You weren’t
washed in water to cleanse you. You
weren’t salted at all, nor wrapped in
blankets at all.
5 No eye pitied you, to do any of these
things to you, to have compassion on you;
but you were cast out in the open field,
because you were abhorred in the day
that you were born.
6 “ ‘ “When I passed by you, and saw you
wallowing in your blood, I said to you,
‘Though you are in your blood, live!’ Yes, I
said to you, ‘Though you are in your
blood, live!’
7 I caused you to multiply as that which
grows in the field, and you increased and
grew great, and you attained to excellent
beauty. Your breasts were formed, and
your hair grew; yet you were naked and
bare.
8 “ ‘ “Now when I passed by you, and
looked at you, behold, your time was the
time of love; and I spread my garment
over you and covered your nakedness.
Yes, I pledged myself to you and entered
into a covenant with you,” says the Lord
GOD, “and you became mine.
9 “ ‘ “Then I washed you with water. Yes,
I thoroughly washed away your blood
from you, and I anointed you with oil.
10 I clothed you also with embroidered
work and put leather sandals on you. I
dressed you with fine linen and covered
you with silk.
11 I decked you with ornaments, put
bracelets on your hands, and put a chain
on your neck.
12 I put a ring on your nose, earrings in
your ears, and a beautiful crown on your
head.
13 Thus you were decked with gold and
silver. Your clothing was of fine linen, silk,
and embroidered work. You ate fine flour,
honey, and oil. You were exceedingly
beautiful, and you prospered to royal
estate.
14 Your renown went out among the
nations for your beauty; for it was perfect,
through my majesty which I had put on
you,” says the Lord GOD.
15 “ ‘ “But you trusted in your beauty,
and played the prostitute because of your
renown, and poured out your prostitution
on everyone who passed by. It was his.
16 You took some of your garments, and
made for yourselves high places decked
with various colors, and played the
prostitute on them. This shouldn’t
happen, neither shall it be.
17 You also took your beautiful jewels of
my gold and of my silver, which I had
given you, and made for yourself images
of men, and played the prostitute with
them.
18 You took your embroidered
garments, covered them, and set my oil
and my incense before them.
19 My bread also which I gave you, fine
flour, oil, and honey, with which I fed you,
you even set it before them for a pleasant
aroma; and so it was,” says the Lord GOD.
20 “ ‘ “Moreover you have taken your
sons and your daughters, whom you have
borne to me, and you have sacrificed
these to them to be devoured. Was your
prostitution a small matter,
21 that you have slain my children and
delivered them up, in causing them to
pass through the fire to them?
22 In all your abominations and your
prostitution you have not remembered
the days of your youth, when you were
naked and bare, and were wallowing in
your blood.
23 “ ‘ “It has happened after all your
wickedness—woe, woe to you!” says the
Lord GOD—
24 “that you have built for yourselves a
vaulted place, and have made yourselves
a lofty place in every street.
25 You have built your lofty place at the
head of every way, and have made your
beauty an abomination, and have opened

your feet to everyone who passed by, and multiplied your prostitution.
26 You have also committed sexual immorality with the Egyptians, your neighbors, great of flesh; and have multiplied your prostitution, to provoke me to anger.
27 See therefore, I have stretched out my hand over you, and have diminished your portion, and delivered you to the will of those who hate you, the daughters of the Philistines, who are ashamed of your lewd way.
28 You have played the prostitute also with the Assyrians, because you were insatiable; yes, you have played the prostitute with them, and yet you weren't satisfied.
29 You have moreover multiplied your prostitution to the land of merchants, to Chaldea; and yet you weren't satisfied with this.
30 " ' "How weak is your heart," says the Lord GOD, "since you do all these things, the work of an impudent prostitute;
31 in that you build your vaulted place at the head of every way, and make your lofty place in every street, and have not been as a prostitute, in that you scorn pay.
32 " ' "Adulterous wife, who takes strangers instead of her husband!
33 People give gifts to all prostitutes; but you give your gifts to all your lovers, and bribe them, that they may come to you on every side for your prostitution.
34 You are different from other women in your prostitution, in that no one follows you to play the prostitute; and whereas you give hire, and no hire is given to you, therefore you are different." '
35 "Therefore, prostitute, hear the LORD's word:
36 'The Lord GOD says, "Because your filthiness was poured out, and your nakedness uncovered through your prostitution with your lovers; and because of all the idols of your abominations, and for the blood of your children, that you gave to them;
37 therefore see, I will gather all your lovers, with whom you have taken pleasure, and all those whom you have loved, with all those whom you have hated. I will even gather them against you on every side, and will uncover your nakedness to them, that they may see all your nakedness.
38 I will judge you as women who break wedlock and shed blood are judged; and I will bring on you the blood of wrath and jealousy.
39 I will also give you into their hand, and they will throw down your vaulted place, and break down your lofty places. They will strip you of your clothes and take your beautiful jewels. They will leave you naked and bare.
40 They will also bring up a company against you, and they will stone you with stones, and thrust you through with their swords.
41 They will burn your houses with fire, and execute judgments on you in the sight of many women. I will cause you to cease from playing the prostitute, and you will also give no hire any more.
42 So I will cause my wrath toward you to rest, and my jealousy will depart from you. I will be quiet, and will not be angry any more.
43 " ' "Because you have not remembered the days of your youth, but have raged against me in all these things; therefore, behold, I also will bring your way on your head," says the Lord GOD: "and you shall not commit this lewdness with all your abominations.
44 " ' "Behold, everyone who uses proverbs will use this proverb against you, saying, 'As is the mother, so is her daughter.'
45 You are the daughter of your mother, who loathes her husband and her children; and you are the sister of your sisters, who loathed their husbands and their children. Your mother was a Hittite, and your father an Amorite.
46 Your elder sister is Samaria, who dwells at your left hand, she and her daughters; and your younger sister, who dwells at your right hand, is Sodom with her daughters.

47 Yet you have not walked in their
ways, nor done their abominations; but
soon you were more corrupt than they in
all your ways.
48 As I live," says the Lord GOD, "Sodom
your sister has not done, she nor her
daughters, as you have done, you and
your daughters.
49 " ' "Behold, this was the iniquity of
your sister Sodom: pride, fullness of
bread, and prosperous ease was in her
and in her daughters. She also didn't
strengthen the hand of the poor and
needy.
50 They were arrogant and committed
abomination before me. Therefore I took
them away when I saw it.
51 Samaria hasn't committed half of
your sins; but you have multiplied your
abominations more than they, and have
justified your sisters by all your
abominations which you have done.
52 You also bear your own shame
yourself, in that you have given judgment
for your sisters; through your sins that
you have committed more abominable
than they, they are more righteous than
you. Yes, be also confounded, and bear
your shame, in that you have justified
your sisters.
53 " ' "I will reverse their captivity, the
captivity of Sodom and her daughters,
and the captivity of Samaria and her
daughters, and the captivity of your
captives among them;
54 that you may bear your own shame,
and may be ashamed because of all that
you have done, in that you are a comfort
to them.
55 Your sisters, Sodom and her
daughters, will return to their former
estate; and Samaria and her daughters
will return to their former estate; and you
and your daughters will return to your
former estate.
56 For your sister Sodom was not
mentioned by your mouth in the day of
your pride,
57 before your wickedness was
uncovered, as at the time of the reproach
of the daughters of Syria, and of all who
are around her, the daughters of the
Philistines, who despise you all around.
58 You have borne your lewdness and
your abominations," says the LORD.
59 " 'For the Lord GOD says: "I will also
deal with you as you have done, who have
despised the oath in breaking the
covenant.
60 Nevertheless I will remember my
covenant with you in the days of your
youth, and I will establish an everlasting
covenant with you.
61 Then you will remember your ways
and be ashamed when you receive your
sisters, your elder sisters and your
younger; and I will give them to you for
daughters, but not by your covenant.
62 I will establish my covenant with you.
Then you will know that I am the LORD;
63 that you may remember, and be
confounded, and never open your mouth
any more because of your shame, when I
have forgiven you all that you have done,"
says the Lord GOD.' "

17

1 The LORD's word came to me, saying,
2 "Son of man, tell a riddle, and speak a
parable to the house of Israel;
3 and say, 'The Lord GOD says: "A great
eagle with great wings and long feathers,
full of feathers which had various colors,
came to Lebanon and took the top of the
cedar.
4 He cropped off the topmost of its
young twigs, and carried it to a land of
traffic. He planted it in a city of
merchants.
5 " ' "He also took some of the seed of the
land and planted it in fruitful soil. He
placed it beside many waters. He set it as
a willow tree.
6 It grew and became a spreading vine
of low stature, whose branches turned
toward him, and its roots were under
him. So it became a vine, produced
branches, and shot out sprigs.
7 " ' "There was also another great eagle
with great wings and many feathers.
Behold, this vine bent its roots toward
him, and shot out its branches toward

him, from the ground where it was
planted, that he might water it.
8 It was planted in a good soil by many
waters, that it might produce branches
and that it might bear fruit, that it might
be a good vine.” ’
9 “Say, ‘The Lord GOD says: “Will it
prosper? Won’t he pull up its roots and
cut off its fruit, that it may wither, that all
its fresh springing leaves may wither? It
can’t be raised from its roots by a strong
arm or many people.
10 Yes, behold, being planted, will it
prosper? Won’t it utterly wither when the
east wind touches it? It will wither in the
ground where it grew.” ’ ”
11 Moreover the LORD’s word came to
me, saying,
12 “Say now to the rebellious house,
‘Don’t you know what these things mean?’
Tell them, ‘Behold, the king of Babylon
came to Jerusalem, and took its king, and
its princes, and brought them to him to
Babylon.
13 He took one of the royal offspring,†
and made a covenant with him. He also
brought him under an oath, and took
away the mighty of the land,
14 that the kingdom might be brought
low, that it might not lift itself up, but that
by keeping his covenant it might stand.
15 But he rebelled against him in
sending his ambassadors into Egypt, that
they might give him horses and many
people. Will he prosper? Will he who does
such things escape? Will he break the
covenant, and still escape?
16 “ ‘As I live,’ says the Lord GOD, ‘surely
in the place where the king dwells who
made him king, whose oath he despised,
and whose covenant he broke, even with
him in the middle of Babylon he will die.
17 Pharaoh with his mighty army and
great company won’t help him in the war,
when they cast up mounds and build forts
to cut off many persons.
18 For he has despised the oath by
breaking the covenant; and behold, he
had given his hand, and yet has done all
these things. He won’t escape.
19 “Therefore the Lord GOD says: ‘As I
live, I will surely bring on his own head
my oath that he has despised and my
covenant that he has broken.
20 I will spread my net on him, and he
will be taken in my snare. I will bring him
to Babylon, and will enter into judgment
with him there for his trespass that he has
trespassed against me.
21 All his fugitives in all his bands will
fall by the sword, and those who remain
will be scattered toward every wind.
Then you will know that I, the LORD, have
spoken it.’
22 “The Lord GOD says: ‘I will also take
some of the lofty top of the cedar, and will
plant it. I will crop off from the topmost of
its young twigs a tender one, and I will
plant it on a high and lofty mountain.
23 I will plant it in the mountain of the
height of Israel; and it will produce
boughs, and bear fruit, and be a good
cedar. Birds of every kind will dwell in
the shade of its branches.
24 All the trees of the field will know that
I, the LORD, have brought down the high
tree, have exalted the low tree, have dried
up the green tree, and have made the dry
tree flourish.
“ ‘I, the LORD, have spoken and have
done it.’ ”

† **17:13** or, seed

18

1 The LORD’s word came to me again,
saying,
2 “What do you mean, that you use this
proverb concerning the land of Israel,
saying,
‘The fathers have eaten sour grapes,
and the children’s teeth are set on
edge’?
3 “As I live,” says the Lord GOD, “you
shall not use this proverb any more in
Israel.
4 Behold, all souls are mine; as the soul
of the father, so also the soul of the son is
mine. The soul who sins, he shall die.

5 “But if a man is just,
and does that which is lawful and
right,

6 and has not eaten on the mountains,
hasn't lifted up his eyes to the idols of the house of Israel,
hasn't defiled his neighbor's wife,
hasn't come near a woman in her impurity,
7 and has not wronged any,
but has restored to the debtor his pledge,
has taken nothing by robbery,
has given his bread to the hungry,
and has covered the naked with a garment;
8 he who hasn't lent to them with interest,
hasn't taken any increase from them,
who has withdrawn his hand from iniquity,
has executed true justice between man and man,
9 has walked in my statutes,
and has kept my ordinances,
to deal truly;
he is just,
he shall surely live," says the Lord GOD.

10 "If he fathers a son who is a robber
who sheds blood, and who does any one
of these things,
11 or who does not do any of those things
but has eaten at the mountain shrines
and defiled his neighbor's wife,
12 has wronged the poor and needy,
has taken by robbery,
has not restored the pledge,
and has lifted up his eyes to the idols,
has committed abomination,
13 has lent with interest,
and has taken increase from the poor,
shall he then live? He shall not live. He
has done all these abominations. He shall
surely die. His blood will be on him.
14 "Now, behold, if he fathers a son who
sees all his father's sins which he has
done, and fears, and doesn't do likewise,
15 who hasn't eaten on the mountains,
hasn't lifted up his eyes to the idols of the house of Israel,
hasn't defiled his neighbor's wife,
16 hasn't wronged any,
hasn't taken anything to pledge,
hasn't taken by robbery,
but has given his bread to the hungry,
and has covered the naked with a garment;
17 who has withdrawn his hand from the poor,
who hasn't received interest or increase,
has executed my ordinances,
has walked in my statutes;
he shall not die for the iniquity of his father. He shall surely live.
18 As for his father, because he cruelly oppressed, robbed his brother, and did that which is not good among his people, behold, he will die in his iniquity.

19 "Yet you say, 'Why doesn't the son bear the iniquity of the father?' When the son has done that which is lawful and right, and has kept all my statutes, and has done them, he will surely live.
20 The soul who sins, he shall die. The son shall not bear the iniquity of the father, neither shall the father bear the iniquity of the son. The righteousness of the righteous shall be on him, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be on him.
21 "But if the wicked turns from all his sins that he has committed, and keeps all my statutes, and does that which is lawful and right, he shall surely live. He shall not die.
22 None of his transgressions that he has committed will be remembered against him. In his righteousness that he has done, he shall live.
23 Have I any pleasure in the death of the wicked?" says the Lord GOD, "and not rather that he should return from his way, and live?
24 "But when the righteous turns away from his righteousness, and commits iniquity, and does according to all the abominations that the wicked man does, should he live? None of his righteous deeds that he has done will be remembered. In his trespass that he has trespassed, and in his sin that he has sinned, in them he shall die.
25 "Yet you say, 'The way of the Lord is not equal.' Hear now, house of Israel: Is my way not equal? Aren't your ways unequal?

26 When the righteous man turns away
from his righteousness, and commits
iniquity, and dies in it, then he dies in his
iniquity that he has done.
27 Again, when the wicked man turns
away from his wickedness that he has
committed, and does that which is lawful
and right, he will save his soul alive.
28 Because he considers, and turns away
from all his transgressions that he has
committed, he shall surely live. He shall
not die.
29 Yet the house of Israel says, 'The way
of the Lord is not fair.' House of Israel,
aren't my ways fair? Aren't your ways
unfair?
30 "Therefore I will judge you, house of
Israel, everyone according to his ways,"
says the Lord GOD. "Return, and turn
yourselves from all your transgressions,
so iniquity will not be your ruin.
31 Cast away from you all your
transgressions in which you have
transgressed; and make yourself a new
heart and a new spirit. For why will you
die, house of Israel?
32 For I have no pleasure in the death of
him who dies," says the Lord GOD.
"Therefore turn yourselves, and live!

19

1 "Moreover, take up a lamentation for
the princes of Israel,
2 and say,
'What was your mother?
A lioness.
She couched among lions,
in the middle of the young lions she
nourished her cubs.
3 She brought up one of her cubs.
He became a young lion.
He learned to catch the prey.
He devoured men.
4 The nations also heard of him.
He was taken in their pit;
and they brought him with hooks to
the land of Egypt.

5 " 'Now when she saw that she had
waited,
and her hope was lost,
then she took another of her cubs,
and made him a young lion.
6 He went up and down among the lions.
He became a young lion.
He learned to catch the prey.
He devoured men.
7 He knew their palaces,
and laid waste their cities.
The land was desolate with its fullness,
because of the noise of his roaring.
8 Then the nations attacked him on every
side from the provinces.
They spread their net over him.
He was taken in their pit.
9 They put him in a cage with hooks,
and brought him to the king of
Babylon.
They brought him into strongholds,
so that his voice should no more be
heard on the mountains of Israel.

10 " 'Your mother was like a vine in your
blood, planted by the waters.
It was fruitful and full of branches by
reason of many waters.
11 It had strong branches for the scepters
of those who ruled.
Their stature was exalted among the
thick boughs.
They were seen in their height
with the multitude of their branches.
12 But it was plucked up in fury.
It was cast down to the ground,
and the east wind dried up its fruit.
Its strong branches were broken off
and withered.
The fire consumed them.
13 Now it is planted in the wilderness,
in a dry and thirsty land.
14 Fire has gone out of its branches.
It has devoured its fruit,
so that there is in it no strong branch
to be a scepter to rule.'
This is a lamentation, and shall be for a
lamentation."

20

1 In the seventh year, in the fifth month,
the tenth day of the month, some of the
elders of Israel came to inquire of the
LORD, and sat before me.
2 The LORD's word came to me, saying,

3 “Son of man, speak to the elders of
Israel, and tell them, ‘The Lord GOD says:
“Is it to inquire of me that you have come?
As I live,” says the Lord GOD, “I will not be
inquired of by you.” ’
4 “Will you judge them, son of man?
Will you judge them? Cause them to know
the abominations of their fathers.
5 Tell them, ‘The Lord GOD says: “In the
day when I chose Israel, and swore to the
offspring of the house of Jacob, and made
myself known to them in the land of
Egypt, when I swore to them, saying, ‘I am
the LORD your God;’
6 in that day I swore to them to bring
them out of the land of Egypt into a land
that I had searched out for them, flowing
with milk and honey, which is the glory of
all lands.
7 I said to them, ‘Each of you throw
away the abominations of his eyes. Don’t
defile yourselves with the idols of Egypt. I
am the LORD your God.’
8 “ ‘ “But they rebelled against me and
wouldn’t listen to me. They didn’t all
throw away the abominations of their
eyes. They also didn’t forsake the idols of
Egypt. Then I said I would pour out my
wrath on them, to accomplish my anger
against them in the middle of the land of
Egypt.
9 But I worked for my name’s sake, that
it should not be profaned in the sight of
the nations among which they were, in
whose sight I made myself known to them
in bringing them out of the land of Egypt.
10 So I caused them to go out of the land
of Egypt and brought them into the
wilderness.
11 I gave them my statutes and showed
them my ordinances, which if a man does,
he will live in them.
12 Moreover also I gave them my
Sabbaths, to be a sign between me and
them, that they might know that I am the
LORD who sanctifies them.
13 “ ‘ “But the house of Israel rebelled
against me in the wilderness. They didn’t
walk in my statutes and they rejected my
ordinances, which if a man keeps, he shall
live in them. They greatly profaned my
Sabbaths. Then I said I would pour out my
wrath on them in the wilderness, to
consume them.
14 But I worked for my name’s sake, that
it should not be profaned in the sight of
the nations, in whose sight I brought them
out.
15 Moreover also I swore to them in the
wilderness that I would not bring them
into the land which I had given them,
flowing with milk and honey, which is the
glory of all lands,
16 because they rejected my ordinances,
and didn’t walk in my statutes, and
profaned my Sabbaths; for their heart
went after their idols.
17 Nevertheless my eye spared them,
and I didn’t destroy them. I didn’t make a
full end of them in the wilderness.
18 I said to their children in the
wilderness, ‘Don’t walk in the statutes of
your fathers. Don’t observe their
ordinances or defile yourselves with their
idols.
19 I am the LORD your God. Walk in my
statutes, keep my ordinances, and do
them.
20 Make my Sabbaths holy. They shall be
a sign between me and you, that you may
know that I am the LORD your God.’
21 “ ‘ “But the children rebelled against
me. They didn’t walk in my statutes, and
didn’t keep my ordinances to do them,
which if a man does, he shall live in them.
They profaned my Sabbaths. Then I said I
would pour out my wrath on them, to
accomplish my anger against them in the
wilderness.
22 Nevertheless I withdrew my hand
and worked for my name’s sake, that it
should not be profaned in the sight of the
nations, in whose sight I brought them
out.
23 Moreover I swore to them in the
wilderness, that I would scatter them
among the nations and disperse them
through the countries,
24 because they had not executed my
ordinances, but had rejected my statutes,
and had profaned my Sabbaths, and their
eyes were after their fathers’ idols.
25 Moreover also I gave them statutes
that were not good, and ordinances in

which they couldn't live.
26 I polluted them in their own gifts, in
that they caused all that opens the womb
to pass through the fire, that I might make
them desolate, to the end that they might
know that I am the LORD." '
27 "Therefore, son of man, speak to the
house of Israel, and tell them, 'The Lord
GOD says: "Moreover, in this your fathers
have blasphemed me, in that they have
committed a trespass against me.
28 For when I had brought them into the
land which I swore to give to them, then
they saw every high hill and every thick
tree, and they offered there their
sacrifices, and there they presented the
provocation of their offering. There they
also made their pleasant aroma, and there
they poured out their drink offerings.
29 Then I said to them, 'What does the
high place where you go mean?' So its
name is called Bamah† to this day." '
30 "Therefore tell the house of Israel,
'The Lord GOD says: "Do you pollute
yourselves in the way of your fathers? Do
you play the prostitute after their
abominations?
31 When you offer your gifts, when you
make your sons pass through the fire, do
you pollute yourselves with all your idols
to this day? Should I be inquired of by
you, house of Israel? As I live, says the
Lord GOD, I will not be inquired of by you!
32 " ' "That which comes into your mind
will not be at all, in that you say, 'We will
be as the nations, as the families of the
countries, to serve wood and stone.'
33 As I live," says the Lord GOD, "surely
with a mighty hand, with an outstretched
arm, and with wrath poured out, I will be
king over you.
34 I will bring you out from the peoples,
and will gather you out of the countries in
which you are scattered with a mighty
hand, with an outstretched arm, and with
wrath poured out.
35 I will bring you into the wilderness of
the peoples, and there I will enter into
judgment with you face to face.
36 Just as I entered into judgment with
your fathers in the wilderness of the land
of Egypt, so I will enter into judgment
with you," says the Lord GOD.
37 "I will cause you to pass under the
rod, and I will bring you into the bond of
the covenant.
38 I will purge out from among you the
rebels and those who disobey me. I will
bring them out of the land where they
live, but they shall not enter into the land
of Israel. Then you will know that I am the
LORD."
39 " 'As for you, house of Israel, the Lord
GOD says: "Go, everyone serve his idols,
and hereafter also, if you will not listen to
me; but you shall no more profane my
holy name with your gifts and with your
idols.
40 For in my holy mountain, in the
mountain of the height of Israel," says the
Lord GOD, "there all the house of Israel, all
of them, shall serve me in the land. There
I will accept them, and there I will require
your offerings and the first fruits of your
offerings, with all your holy things.
41 I will accept you as a pleasant aroma
when I bring you out from the peoples
and gather you out of the countries in
which you have been scattered. I will be
sanctified in you in the sight of the
nations.
42 You will know that I am the LORD
when I bring you into the land of Israel,
into the country which I swore to give to
your fathers.
43 There you will remember your ways,
and all your deeds in which you have
polluted yourselves. Then you will loathe
yourselves in your own sight for all your
evils that you have committed.
44 You will know that I am the LORD,
when I have dealt with you for my name's
sake, not according to your evil ways, nor
according to your corrupt doings, you
house of Israel," says the Lord GOD.' "
45 The LORD's word came to me, saying,
46 "Son of man, set your face toward the
south, and preach toward the south, and

† **20:29** "Bamah" means "High Place".

prophesy against the forest of the field in the south.
47 Tell the forest of the south, ‘Hear the LORD’s word: The Lord GOD says, “Behold, I will kindle a fire in you, and it will devour every green tree in you, and every dry tree. The burning flame will not be quenched, and all faces from the south to the north will be burned by it.
48 All flesh will see that I, the LORD, have kindled it. It will not be quenched.” ’ ”
49 Then I said, “Ah Lord GOD! They say of me, ‘Isn’t he a speaker of parables?’ ”

21

1 The LORD’s word came to me, saying,
2 “Son of man, set your face toward Jerusalem, and preach toward the sanctuaries, and prophesy against the land of Israel.
3 Tell the land of Israel, ‘The LORD says: “Behold, I am against you, and will draw my sword out of its sheath, and will cut off from you the righteous and the wicked.
4 Seeing then that I will cut off from you the righteous and the wicked, therefore my sword will go out of its sheath against all flesh from the south to the north.
5 All flesh will know that I, the LORD, have drawn my sword out of its sheath. It will not return any more.” ’
6 “Therefore sigh, you son of man. You shall sigh before their eyes with a broken heart† and with bitterness.
7 It shall be, when they ask you, ‘Why do you sigh?’ that you shall say, ‘Because of the news, for it comes! Every heart will melt, all hands will be feeble, every spirit will faint, and all knees will be weak as water. Behold, it comes, and it shall be done, says the Lord GOD.’ ”
8 The LORD’s word came to me, saying,
9 “Son of man, prophesy, and say, ‘The LORD says:

“A sword! A sword!
It is sharpened,
and also polished.
10 It is sharpened that it may make a slaughter.
It is polished that it may be as lightning.
Should we then make mirth?
The rod of my son condemns every tree.
11 It is given to be polished,
that it may be handled.
The sword is sharpened.
Yes, it is polished
to give it into the hand of the killer.” ’
12 Cry and wail, son of man;
for it is on my people.
It is on all the princes of Israel.
They are delivered over to the sword with my people.
Therefore beat your thigh.

13 “For there is a trial. What if even the rod that condemns will be no more?” says the Lord GOD.
14 “You therefore, son of man, prophesy,
and strike your hands together.
Let the sword be doubled the third time,
the sword of the fatally wounded.
It is the sword of the great one who is fatally wounded,
which enters into their rooms.
15 I have set the threatening sword against all their gates,
that their heart may melt,
and their stumblings be multiplied.
Ah! It is made as lightning.
It is pointed for slaughter.
16 Gather yourselves together.
Go to the right.
Set yourselves in array.
Go to the left,
wherever your face is set.
17 I will also strike my hands together,
and I will cause my wrath to rest.
I, the LORD, have spoken it.”
18 The LORD’s word came to me again, saying,
19 “Also, you son of man, appoint two ways, that the sword of the king of Babylon may come. They both will come out of one land, and mark out a place. Mark it out at the head of the way to the city.

† **21:6** literally, the breaking of your thighs

20 You shall appoint a way for the sword
to come to Rabbah of the children of
Ammon, and to Judah in Jerusalem the
fortified.
21 For the king of Babylon stood at the
parting of the way, at the head of the two
ways, to use divination. He shook the
arrows back and forth. He consulted the
teraphim.‡ He looked in the liver.
22 In his right hand was the lot for
Jerusalem, to set battering rams, to open
the mouth in the slaughter, to lift up the
voice with shouting, to set battering rams
against the gates, to cast up mounds, and
to build forts.
23 It will be to them as a false divination
in their sight, who have sworn oaths to
them; but he brings iniquity to memory,
that they may be taken.
24 "Therefore the Lord GOD says:
'Because you have caused your iniquity to
be remembered, in that your
transgressions are uncovered, so that in
all your doings your sins appear; because
you have come to memory, you will be
taken with the hand.
25 " 'You, deadly wounded wicked one,
the prince of Israel, whose day has come,
in the time of the iniquity of the end,
26 the Lord GOD says: "Remove the
turban, and take off the crown. This will
not be as it was. Exalt that which is low,
and humble that which is high.
27 I will overturn, overturn, overturn it.
This also will be no more, until he comes
whose right it is; and I will give it." '
28 "You, son of man, prophesy and say,
'The Lord GOD says this concerning the
children of Ammon, and concerning their
reproach:
"A sword! A sword is drawn!
It is polished for the slaughter,
to cause it to devour,
that it may be as lightning;
29 while they see for you false visions,
while they divine lies to you,
to lay you on the necks of the wicked who
are deadly wounded,
whose day has come in the time of the
iniquity of the end.
30 Cause it to return into its sheath.
In the place where you were created,
in the land of your birth, I will judge
you.
31 I will pour out my indignation on you.
I will blow on you with the fire of my
wrath.
I will deliver you into the hand of brutish
men,
skillful to destroy.
32 You will be for fuel to the fire.
Your blood will be in the middle of the
land.
You will be remembered no more;
for I, the LORD, have spoken it." ' "

22

1 Moreover the LORD's word came to
me, saying,
2 "You, son of man, will you judge? Will
you judge the bloody city? Then cause her
to know all her abominations.
3 You shall say, 'The Lord GOD says: "A
city that sheds blood within herself, that
her time may come, and that makes idols
against herself to defile her!
4 You have become guilty in your blood
that you have shed, and are defiled in
your idols which you have made! You
have caused your days to draw near, and
have come to the end of your years.
Therefore I have made you a reproach to
the nations, and a mocking to all the
countries.
5 Those who are near and those who are
far from you will mock you, you infamous
one, full of tumult.
6 " ' "Behold, the princes of Israel,
everyone according to his power, have
been in you to shed blood.
7 In you have they treated father and
mother with contempt.† Among you they
have oppressed the foreigner. In you they
have wronged the fatherless and the
widow.
8 You have despised my holy things, and
have profaned my Sabbaths.
9 Slanderous men have been in you to
shed blood. In you they have eaten on the

‡ **21:21** teraphim were household idols that may have been associated with inheritance rights to the household property. † **22:7** Literally, *made light of father and mother.*

mountains. They have committed lewdness among you.
10 In you have they uncovered their fathers' nakedness. In you have they humbled her who was unclean in her impurity.
11 One has committed abomination with his neighbor's wife, and another has lewdly defiled his daughter-in-law. Another in you has humbled his sister, his father's daughter.
12 In you have they taken bribes to shed blood. You have taken interest and increase, and you have greedily gained of your neighbors by oppression, and have forgotten me," says the Lord GOD.
13 " ' "Behold, therefore I have struck my hand at your dishonest gain which you have made, and at the blood which has been shed within you.
14 Can your heart endure, or can your hands be strong, in the days that I will deal with you? I, the LORD, have spoken it, and will do it.
15 I will scatter you among the nations, and disperse you through the countries. I will purge your filthiness out of you.
16 You will be profaned in yourself in the sight of the nations. Then you will know that I am the LORD." ' "
17 The LORD's word came to me, saying,
18 "Son of man, the house of Israel has become dross to me. All of them are bronze, tin, iron, and lead in the middle of the furnace. They are the dross of silver.
19 Therefore the Lord GOD says: 'Because you have all become dross, therefore, behold, I will gather you into the middle of Jerusalem.
20 As they gather silver, bronze, iron, lead, and tin into the middle of the furnace, to blow the fire on it, to melt it, so I will gather you in my anger and in my wrath, and I will lay you there and melt you.
21 Yes, I will gather you, and blow on you with the fire of my wrath, and you will be melted in the middle of it.
22 As silver is melted in the middle of the furnace, so you will be melted in the middle of it; and you will know that I, the LORD, have poured out my wrath on you.' "
23 The LORD's word came to me, saying,
24 "Son of man, tell her, 'You are a land that is not cleansed nor rained on in the day of indignation.'
25 There is a conspiracy of her prophets within it, like a roaring lion ravening the prey. They have devoured souls. They take treasure and precious things. They have made many widows within it.
26 Her priests have done violence to my law and have profaned my holy things. They have made no distinction between the holy and the common, neither have they caused men to discern between the unclean and the clean, and have hidden their eyes from my Sabbaths. So I am profaned among them.
27 Her princes within it are like wolves ravening the prey, to shed blood and to destroy souls, that they may get dishonest gain.
28 Her prophets have plastered for them with whitewash, seeing false visions, and divining lies to them, saying, 'The Lord GOD says,' when the LORD has not spoken.
29 The people of the land have used oppression and exercised robbery. Yes, they have troubled the poor and needy, and have oppressed the foreigner wrongfully.
30 "I sought for a man among them who would build up the wall and stand in the gap before me for the land, that I would not destroy it; but I found no one.
31 Therefore I have poured out my indignation on them. I have consumed them with the fire of my wrath. I have brought their own way on their heads," says the Lord GOD.

23

1 The LORD's word came again to me, saying,
2 "Son of man, there were two women, the daughters of one mother.
3 They played the prostitute in Egypt. They played the prostitute in their youth. Their breasts were fondled there, and

their youthful nipples were caressed there.
4 Their names were Oholah the elder, and Oholibah her sister. They became mine, and they bore sons and daughters. As for their names, Samaria is Oholah, and Jerusalem Oholibah.
5 "Oholah played the prostitute when she was mine. She doted on her lovers, on the Assyrians her neighbors,
6 who were clothed with blue—governors and rulers, all of them desirable young men, horsemen riding on horses.
7 She gave herself as a prostitute to them, all of them the choicest men of Assyria. She defiled herself with the idols of whomever she lusted after.
8 She hasn't left her prostitution since leaving Egypt; for in her youth they lay with her. They caressed her youthful nipples and they poured out their prostitution on her.
9 "Therefore I delivered her into the hand of her lovers, into the hand of the Assyrians on whom she doted.
10 These uncovered her nakedness. They took her sons and her daughters, and they killed her with the sword. She became a byword among women; for they executed judgments on her.
11 "Her sister Oholibah saw this, yet she was more corrupt in her lusting than she, and in her prostitution which was more depraved than the prostitution of her sister.
12 She lusted after the Assyrians, governors and rulers—her neighbors, clothed most gorgeously, horsemen riding on horses, all of them desirable young men.
13 I saw that she was defiled. They both went the same way.
14 "She increased her prostitution; for she saw men portrayed on the wall, the images of the Chaldeans portrayed with red,
15 dressed with belts on their waists, with flowing turbans on their heads, all of them looking like princes, after the likeness of the Babylonians in Chaldea, the land of their birth.
16 As soon as she saw them, she lusted after them and sent messengers to them into Chaldea.
17 The Babylonians came to her into the bed of love, and they defiled her with their prostitution. She was polluted with them, and her soul was alienated from them.
18 So she uncovered her prostitution and uncovered her nakedness. Then my soul was alienated from her, just like my soul was alienated from her sister.
19 Yet she multiplied her prostitution, remembering the days of her youth, in which she had played the prostitute in the land of Egypt.
20 She lusted after their lovers, whose flesh is as the flesh of donkeys, and whose issue is like the issue of horses.
21 Thus you called to memory the lewdness of your youth, in the caressing of your nipples by the Egyptians because of your youthful breasts.

22 "Therefore, Oholibah, the Lord GOD says: 'Behold, I will raise up your lovers against you, from whom your soul is alienated, and I will bring them against you on every side:
23 the Babylonians and all the Chaldeans, Pekod, Shoa, Koa, and all the Assyrians with them; all of them desirable young men, governors and rulers, princes and men of renown, all of them riding on horses.
24 They will come against you with weapons, chariots, and wagons, and with a company of peoples. They will set themselves against you with buckler, shield, and helmet all around. I will commit the judgment to them, and they will judge you according to their judgments.
25 I will set my jealousy against you, and they will deal with you in fury. They will take away your nose and your ears. Your remnant will fall by the sword. They will take your sons and your daughters; and the rest of you will be devoured by the fire.
26 They will also strip you of your clothes and take away your beautiful jewels.

27 Thus I will make your lewdness to
cease from you, and remove your
prostitution from the land of Egypt, so
that you will not lift up your eyes to them,
nor remember Egypt any more.'
28 "For the Lord GOD says: 'Behold, I will
deliver you into the hand of them whom
you hate, into the hand of them from
whom your soul is alienated.
29 They will deal with you in hatred, and
will take away all your labor, and will
leave you naked and bare. The nakedness
of your prostitution will be uncovered,
both your lewdness and your prostitution.
30 These things will be done to you
because you have played the prostitute
after the nations, and because you are
polluted with their idols.
31 You have walked in the way of your
sister; therefore I will give her cup into
your hand.'
32 "The Lord GOD says:
'You will drink of your sister's cup,
which is deep and large.
You will be ridiculed and held in derision.
It contains much.
33 You will be filled with drunkenness and
sorrow,
with the cup of astonishment and
desolation,
with the cup of your sister Samaria.
34 You will even drink it and drain it out.
You will gnaw the broken pieces of it,
and will tear your breasts;
for I have spoken it,' says the Lord GOD.
35 "Therefore the Lord GOD says:
'Because you have forgotten me and cast
me behind your back, therefore you also
bear your lewdness and your
prostitution.' "
36 The LORD said moreover to me: "Son
of man, will you judge Oholah and
Oholibah? Then declare to them their
abominations.
37 For they have committed adultery,
and blood is in their hands. They have
committed adultery with their idols. They
have also caused their sons, whom they
bore to me, to pass through the fire to
them to be devoured.
38 Moreover this they have done to me:
they have defiled my sanctuary in the
same day, and have profaned my
Sabbaths.
39 For when they had slain their
children to their idols, then they came the
same day into my sanctuary to profane it;
and behold, they have done this in the
middle of my house.
40 "Furthermore you sisters have sent
for men who come from far away, to
whom a messenger was sent, and behold,
they came; for whom you washed
yourself, painted your eyes, decorated
yourself with ornaments,
41 and sat on a stately bed, with a table
prepared before it, whereupon you set my
incense and my oil.
42 "The voice of a multitude being at
ease was with her. With men of the
common sort were brought drunkards
from the wilderness; and they put
bracelets on their hands, and beautiful
crowns on their heads.
43 Then I said of her who was old in
adulteries, 'Now they will play the
prostitute with her, and she with them.'
44 They went in to her, as they go in to a
prostitute. So they went in to Oholah and
to Oholibah, the lewd women.
45 Righteous men will judge them with
the judgment of adulteresses and with the
judgment of women who shed blood,
because they are adulteresses, and blood
is in their hands.
46 "For the Lord GOD says: 'I will bring
up a mob against them, and will give them
to be tossed back and forth and robbed.
47 The company will stone them with
stones and dispatch them with their
swords. They will kill their sons and their
daughters, and burn up their houses with
fire.
48 " 'Thus I will cause lewdness to cease
out of the land, that all women may be
taught not to be lewd like you.
49 They will recompense your lewdness
on you, and you will bear the sins of your
idols. Then you will know that I am the
Lord GOD.' "

24

1 Again, in the ninth year, in the tenth
month, in the tenth day of the month, the

LORD's word came to me, saying,
2 "Son of man, write the name of the
day, this same day. The king of Babylon
drew close to Jerusalem this same day.
3 Utter a parable to the rebellious house,
and tell them, 'The Lord GOD says,
"Put the cauldron on the fire.
Put it on,
and also pour water into it.
4 Gather its pieces into it,
even every good piece:
the thigh and the shoulder.
Fill it with the choice bones.
5 Take the choice of the flock,
and also a pile of wood for the bones
under the cauldron.
Make it boil well.
Yes, let its bones be boiled within it."
6 " 'Therefore the Lord GOD says:
"Woe to the bloody city,
to the cauldron whose rust is in it,
and whose rust hasn't gone out of it!
Take out of it piece after piece
without casting lots for it.

7 " ' "For the blood she shed is in the
middle of her.
She set it on the bare rock.
She didn't pour it on the ground,
to cover it with dust.
8 That it may cause wrath to come up to
take vengeance,
I have set her blood on the bare rock,
that it should not be covered."
9 " 'Therefore the Lord GOD says:
"Woe to the bloody city!
I also will make the pile great.
10 Heap on the wood.
Make the fire hot.
Boil the meat well.
Make the broth thick,
and let the bones be burned.
11 Then set it empty on its coals,
that it may be hot,
and its bronze may burn,
and that its filthiness may be molten
in it,
that its rust may be consumed.
12 She is weary with toil;
yet her great rust,
rust by fire, doesn't leave her.
13 " ' "In your filthiness is lewdness.
Because I have cleansed you and you
weren't cleansed, you won't be cleansed
from your filthiness any more, until I
have caused my wrath toward you to rest.
14 " ' " 'I, the LORD, have spoken it. It will
happen, and I will do it. I won't go back. I
won't spare. I won't repent. According to
your ways and according to your doings,
they will judge you," says the Lord GOD.' "
15 Also the LORD's word came to me,
saying,
16 "Son of man, behold, I will take away
from you the desire of your eyes with one
stroke; yet you shall neither mourn nor
weep, neither shall your tears run down.
17 Sigh, but not aloud. Make no
mourning for the dead. Bind your
headdress on you, and put your sandals
on your feet. Don't cover your lips, and
don't eat mourner's bread."
18 So I spoke to the people in the
morning, and at evening my wife died. So
I did in the morning as I was commanded.
19 The people asked me, "Won't you tell
us what these things mean to us, that you
act like this?"
20 Then I said to them, "The LORD's
word came to me, saying,
21 'Speak to the house of Israel, "The
Lord GOD says: 'Behold, I will profane my
sanctuary, the pride of your power, the
desire of your eyes, and that which your
soul pities; and your sons and your
daughters whom you have left behind
will fall by the sword.
22 You will do as I have done. You won't
cover your lips or eat mourner's bread.
23 Your turbans will be on your heads,
and your sandals on your feet. You won't
mourn or weep; but you will pine away in
your iniquities, and moan one toward
another.
24 Thus Ezekiel will be a sign to you;
according to all that he has done, you will
do. When this comes, then you will know
that I am the Lord GOD.' " ' "
25 "You, son of man, shouldn't it be in the
day when I take from them their strength,
the joy of their glory, the desire of their
eyes, and that whereupon they set their
heart—their sons and their daughters—

26 that in that day he who escapes will
come to you, to cause you to hear it with
your ears?
27 In that day your mouth will be
opened to him who has escaped, and you
will speak and be no more mute. So you
will be a sign to them. Then they will
know that I am the LORD."

25

1 The LORD's word came to me, saying,
2 "Son of man, set your face toward the
children of Ammon, and prophesy against
them.
3 Tell the children of Ammon, 'Hear the
word of the Lord GOD! The Lord GOD
says, "Because you said, 'Aha!' against my
sanctuary when it was profaned, and
against the land of Israel when it was
made desolate, and against the house of
Judah when they went into captivity,
4 therefore, behold, I will deliver you to
the children of the east for a possession.
They will set their encampments in you
and make their dwellings in you. They
will eat your fruit and they will drink
your milk.
5 I will make Rabbah a stable for camels
and the children of Ammon a resting
place for flocks. Then you will know that I
am the LORD."
6 For the Lord GOD says: "Because you
have clapped your hands, stamped with
the feet, and rejoiced with all the
contempt of your soul against the land of
Israel,
7 therefore, behold, I have stretched out
my hand on you, and will deliver you for a
plunder to the nations. I will cut you off
from the peoples, and I will cause you to
perish out of the countries. I will destroy
you. Then you will know that I am the
LORD."
8 " 'The Lord GOD says: "Because Moab
and Seir say, 'Behold, the house of Judah is
like all the nations,'
9 therefore, behold, I will open the side
of Moab from the cities, from his cities
which are on its frontiers, the glory of the
country, Beth Jeshimoth, Baal Meon, and
Kiriathaim,
10 to the children of the east, to go
against the children of Ammon; and I will
give them for a possession, that the
children of Ammon may not be
remembered among the nations.
11 I will execute judgments on Moab.
Then they will know that I am the LORD."
12 " 'The Lord GOD says: "Because Edom
has dealt against the house of Judah by
taking vengeance, and has greatly
offended, and taken revenge on them,"
13 therefore the Lord GOD says, "I will
stretch out my hand on Edom, and will cut
off man and animal from it; and I will
make it desolate from Teman. They will
fall by the sword even to Dedan.
14 I will lay my vengeance on Edom by
the hand of my people Israel. They will do
in Edom according to my anger and
according to my wrath. Then they will
know my vengeance," says the Lord GOD.
15 " 'The Lord GOD says: "Because the
Philistines have taken revenge, and have
taken vengeance with contempt of soul to
destroy with perpetual hostility,"
16 therefore the Lord GOD says, "Behold,
I will stretch out my hand on the
Philistines, and I will cut off the
Cherethites, and destroy the remnant of
the sea coast.
17 I will execute great vengeance on
them with wrathful rebukes. Then they
will know that I am the LORD, when I lay
my vengeance on them." ' "

26

1 In the eleventh year, in the first of the
month, the LORD's word came to me,
saying,
2 "Son of man, because Tyre has said
against Jerusalem, 'Aha! She is broken!
She who was the gateway of the peoples
has been returned to me. I will be
replenished, now that she is laid waste;'
3 therefore the Lord GOD says, 'Behold, I
am against you, Tyre, and will cause many
nations to come up against you, as the sea
causes its waves to come up.
4 They will destroy the walls of Tyre,
and break down her towers. I will also

scrape her dust from her, and make her a
bare rock.
5 She will be a place for the spreading of
nets in the middle of the sea; for I have
spoken it,' says the Lord GOD. 'She will
become plunder for the nations.
6 Her daughters who are in the field will
be slain with the sword. Then they will
know that I am the LORD.'

7 "For the Lord GOD says: 'Behold, I will
bring on Tyre Nebuchadnezzar king of
Babylon, king of kings, from the north,
with horses, with chariots, with
horsemen, and an army with many
people.
8 He will kill your daughters in the field
with the sword. He will make forts against
you, cast up a mound against you, and
raise up the buckler against you.
9 He will set his battering engines
against your walls, and with his axes he
will break down your towers.
10 By reason of the abundance of his
horses, their dust will cover you. Your
walls will shake at the noise of the
horsemen, of the wagons, and of the
chariots, when he enters into your gates,
as men enter into a city which is broken
open.
11 He will tread down all your streets
with the hoofs of his horses. He will kill
your people with the sword. The pillars of
your strength will go down to the ground.
12 They will make a plunder of your
riches and make a prey of your
merchandise. They will break down your
walls and destroy your pleasant houses.
They will lay your stones, your timber,
and your dust in the middle of the waters.
13 I will cause the noise of your songs to
cease. The sound of your harps won't be
heard any more.
14 I will make you a bare rock. You will
be a place for the spreading of nets. You
will be built no more; for I the LORD have
spoken it,' says the Lord GOD.

15 "The Lord GOD says to Tyre: 'Won't
the islands shake at the sound of your fall,
when the wounded groan, when the
slaughter is made within you?
16 Then all the princes of the sea will
come down from their thrones, and lay
aside their robes, and strip off their
embroidered garments. They will clothe
themselves with trembling. They will sit
on the ground, and will tremble every
moment, and be astonished at you.
17 They will take up a lamentation over
you, and tell you,
"How you are destroyed,
who were inhabited by seafaring
men,
the renowned city,
who was strong in the sea,
she and her inhabitants,
who caused their terror to be on all
who lived there!"
18 Now the islands will tremble in the day
of your fall.
Yes, the islands that are in the sea will
be dismayed at your departure.'
19 "For the Lord GOD says: 'When I make
you a desolate city, like the cities that are
not inhabited, when I bring up the deep
on you, and the great waters cover you,
20 then I will bring you down with those
who descend into the pit, to the people of
old time, and will make you dwell in the
lower parts of the earth, in the places that
are desolate of old, with those who go
down to the pit, that you be not inhabited;
and I will set glory in the land of the living.
21 I will make you a terror, and you will
no more have any being. Though you are
sought for, yet you will never be found
again,' says the Lord GOD."

27

1 The LORD's word came again to me,
saying,
2 "You, son of man, take up a
lamentation over Tyre;
3 and tell Tyre, 'You who dwell at the
entry of the sea, who are the merchant of
the peoples to many islands, the Lord GOD
says:
"You, Tyre, have said,
'I am perfect in beauty.'
4 Your borders are in the heart of the seas.
Your builders have perfected your
beauty.

5 They have made all your planks of
cypress trees from Senir.
They have taken a cedar from
Lebanon to make a mast for you.
6 They have made your oars of the oaks of
Bashan.
They have made your benches of
ivory inlaid in cypress wood from
the islands of Kittim.
7 Your sail was of fine linen with
embroidered work from Egypt,
that it might be to you for a banner.
Blue and purple from the islands of
Elishah was your awning.
8 The inhabitants of Sidon and Arvad were
your rowers.
Your wise men, Tyre, were in you.
They were your pilots.
9 The old men of Gebal
and its wise men were your repairers
of ship seams in you.
All the ships of the sea with their
mariners were in you
to deal in your merchandise.

10 “ ‘ “Persia, Lud, and Put were in your
army,
your men of war.
They hung the shield and helmet in you.
They showed your beauty.
11 The men of Arvad with your army were
on your walls all around,
and valiant men were in your towers.
They hung their shields on your walls all
around.
They have perfected your beauty.
12 “ ‘ “Tarshish was your merchant by
reason of the multitude of all kinds of
riches. They traded for your wares with
silver, iron, tin, and lead.
13 “ ‘ “Javan, Tubal, and Meshech were
your traders. They traded the persons of
men and vessels of bronze for your
merchandise.
14 “ ‘ “They of the house of Togarmah
traded for your wares with horses, war
horses, and mules.
15 “ ‘ “The men of Dedan traded with
you. Many islands were the market of
your hand. They brought you horns of
ivory and ebony in exchange.
16 “ ‘ “Syria was your merchant by
reason of the multitude of your
handiworks. They traded for your wares
with emeralds, purple, embroidered
work, fine linen, coral, and rubies.
17 “ ‘ “Judah and the land of Israel were
your traders. They traded wheat of
Minnith, confections, honey, oil, and balm
for your merchandise.
18 “ ‘ “Damascus was your merchant for
the multitude of your handiworks by
reason of the multitude of all kinds of
riches, with the wine of Helbon, and white
wool.
19 “ ‘ “Vedan and Javan traded with yarn
for your wares; wrought iron, cassia, and
calamus were among your merchandise.
20 “ ‘ “Dedan was your merchant in
precious saddle blankets for riding.
21 “ ‘ “Arabia and all the princes of
Kedar were your favorite dealers in
lambs, rams, and goats. In these, they
were your merchants.
22 “ ‘ “The traders of Sheba and Raamah
were your traders. They traded for your
wares with the best of all spices, all
precious stones, and gold.
23 “ ‘ “Haran, Canneh, Eden, the traders
of Sheba, Asshur and Chilmad, were your
traders.
24 These were your traders in choice
wares, in wrappings of blue and
embroidered work, and in cedar chests of
rich clothing bound with cords, among
your merchandise.
25 “ ‘ “The ships of Tarshish were your
caravans for your merchandise.
You were replenished
and made very glorious in the heart
of the seas.
26 Your rowers have brought you into
great waters.
The east wind has broken you in the
heart of the seas.
27 Your riches, your wares, your
merchandise,
your mariners, your pilots, your
repairers of ship seams,
the dealers in your merchandise,
and all your men of war who are in
you,

with all your company which is among you,
will fall into the heart of the seas in the day of your ruin.
28 At the sound of the cry of your pilots,
the pasture lands will shake.
29 All who handle the oars,
the mariners and all the pilots of the sea,
will come down from their ships.
They will stand on the land,
30 and will cause their voice to be heard over you,
and will cry bitterly.
They will cast up dust on their heads.
They will wallow in the ashes.
31 They will make themselves bald for you,
and clothe themselves with sackcloth.
They will weep for you in bitterness of soul,
with bitter mourning.
32 In their wailing they will take up a lamentation for you,
and lament over you, saying,
'Who is there like Tyre,
like her who is brought to silence in the middle of the sea?'
33 When your wares came from the seas,
you filled many peoples.
You enriched the kings of the earth
with the multitude of your riches and of your merchandise.
34 In the time that you were broken by the seas,
in the depths of the waters,
your merchandise and all your company fell within you.
35 All the inhabitants of the islands are astonished at you,
and their kings are horribly afraid.
They are troubled in their face.
36 The merchants among the peoples hiss at you.
You have come to a terrible end,
and you will be no more." ' "

28

1 The LORD's word came again to me, saying,
2 "Son of man, tell the prince of Tyre,
'The Lord GOD says:
"Because your heart is lifted up,
and you have said, 'I am a god,
I sit in the seat of God,
in the middle of the seas;'
yet you are man,
and no god,
though you set your heart as the heart of a god—
3 behold, you are wiser than Daniel.
There is no secret that is hidden from you.
4 By your wisdom and by your understanding you have gotten yourself riches,
and have gotten gold and silver into your treasuries.
5 By your great wisdom
and by your trading you have increased your riches,
and your heart is lifted up because of your riches—"
6 " 'therefore the Lord GOD says:
"Because you have set your heart as the heart of God,
7 therefore, behold, I will bring strangers on you,
the terrible of the nations.
They will draw their swords against the beauty of your wisdom.
They will defile your brightness.
8 They will bring you down to the pit.
You will die the death of those who are slain
in the heart of the seas.
9 Will you yet say before him who kills you, 'I am God'?
But you are man, and not God,
in the hand of him who wounds you.
10 You will die the death of the uncircumcised
by the hand of strangers;
for I have spoken it," says the Lord GOD.' "

11 Moreover the LORD's word came to me, saying,
12 "Son of man, take up a lamentation over the king of Tyre, and tell him, 'The Lord GOD says:
"You were the seal of full measure,
full of wisdom,
and perfect in beauty.
13 You were in Eden,
the garden of God.

Every precious stone adorned you:
ruby, topaz, emerald,
chrysolite, onyx, jasper,
sapphire,† turquoise, and beryl.
Gold work of tambourines
and of pipes was in you.
They were prepared in the day that
you were created.
14 You were the anointed cherub who
covers.
Then I set you up on the holy
mountain of God.
You have walked up and down in the
middle of the stones of fire.
15 You were perfect in your ways from the
day that you were created,
until unrighteousness was found in
you.
16 By the abundance of your commerce,
your insides were filled with
violence,
and you have sinned.
Therefore I have cast you as profane out
of God's mountain.
I have destroyed you, covering
cherub,
from the middle of the stones of fire.
17 Your heart was lifted up because of
your beauty.
You have corrupted your wisdom by
reason of your splendor.
I have cast you to the ground.
I have laid you before kings,
that they may see you.
18 By the multitude of your iniquities,
in the unrighteousness of your
commerce,
you have profaned your sanctuaries.
Therefore I have brought out a fire from
the middle of you.
It has devoured you.
I have turned you to ashes on the earth
in the sight of all those who see you.
19 All those who know you among the
peoples will be astonished at you.
You have become a terror,
and you will exist no more." ' "

20 The LORD's word came to me, saying,
21 "Son of man, set your face toward
Sidon, and prophesy against it,
22 and say, 'The Lord GOD says:
"Behold, I am against you, Sidon.
I will be glorified among you.
Then they will know that I am the LORD,
when I have executed judgments in
her,
and am sanctified in her.
23 For I will send pestilence into her,
and blood into her streets.
The wounded will fall within her,
with the sword on her on every side.
Then they will know that I am the
LORD.
24 " ' "There will no longer be a pricking
brier to the house of Israel, nor a hurting
thorn of any that are around them that
scorned them. Then they will know that I
am the Lord GOD."
25 " 'The Lord GOD says: "When I have
gathered the house of Israel from the
peoples among whom they are scattered,
and am shown as holy among them in the
sight of the nations, then they will dwell
in their own land which I gave to my
servant Jacob.
26 They will dwell in it securely. Yes,
they will build houses, plant vineyards,
and will dwell securely when I have
executed judgments on all those around
them who have treated them with
contempt. Then they will know that I am
the LORD their God." ' "

29

1 In the tenth year, in the tenth month,
on the twelfth day of the month, the
LORD's word came to me, saying,
2 "Son of man, set your face against
Pharaoh king of Egypt, and prophesy
against him and against all Egypt.
3 Speak and say, 'The Lord GOD says:
"Behold, I am against you, Pharaoh king of
Egypt,
the great monster that lies in the
middle of his rivers,
that has said, 'My river is my own,
and I have made it for myself.'
4 I will put hooks in your jaws,
and I will make the fish of your rivers
stick to your scales.

† **28:13** or, lapis lazuli

I will bring you up out of the middle of
your rivers,
with all the fish of your rivers which
stick to your scales.
5 I'll cast you out into the wilderness,
you and all the fish of your rivers.
You'll fall on the open field.
You won't be brought together or
gathered.
I have given you for food to the animals of
the earth
and to the birds of the sky.
6 " ' "All the inhabitants of Egypt will
know that I am the LORD, because they
have been a staff of reed to the house of
Israel.
7 When they took hold of you by your
hand, you broke and tore all their
shoulders. When they leaned on you, you
broke and paralyzed all of their thighs."
8 " 'Therefore the Lord GOD says:
"Behold, I will bring a sword on you, and
will cut off man and animal from you.
9 The land of Egypt will be a desolation
and a waste. Then they will know that I
am the LORD.
" ' "Because he has said, 'The river is
mine, and I have made it,'
10 therefore, behold, I am against you
and against your rivers. I will make the
land of Egypt an utter waste and
desolation, from the tower of Seveneh
even to the border of Ethiopia.
11 No foot of man will pass through it,
nor will any animal foot pass through it. It
won't be inhabited for forty years.
12 I will make the land of Egypt a
desolation in the middle of the countries
that are desolate. Her cities among the
cities that are laid waste will be a
desolation forty years. I will scatter the
Egyptians among the nations, and will
disperse them through the countries."
13 " 'For the Lord GOD says: "At the end
of forty years I will gather the Egyptians
from the peoples where they were
scattered.
14 I will reverse the captivity of Egypt,
and will cause them to return into the
land of Pathros, into the land of their
birth. There they will be a lowly kingdom.
15 It will be the lowest of the kingdoms.
It won't lift itself up above the nations any
more. I will diminish them so that they
will no longer rule over the nations.
16 It will no longer be the confidence of
the house of Israel, bringing iniquity to
memory, when they turn to look after
them. Then they will know that I am the
Lord GOD." ' "

17 It came to pass in the twenty-seventh
year, in the first month, in the first day of
the month, the LORD's word came to me,
saying,
18 "Son of man, Nebuchadnezzar king of
Babylon caused his army to serve a great
service against Tyre. Every head was
made bald, and every shoulder was worn;
yet he had no wages, nor did his army,
from Tyre, for the service that he had
served against it.
19 Therefore the Lord GOD says:
'Behold, I will give the land of Egypt to
Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon. He will
carry off her multitude, take her plunder,
and take her prey. That will be the wages
for his army.
20 I have given him the land of Egypt as
his payment for which he served, because
they worked for me,' says the Lord GOD.
21 "In that day I will cause a horn to
sprout for the house of Israel, and I will
open your mouth among them. Then they
will know that I am the LORD."

30

1 The LORD's word came again to me,
saying,
2 "Son of man, prophesy, and say, 'The
Lord GOD says:
"Wail, 'Alas for the day!'
3 For the day is near,
even the LORD's day is near.
It will be a day of clouds,
a time of the nations.
4 A sword will come on Egypt,
and anguish will be in Ethiopia,
when the slain fall in Egypt.
They take away her multitude,
and her foundations are broken
down.

5 “ ‘ “Ethiopia, Put, Lud, all the mixed
people, Cub, and the children of the land
that is allied with them, will fall with them
by the sword.”
6 “ ‘The LORD says:
“They also who uphold Egypt will fall.
The pride of her power will come
down.
They will fall by the sword in it from the
tower of Seveneh,”
says the Lord GOD.
7 “They will be desolate in the middle of
the countries that are desolate.
Her cities will be among the cities that
are wasted.
8 They will know that I am the LORD
when I have set a fire in Egypt,
and all her helpers are destroyed.
9 “ ‘ “In that day messengers will go out
from before me in ships to make the
careless Ethiopians afraid. There will be
anguish on them, as in the day of Egypt;
for, behold, it comes.”
10 “ ‘The Lord GOD says:
“I will also make the multitude of Egypt to
cease,
by the hand of Nebuchadnezzar king
of Babylon.
11 He and his people with him,
the terrible of the nations,
will be brought in to destroy the land.
They will draw their swords against
Egypt,
and fill the land with the slain.
12 I will make the rivers dry,
and will sell the land into the hand of
evil men.
I will make the land desolate,
and all that is therein,
by the hand of foreigners.
I, the LORD, have spoken it.”
13 “ ‘The Lord GOD says:
“I will also destroy the idols,
and I will cause the images to cease
from Memphis.
There will be no more a prince from the
land of Egypt.
I will put a fear in the land of Egypt.
14 I will make Pathros desolate,
and will set a fire in Zoan,
and will execute judgments on No.
15 I will pour my wrath on Sin,
the stronghold of Egypt.
I will cut off the multitude of No.
16 I will set a fire in Egypt
Sin will be in great anguish.
No will be broken up.
Memphis will have adversaries in the
daytime.
17 The young men of Aven and of Pibeseth
will fall by the sword.
They will go into captivity.
18 At Tehaphnehes also the day will
withdraw itself,
when I break the yokes of Egypt there.
The pride of her power will cease in her.
As for her, a cloud will cover her,
and her daughters will go into
captivity.
19 Thus I will execute judgments on Egypt.
Then they will know that I am the
LORD.” ’ ”

20 In the eleventh year, in the first
month, in the seventh day of the month,
the LORD’s word came to me, saying,
21 “Son of man, I have broken the arm of
Pharaoh king of Egypt. Behold, it has not
been bound up, to apply medicines, to put
a bandage to bind it, that it may become
strong to hold the sword.
22 Therefore the Lord GOD says:
‘Behold, I am against Pharaoh king of
Egypt, and will break his arms, the strong
arm, and that which was broken. I will
cause the sword to fall out of his hand.
23 I will scatter the Egyptians among the
nations, and will disperse them through
the countries.
24 I will strengthen the arms of the king
of Babylon, and put my sword in his hand;
but I will break the arms of Pharaoh, and
he will groan before the king of Babylon
with the groaning of a mortally wounded
man.
25 I will hold up the arms of the king of
Babylon, but the arms of Pharaoh will fall
down. Then they will know that I am the
LORD when I put my sword into the hand
of the king of Babylon, and he stretches it
out on the land of Egypt.
26 I will scatter the Egyptians among the
nations and disperse them through the

countries. Then they will know that I am the LORD.' "

31

1 In the eleventh year, in the third month, in the first day of the month, the LORD's word came to me, saying,
2 "Son of man, tell Pharaoh king of Egypt and his multitude:
'Whom are you like in your greatness?
3 Behold, the Assyrian was a cedar in Lebanon
with beautiful branches,
and with a forest-like shade,
of high stature;
and its top was among the thick boughs.
4 The waters nourished it.
The deep made it to grow.
Its rivers ran all around its plantation.
It sent out its channels to all the trees of the field.
5 Therefore its stature was exalted above all the trees of the field;
and its boughs were multiplied.
Its branches became long by reason of many waters,
when it spread them out.
6 All the birds of the sky made their nests in its boughs.
Under its branches, all the animals of the field gave birth to their young.
All great nations lived under its shadow.
7 Thus it was beautiful in its greatness,
in the length of its branches;
for its root was by many waters.
8 The cedars in the garden of God could not hide it.
The cypress trees were not like its branches.
The pine trees were not like its branches;
nor was any tree in the garden of God like it in its beauty.
9 I made it beautiful by the multitude of its branches,
so that all the trees of Eden,
that were in the garden of God,
envied it.'
10 "Therefore thus said the Lord GOD:
'Because he is exalted in stature, and he has set his top among the thick branches, and his heart is lifted up in his height,
11 I will deliver him into the hand of the mighty one of the nations. He will surely deal with him. I have driven him out for his wickedness.
12 Foreigners, the tyrants of the nations, have cut him off and have left him. His branches have fallen on the mountains and in all the valleys, and his boughs are broken by all the watercourses of the land. All the peoples of the earth have gone down from his shadow and have left him.
13 All the birds of the sky will dwell on his ruin, and all the animals of the field will be on his branches,
14 to the end that none of all the trees by the waters exalt themselves in their stature, and don't set their top among the thick boughs. Their mighty ones don't stand up on their height, even all who drink water; for they are all delivered to death, to the lower parts of the earth, among the children of men, with those who go down to the pit.'
15 "The Lord GOD says: 'In the day when he went down to Sheol,† I caused a mourning. I covered the deep for him, and I restrained its rivers. The great waters were stopped. I caused Lebanon to mourn for him, and all the trees of the field fainted for him.
16 I made the nations to shake at the sound of his fall, when I cast him down to Sheol‡ with those who descend into the pit. All the trees of Eden, the choice and best of Lebanon, all that drink water, were comforted in the lower parts of the earth.
17 They also went down into Sheol with him to those who are slain by the sword; yes, those who were his arm, who lived under his shadow in the middle of the nations.
18 " 'To whom are you thus like in glory and in greatness among the trees of Eden? Yet you will be brought down with the trees of Eden to the lower parts of the earth. You will lie in the middle of the uncircumcised, with those who are slain by the sword.

† **31:15** Sheol is the place of the dead. ‡ **31:16** Sheol is the place of the dead.

" 'This is Pharaoh and all his multitude,'
says the Lord GOD."

32

1 In the twelfth year, in the twelfth
month, in the first day of the month, the
LORD's word came to me, saying,
2 "Son of man, take up a lamentation
over Pharaoh king of Egypt, and tell him,
'You were likened to a young lion of the
nations;
yet you are as a monster in the seas.
You broke out with your rivers,
and troubled the waters with your
feet,
and fouled their rivers.' "
3 The Lord GOD says:
"I will spread out my net on you with
a company of many peoples.
They will bring you up in my net.
4 I will leave you on the land.
I will cast you out on the open field,
and will cause all the birds of the sky to
settle on you.
I will satisfy the animals of the whole
earth with you.
5 I will lay your flesh on the mountains,
and fill the valleys with your height.
6 I will also water the land in which you
swim with your blood,
even to the mountains.
The watercourses will be full of you.
7 When I extinguish you, I will cover the
heavens
and make its stars dark.
I will cover the sun with a cloud,
and the moon won't give its light.
8 I will make all the bright lights of the sky
dark over you,
and set darkness on your land," says
the Lord GOD.
9 "I will also trouble the hearts of many
peoples,
when I bring your destruction among
the nations,
into the countries which you have not
known.
10 Yes, I will make many peoples amazed
at you,
and their kings will be horribly afraid
for you,
when I brandish my sword before them.
They will tremble at every moment,
every man for his own life,
in the day of your fall."
11 For the Lord GOD says:
"The sword of the king of Babylon will
come on you.
12 I will cause your multitude to fall by the
swords of the mighty.
They are all the ruthless of the
nations.
They will bring the pride of Egypt to
nothing,
and all its multitude will be
destroyed.
13 I will destroy also all its animals from
beside many waters.
The foot of man won't trouble them
any more,
nor will the hoofs of animals trouble
them.
14 Then I will make their waters clear,
and cause their rivers to run like oil,"
says the Lord GOD.
15 "When I make the land of Egypt
desolate and waste,
a land destitute of that of which it was
full,
when I strike all those who dwell therein,
then they will know that I am the
LORD.
16 " ' "This is the lamentation with
which they will lament. The daughters of
the nations will lament with this. They
will lament with it over Egypt, and over
all her multitude," says the Lord GOD.' "

17 Also in the twelfth year, in the
fifteenth day of the month, the LORD's
word came to me, saying,
18 "Son of man, wail for the multitude of
Egypt, and cast them down, even her and
the daughters of the famous nations, to
the lower parts of the earth, with those
who go down into the pit.
19 Whom do you pass in beauty? Go
down, and be laid with the
uncircumcised.
20 They will fall among those who are
slain by the sword. She is delivered to the

† **32:21** Sheol is the place of the dead.

sword. Draw her away with all her multitudes.
21 The strong among the mighty will speak to him out of the middle of Sheol† with those who help him. They have gone down. The uncircumcised lie still, slain by the sword.
22 "Asshur is there with all her company. Her graves are all around her. All of them are slain, fallen by the sword,
23 whose graves are set in the uttermost parts of the pit, and her company is around her grave, all of them slain, fallen by the sword, who caused terror in the land of the living.
24 "There is Elam and all her multitude around her grave; all of them slain, fallen by the sword, who have gone down uncircumcised into the lower parts of the earth, who caused their terror in the land of the living, and have borne their shame with those who go down to the pit.
25 They have made Elam a bed among the slain with all her multitude. Her graves are around her, all of them uncircumcised, slain by the sword; for their terror was caused in the land of the living, and they have borne their shame with those who go down to the pit. He is put among those who are slain.
26 "There is Meshech, Tubal, and all their multitude. Their graves are around them, all of them uncircumcised, slain by the sword; for they caused their terror in the land of the living.
27 They will not lie with the mighty who are fallen of the uncircumcised, who have gone down to Sheol with their weapons of war and have laid their swords under their heads. Their iniquities are on their bones; for they were the terror of the mighty in the land of the living.
28 "But you will be broken among the uncircumcised, and will lie with those who are slain by the sword.
29 "There is Edom, her kings, and all her princes, who in their might are laid with those who are slain by the sword. They will lie with the uncircumcised, and with those who go down to the pit.
30 "There are the princes of the north, all of them, and all the Sidonians, who have gone down with the slain. They are put to shame in the terror which they caused by their might. They lie uncircumcised with those who are slain by the sword, and bear their shame with those who go down to the pit.
31 "Pharaoh will see them and will be comforted over all his multitude, even Pharaoh and all his army, slain by the sword," says the Lord GOD.
32 "For I have put his terror in the land of the living. He will be laid among the uncircumcised, with those who are slain by the sword, even Pharaoh and all his multitude," says the Lord GOD.

33

1 The LORD's word came to me, saying,
2 "Son of man, speak to the children of your people, and tell them, 'When I bring the sword on a land, and the people of the land take a man from among them, and set him for their watchman,
3 if, when he sees the sword come on the land, he blows the trumpet and warns the people,
4 then whoever hears the sound of the trumpet and doesn't heed the warning, if the sword comes and takes him away, his blood will be on his own head.
5 He heard the sound of the trumpet and didn't take warning. His blood will be on him; whereas if he had heeded the warning, he would have delivered his soul.
6 But if the watchman sees the sword come and doesn't blow the trumpet, and the people aren't warned, and the sword comes and takes any person from among them, he is taken away in his iniquity, but his blood I will require at the watchman's hand.'
7 "So you, son of man, I have set you a watchman to the house of Israel. Therefore hear the word from my mouth, and give them warnings from me.
8 When I tell the wicked, 'O wicked man, you will surely die,' and you don't speak to warn the wicked from his way, that wicked man will die in his iniquity, but I will require his blood at your hand.

9 Nevertheless, if you warn the wicked
of his way to turn from it, and he doesn't
turn from his way; he will die in his
iniquity, but you have delivered your soul.
10 "You, son of man, tell the house of
Israel: 'You say this, "Our transgressions
and our sins are on us, and we pine away
in them. How then can we live?" '
11 Tell them, ' "As I live," says the Lord
GOD, "I have no pleasure in the death of
the wicked, but that the wicked turn from
his way and live. Turn, turn from your
evil ways! For why will you die, house of
Israel?" '
12 "You, son of man, tell the children of
your people, 'The righteousness of the
righteous will not deliver him in the day
of his disobedience. And as for the
wickedness of the wicked, he will not fall
by it in the day that he turns from his
wickedness; neither will he who is
righteous be able to live by it in the day
that he sins.
13 When I tell the righteous that he will
surely live, if he trusts in his
righteousness and commits iniquity, none
of his righteous deeds will be
remembered; but he will die in his
iniquity that he has committed.
14 Again, when I say to the wicked, "You
will surely die," if he turns from his sin
and does that which is lawful and right,
15 if the wicked restore the pledge, give
again that which he had taken by robbery,
walk in the statutes of life, committing no
iniquity, he will surely live. He will not
die.
16 None of his sins that he has
committed will be remembered against
him. He has done that which is lawful and
right. He will surely live.
17 " 'Yet the children of your people say,
"The way of the Lord is not fair;" but as for
them, their way is not fair.
18 When the righteous turns from his
righteousness and commits iniquity, he
will even die therein.
19 When the wicked turns from his
wickedness and does that which is lawful
and right, he will live by it.
20 Yet you say, "The way of the Lord is
not fair." House of Israel, I will judge
every one of you after his ways.' "

21 In the twelfth year of our captivity, in
the tenth month, in the fifth day of the
month, one who had escaped out of
Jerusalem came to me, saying, "The city
has been defeated!"
22 Now the LORD's hand had been on
me in the evening, before he who had
escaped came; and he had opened my
mouth until he came to me in the
morning; and my mouth was opened, and
I was no longer mute.
23 The LORD's word came to me, saying,
24 "Son of man, those who inhabit the
waste places in the land of Israel speak,
saying, 'Abraham was one, and he
inherited the land; but we are many. The
land is given us for inheritance.'
25 Therefore tell them, 'The Lord GOD
says: "You eat with the blood, and lift up
your eyes to your idols, and shed blood.
So should you possess the land?
26 You stand on your sword, you work
abomination, and every one of you defiles
his neighbor's wife. So should you possess
the land?" '
27 "You shall tell them, 'The Lord GOD
says: "As I live, surely those who are in the
waste places will fall by the sword. I will
give whoever is in the open field to the
animals to be devoured, and those who
are in the strongholds and in the caves
will die of the pestilence.
28 I will make the land a desolation and
an astonishment. The pride of her power
will cease. The mountains of Israel will be
desolate, so that no one will pass through.
29 Then they will know that I am the
LORD, when I have made the land a
desolation and an astonishment because
of all their abominations which they have
committed." '
30 "As for you, son of man, the children
of your people talk about you by the walls
and in the doors of the houses, and speak
to one another, everyone to his brother,
saying, 'Please come and hear what the
word is that comes out from the LORD.'
31 They come to you as the people come,
and they sit before you as my people, and
they hear your words, but don't do them;

for with their mouth they show much
love, but their heart goes after their gain.
32 Behold, you are to them as a very
lovely song of one who has a pleasant
voice, and can play well on an instrument;
for they hear your words, but they don't
do them.
33 "When this comes to pass—behold, it
comes—then they will know that a
prophet has been among them."

34

1 The LORD's word came to me, saying,
2 "Son of man, prophesy against the
shepherds of Israel. Prophesy, and tell
them, even the shepherds, 'The Lord GOD
says: "Woe to the shepherds of Israel who
feed themselves! Shouldn't the shepherds
feed the sheep?
3 You eat the fat. You clothe yourself
with the wool. You kill the fatlings, but
you don't feed the sheep.
4 You haven't strengthened the diseased.
You haven't healed that which was sick.
You haven't bound up that which was
broken. You haven't brought back that
which was driven away. You haven't
sought that which was lost, but you have
ruled over them with force and with rigor.
5 They were scattered, because there
was no shepherd. They became food to all
the animals of the field, and were
scattered.
6 My sheep wandered through all the
mountains and on every high hill. Yes, my
sheep were scattered on all the surface of
the earth. There was no one who
searched or sought."
7 " 'Therefore, you shepherds, hear the
LORD's word:
8 "As I live," says the Lord GOD, "surely
because my sheep became a prey, and my
sheep became food to all the animals of
the field, because there was no shepherd,
and my shepherds didn't search for my
sheep, but the shepherds fed themselves,
and didn't feed my sheep,
9 therefore, you shepherds, hear the
LORD's word!"
10 The Lord GOD says: "Behold, I am
against the shepherds. I will require my
sheep at their hand, and cause them to
cease from feeding the sheep. The
shepherds won't feed themselves any
more. I will deliver my sheep from their
mouth, that they may not be food for
them."
11 " 'For the Lord GOD says: "Behold, I
myself, even I, will search for my sheep,
and will seek them out.
12 As a shepherd seeks out his flock in
the day that he is among his sheep that
are scattered abroad, so I will seek out my
sheep. I will deliver them out of all places
where they have been scattered in the
cloudy and dark day.
13 I will bring them out from the
peoples, and gather them from the
countries, and will bring them into their
own land. I will feed them on the
mountains of Israel, by the watercourses,
and in all the inhabited places of the
country.
14 I will feed them with good pasture,
and their fold will be on the mountains of
the height of Israel. There they will lie
down in a good fold. They will feed on
rich pasture on the mountains of Israel.
15 I myself will be the shepherd of my
sheep, and I will cause them to lie down,"
says the Lord GOD.
16 "I will seek that which was lost, and
will bring back that which was driven
away, and will bind up that which was
broken, and will strengthen that which
was sick; but I will destroy the fat and the
strong. I will feed them in justice." '
17 "As for you, O my flock, the Lord GOD
says: 'Behold, I judge between sheep and
sheep, the rams and the male goats.
18 Does it seem a small thing to you to
have fed on the good pasture, but you
must tread down with your feet the
residue of your pasture? And to have
drunk of the clear waters, but must you
foul the residue with your feet?
19 As for my sheep, they eat that which
you have trodden with your feet, and they
drink that which you have fouled with
your feet.'
20 "Therefore the Lord GOD says to
them: 'Behold, I, even I, will judge

between the fat sheep and the lean sheep.
21 Because you thrust with side and with
shoulder, and push all the diseased with
your horns, until you have scattered them
abroad,
22 therefore I will save my flock, and
they will no more be a prey. I will judge
between sheep and sheep.
23 I will set up one shepherd over them,
and he will feed them, even my servant
David. He will feed them, and he will be
their shepherd.
24 I, the LORD, will be their God, and my
servant David prince among them. I, the
LORD, have spoken it.
25 " 'I will make with them a covenant of
peace, and will cause evil animals to cease
out of the land. They will dwell securely
in the wilderness and sleep in the woods.
26 I will make them and the places
around my hill a blessing. I will cause the
shower to come down in its season. There
will be showers of blessing.
27 The tree of the field will yield its fruit,
and the earth will yield its increase, and
they will be secure in their land. Then
they will know that I am the LORD, when I
have broken the bars of their yoke, and
have delivered them out of the hand of
those who made slaves of them.
28 They will no more be a prey to the
nations, neither will the animals of the
earth devour them; but they will dwell
securely, and no one will make them
afraid.
29 I will raise up to them a plantation for
renown, and they will no more be
consumed with famine in the land, and
not bear the shame of the nations any
more.
30 They will know that I, the LORD, their
God am with them, and that they, the
house of Israel, are my people, says the
Lord GOD.
31 You my sheep, the sheep of my
pasture, are men, and I am your God,' says
the Lord GOD."

35

1 Moreover the LORD's word came to
me, saying,
2 "Son of man, set your face against
Mount Seir, and prophesy against it,
3 and tell it, 'The Lord GOD says:
"Behold, I am against you, Mount Seir,
and I will stretch out my hand against
you. I will make you a desolation and an
astonishment.
4 I will lay your cities waste, and you
will be desolate. Then you will know that I
am the LORD.
5 " ' "Because you have had a perpetual
hostility, and have given over the children
of Israel to the power of the sword in the
time of their calamity, in the time of the
iniquity of the end,
6 therefore, as I live," says the Lord GOD,
"I will prepare you for blood, and blood
will pursue you. Since you have not hated
blood, therefore blood will pursue you.
7 Thus I will make Mount Seir an
astonishment and a desolation. I will cut
off from it him who passes through and
him who returns.
8 I will fill its mountains with its slain.
The slain with the sword will fall in your
hills and in your valleys and in all your
watercourses.
9 I will make you a perpetual desolation,
and your cities will not be inhabited.
Then you will know that I am the LORD.
10 " ' "Because you have said, 'These two
nations and these two countries will be
mine, and we will possess it,' although the
LORD was there,
11 therefore, as I live," says the Lord
GOD, "I will do according to your anger,
and according to your envy which you
have shown out of your hatred against
them; and I will make myself known
among them when I judge you.
12 You will know that I, the LORD, have
heard all your insults which you have
spoken against the mountains of Israel,
saying, 'They have been laid desolate.
They have been given to us to devour.'
13 You have magnified yourselves
against me with your mouth, and have
multiplied your words against me. I have
heard it."
14 The Lord GOD says: "When the whole
earth rejoices, I will make you desolate.

15 As you rejoiced over the inheritance
of the house of Israel because it was
desolate, so I will do to you. You will be
desolate, Mount Seir, and all Edom, even
all of it. Then they will know that I am the
LORD.' "

36

1 You, son of man, prophesy to the
mountains of Israel, and say, "You
mountains of Israel, hear the LORD's
word.
2 The Lord GOD says: 'Because the
enemy has said against you, "Aha!" and,
"The ancient high places are ours in
possession!" '
3 therefore prophesy, and say, 'The Lord
GOD says: "Because, even because they
have made you desolate, and swallowed
you up on every side, that you might be a
possession to the residue of the nations,
and you are taken up in the lips of talkers,
and the evil report of the people;"
4 therefore, you mountains of Israel,
hear the word of the Lord GOD: The Lord
GOD says to the mountains and to the
hills, to the watercourses and to the
valleys, to the desolate wastes and to the
cities that are forsaken, which have
become a prey and derision to the residue
of the nations that are all around;
5 therefore the Lord GOD says: "Surely
in the fire of my jealousy I have spoken
against the residue of the nations, and
against all Edom, that have appointed my
land to themselves for a possession with
the joy of all their heart, with despite of
soul, to cast it out for a prey." '
6 Therefore prophesy concerning the
land of Israel, and tell the mountains, the
hills, the watercourses and the valleys,
'The Lord GOD says: "Behold, I have
spoken in my jealousy and in my wrath,
because you have borne the shame of the
nations."
7 Therefore the Lord GOD says: "I have
sworn, 'Surely the nations that are around
you will bear their shame.'
8 " ' "But you, mountains of Israel, you
shall shoot out your branches and yield
your fruit to my people Israel; for they are
at hand to come.
9 For, behold, I am for you, and I will
come to you, and you will be tilled and
sown.
10 I will multiply men on you, all the
house of Israel, even all of it. The cities
will be inhabited and the waste places
will be built.
11 I will multiply man and animal on
you. They will increase and be fruitful. I
will cause you to be inhabited as you were
before, and you will do better than at your
beginnings. Then you will know that I am
the LORD.
12 Yes, I will cause men to walk on you,
even my people Israel. They will possess
you, and you will be their inheritance,
and you will never again bereave them of
their children."
13 " 'The Lord GOD says: "Because they
say to you, 'You are a devourer of men,
and have been a bereaver of your nation;'
14 therefore you shall devour men no
more, and not bereave your nation any
more," says the Lord GOD.
15 "I won't let you hear the shame of the
nations any more. You won't bear the
reproach of the peoples any more, and
you won't cause your nation to stumble
any more," says the Lord GOD.' "

16 Moreover the LORD's word came to
me, saying,
17 "Son of man, when the house of Israel
lived in their own land, they defiled it by
their ways and by their deeds. Their way
before me was as the uncleanness of a
woman in her impurity.
18 Therefore I poured out my wrath on
them for the blood which they had poured
out on the land, and because they had
defiled it with their idols.
19 I scattered them among the nations,
and they were dispersed through the
countries. I judged them according to
their way and according to their deeds.
20 When they came to the nations where
they went, they profaned my holy name,
in that men said of them, 'These are the
LORD's people, and have left his land.'
21 But I had respect for my holy name,
which the house of Israel had profaned
among the nations where they went.

22 “Therefore tell the house of Israel,
‘The Lord GOD says: “I don’t do this for
your sake, house of Israel, but for my holy
name, which you have profaned among
the nations where you went.
23 I will sanctify my great name, which
has been profaned among the nations,
which you have profaned among them.
Then the nations will know that I am the
LORD,” says the Lord GOD, “when I am
proven holy in you before their eyes.
24 “ ‘ “For I will take you from among the
nations and gather you out of all the
countries, and will bring you into your
own land.
25 I will sprinkle clean water on you, and
you will be clean. I will cleanse you from
all your filthiness and from all your idols.
26 I will also give you a new heart, and I
will put a new spirit within you. I will take
away the stony heart out of your flesh,
and I will give you a heart of flesh.
27 I will put my Spirit within you, and
cause you to walk in my statutes. You will
keep my ordinances and do them.
28 You will dwell in the land that I gave
to your fathers. You will be my people,
and I will be your God.
29 I will save you from all your
uncleanness. I will call for the grain and
will multiply it, and lay no famine on you.
30 I will multiply the fruit of the tree and
the increase of the field, that you may
receive no more the reproach of famine
among the nations.
31 “ ‘ “Then you will remember your evil
ways, and your deeds that were not good;
and you will loathe yourselves in your
own sight for your iniquities and for your
abominations.
32 I don’t do this for your sake,” says the
Lord GOD. “Let it be known to you. Be
ashamed and confounded for your ways,
house of Israel.”
33 “ ‘The Lord GOD says: “In the day that
I cleanse you from all your iniquities, I
will cause the cities to be inhabited and
the waste places will be built.
34 The land that was desolate will be
tilled instead of being a desolation in the
sight of all who passed by.
35 They will say, ‘This land that was
desolate has become like the garden of
Eden. The waste, desolate, and ruined
cities are fortified and inhabited.’
36 Then the nations that are left around
you will know that I, the LORD, have built
the ruined places and planted that which
was desolate. I, the LORD, have spoken it,
and I will do it.”
37 “ ‘The Lord GOD says: “For this,
moreover, I will be inquired of by the
house of Israel, to do it for them: I will
increase them with men like a flock.
38 As the flock for sacrifice, as the flock
of Jerusalem in her appointed feasts, so
the waste cities will be filled with flocks of
men. Then they will know that I am the
LORD.’ ”

37

1 The LORD’s hand was on me, and he
brought me out in the LORD’s Spirit, and
set me down in the middle of the valley;
and it was full of bones.
2 He caused me to pass by them all
around; and behold, there were very
many in the open valley, and behold, they
were very dry.
3 He said to me, “Son of man, can these
bones live?”
I answered, “Lord GOD, you know.”
4 Again he said to me, “Prophesy over
these bones, and tell them, ‘You dry bones,
hear the LORD’s word.
5 The Lord GOD says to these bones:
“Behold, I will cause breath to enter into
you, and you will live.
6 I will lay sinews on you, and will bring
up flesh on you, and cover you with skin,
and put breath in you, and you will live.
Then you will know that I am the
LORD.” ’ ”
7 So I prophesied as I was commanded.
As I prophesied, there was a noise, and
behold, there was an earthquake. Then
the bones came together, bone to its bone.
8 I saw, and, behold, there were sinews
on them, and flesh came up, and skin
covered them above; but there was no
breath in them.
9 Then he said to me, “Prophesy to the
wind, prophesy, son of man, and tell the
wind, ‘The Lord GOD says: “Come from

the four winds, breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live.” ’ ”
10 So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood up on their feet, an exceedingly great army.
11 Then he said to me, “Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. Behold, they say, ‘Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost. We are completely cut off.’
12 Therefore prophesy, and tell them, ‘The Lord GOD says: “Behold, I will open your graves, and cause you to come up out of your graves, my people; and I will bring you into the land of Israel.
13 You will know that I am the LORD, when I have opened your graves and caused you to come up out of your graves, my people.
14 I will put my Spirit in you, and you will live. Then I will place you in your own land; and you will know that I, the LORD, have spoken it and performed it,” says the LORD.’ ”

15 The LORD’s word came again to me, saying,
16 “You, son of man, take one stick and write on it, ‘For Judah, and for the children of Israel his companions.’ Then take another stick, and write on it, ‘For Joseph, the stick of Ephraim, and for all the house of Israel his companions.’
17 Then join them for yourself to one another into one stick, that they may become one in your hand.
18 “When the children of your people speak to you, saying, ‘Won’t you show us what you mean by these?’
19 tell them, ‘The Lord GOD says: “Behold, I will take the stick of Joseph, which is in the hand of Ephraim, and the tribes of Israel his companions; and I will put them with it, with the stick of Judah, and make them one stick, and they will be one in my hand.
20 The sticks on which you write will be in your hand before their eyes.” ’
21 Say to them, ‘The Lord GOD says: “Behold, I will take the children of Israel from among the nations where they have gone, and will gather them on every side, and bring them into their own land.
22 I will make them one nation in the land, on the mountains of Israel. One king will be king to them all. They will no longer be two nations. They won’t be divided into two kingdoms any more at all.
23 They won’t defile themselves any more with their idols, nor with their detestable things, nor with any of their transgressions; but I will save them out of all their dwelling places in which they have sinned, and will cleanse them. So they will be my people, and I will be their God.
24 “ ‘ “My servant David will be king over them. They all will have one shepherd. They will also walk in my ordinances and observe my statutes, and do them.
25 They will dwell in the land that I have given to Jacob my servant, in which your fathers lived. They will dwell therein, they, and their children, and their children’s children, forever. David my servant will be their prince forever.
26 Moreover I will make a covenant of peace with them. It will be an everlasting covenant with them. I will place them, multiply them, and will set my sanctuary among them forever more.
27 My tent also will be with them. I will be their God, and they will be my people.
28 The nations will know that I am the LORD who sanctifies Israel, when my sanctuary is among them forever more.” ’ ”

38

1 The LORD’s word came to me, saying,
2 “Son of man, set your face toward Gog, of the land of Magog, the prince of Rosh, Meshech, and Tubal, and prophesy against him,
3 and say, ‘The Lord GOD says: “Behold, I am against you, Gog, prince of Rosh, Meshech, and Tubal.
4 I will turn you around, and put hooks into your jaws, and I will bring you out, with all your army, horses and horsemen,

all of them clothed in full armor, a great company with buckler and shield, all of them handling swords;
5 Persia, Cush, and Put with them, all of them with shield and helmet;
6 Gomer, and all his hordes; the house of Togarmah in the uttermost parts of the north, and all his hordes—even many peoples with you.
7 " ' "Be prepared, yes, prepare yourself, you, and all your companies who are assembled to you, and be a guard to them.
8 After many days you will be visited. In the latter years you will come into the land that is brought back from the sword, that is gathered out of many peoples, on the mountains of Israel, which have been a continual waste; but it is brought out of the peoples and they will dwell securely, all of them.
9 You will ascend. You will come like a storm. You will be like a cloud to cover the land, you and all your hordes, and many peoples with you."
10 " 'The Lord GOD says: "It will happen in that day that things will come into your mind, and you will devise an evil plan.
11 You will say, 'I will go up to the land of unwalled villages. I will go to those who are at rest, who dwell securely, all of them dwelling without walls, and having neither bars nor gates,
12 to take the plunder and to take prey; to turn your hand against the waste places that are inhabited, and against the people who are gathered out of the nations, who have gotten livestock and goods, who dwell in the middle of the earth.'
13 Sheba, Dedan, and the merchants of Tarshish, with all its young lions, will ask you, 'Have you come to take the plunder? Have you assembled your company to take the prey, to carry away silver and gold, to take away livestock and goods, to take great plunder?' " '
14 "Therefore, son of man, prophesy, and tell Gog, 'The Lord GOD says: "In that day when my people Israel dwells securely, will you not know it?
15 You will come from your place out of the uttermost parts of the north, you, and many peoples with you, all of them riding on horses, a great company and a mighty army.
16 You will come up against my people Israel as a cloud to cover the land. It will happen in the latter days that I will bring you against my land, that the nations may know me when I am sanctified in you, Gog, before their eyes."
17 " 'The Lord GOD says: "Are you he of whom I spoke in old time by my servants the prophets of Israel, who prophesied in those days for years that I would bring you against them?
18 It will happen in that day, when Gog comes against the land of Israel," says the Lord GOD, "that my wrath will come up into my nostrils.
19 For in my jealousy and in the fire of my wrath I have spoken. Surely in that day there will be a great shaking in the land of Israel,
20 so that the fish of the sea, the birds of the sky, the animals of the field, all creeping things who creep on the earth, and all the men who are on the surface of the earth will shake at my presence. Then the mountains will be thrown down, the steep places will fall, and every wall will fall to the ground.
21 I will call for a sword against him to all my mountains," says the Lord GOD. "Every man's sword will be against his brother.
22 I will enter into judgment with him with pestilence and with blood. I will rain on him, on his hordes, and on the many peoples who are with him, torrential rains with great hailstones, fire, and sulfur.
23 I will magnify myself and sanctify myself, and I will make myself known in the eyes of many nations. Then they will know that I am the LORD." '

39

1 "You, son of man, prophesy against Gog, and say, 'The Lord GOD says: "Behold, I am against you, Gog, prince of Rosh, Meshech, and Tubal.
2 I will turn you around, will lead you on, and will cause you to come up from

the uttermost parts of the north; and I will
bring you onto the mountains of Israel.
3 I will strike your bow out of your left
hand, and will cause your arrows to fall
out of your right hand.
4 You will fall on the mountains of
Israel, you, and all your hordes, and the
peoples who are with you. I will give you
to the ravenous birds of every sort and to
the animals of the field to be devoured.
5 You will fall on the open field, for I
have spoken it," says the Lord GOD.
6 "I will send a fire on Magog and on
those who dwell securely in the islands.
Then they will know that I am the LORD.
7 " ' "I will make my holy name known
among my people Israel. I won't allow my
holy name to be profaned any more. Then
the nations will know that I am the LORD,
the Holy One in Israel.
8 Behold, it comes, and it will be done,"
says the Lord GOD. "This is the day about
which I have spoken.
9 " ' "Those who dwell in the cities of
Israel will go out and will make fires of the
weapons and burn them, both the shields
and the bucklers, the bows and the
arrows, and the war clubs and the spears,
and they will make fires with them for
seven years;
10 so that they will take no wood out of
the field, and not cut down any out of the
forests; for they will make fires with the
weapons. They will plunder those who
plundered them, and rob those who
robbed them," says the Lord GOD.
11 " ' "It will happen in that day, that I
will give to Gog a place for burial in Israel,
the valley of those who pass through on
the east of the sea; and it will stop those
who pass through. They will bury Gog and
all his multitude there, and they will call it
'The valley of Hamon Gog'.
12 " ' "The house of Israel will be burying
them for seven months, that they may
cleanse the land.
13 Yes, all the people of the land will
bury them; and they will become famous
in the day that I will be glorified," says the
Lord GOD.
14 " ' "They will set apart men of
continual employment who will pass
through the land. Those who pass
through will go with those who bury those
who remain on the surface of the land, to
cleanse it. After the end of seven months
they will search.
15 Those who search through the land
will pass through; and when anyone sees
a man's bone, then he will set up a sign by
it, until the undertakers have buried it in
the valley of Hamon Gog.
16 Hamonah will also be the name of a
city. Thus they will cleanse the land." '
17 "You, son of man, the Lord GOD says:
'Speak to the birds of every sort, and to
every animal of the field, "Assemble
yourselves, and come; gather yourselves
on every side to my sacrifice that I
sacrifice for you, even a great sacrifice on
the mountains of Israel, that you may eat
meat and drink blood.
18 You shall eat the flesh of the mighty,
and drink the blood of the princes of the
earth, of rams, of lambs, and of goats, of
bulls, all of them fatlings of Bashan.
19 You shall eat fat until you are full, and
drink blood until you are drunk, of my
sacrifice which I have sacrificed for you.
20 You shall be filled at my table with
horses and charioteers, with mighty men,
and with all men of war," says the Lord
GOD.'
21 "I will set my glory among the
nations. Then all the nations will see my
judgment that I have executed, and my
hand that I have laid on them.
22 So the house of Israel will know that I
am the LORD their God, from that day and
forward.
23 The nations will know that the house
of Israel went into captivity for their
iniquity, because they trespassed against
me, and I hid my face from them; so I gave
them into the hand of their adversaries,
and they all fell by the sword.
24 I did to them according to their
uncleanness and according to their
transgressions. I hid my face from them.
25 "Therefore the Lord GOD says: 'Now I
will reverse the captivity of Jacob and

have mercy on the whole house of Israel. I will be jealous for my holy name.
26 They will forget their shame and all their trespasses by which they have trespassed against me, when they dwell securely in their land. No one will make them afraid
27 when I have brought them back from the peoples, gathered them out of their enemies' lands, and am shown holy among them in the sight of many nations.
28 They will know that I am the LORD their God, in that I caused them to go into captivity among the nations, and have gathered them to their own land. Then I will leave none of them captive any more.
29 I won't hide my face from them any more, for I have poured out my Spirit on the house of Israel,' says the Lord GOD."

40

1 In the twenty-fifth year of our captivity, in the beginning of the year, in the tenth day of the month, in the fourteenth year after the city was struck, in the same day, the LORD's hand was on me, and he brought me there.
2 In the visions of God he brought me into the land of Israel, and set me down on a very high mountain, on which was something like the frame of a city to the south.
3 He brought me there; and, behold, there was a man whose appearance was like the appearance of bronze, with a line of flax in his hand and a measuring reed; and he stood in the gate.
4 The man said to me, "Son of man, see with your eyes, and hear with your ears, and set your heart on all that I will show you; for you have been brought here so that I may show them to you. Declare all that you see to the house of Israel."
5 Behold, there was a wall on the outside of the house all around, and in the man's hand a measuring reed six cubits† long, of a cubit and a hand width each. So he measured the thickness of the building, one reed; and the height, one reed.
6 Then he came to the gate which looks toward the east, and went up its steps. He measured the threshold of the gate, one reed wide; and the other threshold, one reed wide.
7 Every lodge was one reed long and one reed wide. Between the lodges was five cubits. The threshold of the gate by the porch of the gate toward the house was one reed.
8 He measured also the porch of the gate toward the house, one reed.
9 Then he measured the porch of the gate, eight cubits; and its posts, two cubits; and the porch of the gate was toward the house.
10 The side rooms of the gate eastward were three on this side, and three on that side. The three of them were of one measure. The posts had one measure on this side and on that side.
11 He measured the width of the opening of the gate, ten cubits; and the length of the gate, thirteen cubits;
12 and a border before the lodges, one cubit on this side, and a border, one cubit on that side; and the side rooms, six cubits on this side, and six cubits on that side.
13 He measured the gate from the roof of the one side room to the roof of the other, a width of twenty-five cubits, door against door.
14 He also made posts, sixty cubits; and the court reached to the posts, around the gate.
15 From the forefront of the gate at the entrance to the forefront of the inner porch of the gate were fifty cubits.
16 There were closed windows to the side rooms, and to their posts within the gate all around, and likewise to the arches. Windows were around inward. Palm trees were on each post.
17 Then he brought me into the outer court. Behold, there were rooms and a pavement made for the court all around. Thirty rooms were on the pavement.

† **40:5** A normal cubit is the length from the tip of the middle finger to the elbow on a man's arm, or about 18 inches or 46 centimeters. A handbreadth is about 4.3 inches or 11 centimeters, so the long cubit described here would be about 22.3 inches or 57 centimeters long. Thus, a 6 long cubit measuring reed would have been about 3 yards 26.6 inches or about 3.42 meters long.

18 The pavement was by the side of the
gates, corresponding to the length of the
gates, even the lower pavement.
19 Then he measured the width from the
forefront of the lower gate to the forefront
of the inner court outside, one hundred
cubits, both on the east and on the north.

20 He measured the length and width of
the gate of the outer court which faces
toward the north.
21 The lodges of it were three on this
side and three on that side. Its posts and
its arches were the same as the measure
of the first gate: its length was fifty cubits,
and the width twenty-five cubits.
22 Its windows, its arches, and its palm
trees were the same as the measure of the
gate which faces toward the east. They
went up to it by seven steps. Its arches
were before them.
23 There was a gate to the inner court
facing the other gate, on the north and on
the east. He measured one hundred cubits
from gate to gate.

24 He led me toward the south; and
behold, there was a gate toward the south.
He measured its posts and its arches
according to these measurements.
25 There were windows in it and in its
arches all around, like the other windows:
the length was fifty cubits, and the width
twenty-five cubits.
26 There were seven steps to go up to it,
and its arches were before them. It had
palm trees, one on this side, and another
on that side, on its posts.
27 There was a gate to the inner court
toward the south. He measured one
hundred cubits from gate to gate toward
the south.

28 Then he brought me to the inner court
by the south gate. He measured the south
gate according to these measurements;
29 with its lodges, its posts, and its
arches, according to these measurements.
There were windows in it and in its
arches all around. It was fifty cubits long,
and twenty-five cubits wide.
30 There were arches all around,
twenty-five cubits long and five cubits
wide.

31 Its arches were toward the outer
court. Palm trees were on its posts. The
ascent to it had eight steps.

32 He brought me into the inner court
toward the east. He measured the gate
according to these measurements;
33 with its lodges, its posts, and its
arches, according to these measurements.
There were windows in it and in its
arches all around. It was fifty cubits long,
and twenty-five cubits wide.
34 Its arches were toward the outer
court. Palm trees were on its posts on this
side and on that side. The ascent to it had
eight steps.

35 He brought me to the north gate, and
he measured it according to these
measurements—
36 its lodges, its posts, and its arches.
There were windows in it all around. The
length was fifty cubits and the width
twenty-five cubits.
37 Its posts were toward the outer court.
Palm trees were on its posts on this side
and on that side. The ascent to it had eight
steps.

38 A room with its door was by the posts
at the gates. They washed the burnt
offering there.
39 In the porch of the gate were two
tables on this side and two tables on that
side, on which to kill the burnt offering,
the sin offering, and the trespass offering.
40 On the one side outside, as one goes
up to the entry of the gate toward the
north, were two tables; and on the other
side, which belonged to the porch of the
gate, were two tables.
41 Four tables were on this side, and
four tables on that side, by the side of the
gate: eight tables, on which they killed the
sacrifices.
42 There were four cut stone tables for
the burnt offering, a cubit and a half long,
a cubit and a half wide, and one cubit
high. They laid the instruments with
which they killed the burnt offering and
the sacrifice on them.
43 The hooks, a hand width long, were
fastened within all around. The meat of
the offering was on the tables.

44 Outside of the inner gate were rooms
for the singers in the inner court, which
was at the side of the north gate. They
faced toward the south. One at the side of
the east gate faced toward the north.
45 He said to me, “This room, which
faces toward the south, is for the priests
who perform the duty of the house.
46 The room which faces toward the
north is for the priests who perform the
duty of the altar. These are the sons of
Zadok, who from among the sons of Levi
come near to the LORD to minister to
him.”
47 He measured the court, one hundred
cubits long and one hundred cubits wide,
square. The altar was before the house.
48 Then he brought me to the porch of
the house, and measured each post of the
porch, five cubits on this side, and five
cubits on that side. The width of the gate
was three cubits on this side and three
cubits on that side.
49 The length of the porch was twenty
cubits and the width eleven cubits, even
by the steps by which they went up to it.
There were pillars by the posts, one on
this side, and another on that side.

41

1 He brought me to the nave and
measured the posts, six cubits wide on the
one side and six cubits wide on the other
side, which was the width of the tent.
2 The width of the entrance was ten
cubits,† and the sides of the entrance were
five cubits on the one side, and five cubits
on the other side. He measured its length,
forty cubits, and the width, twenty cubits.
3 Then he went inward and measured
each post of the entrance, two cubits; and
the entrance, six cubits; and the width of
the entrance, seven cubits.
4 He measured its length, twenty cubits,
and the width, twenty cubits, before the
nave. He said to me, “This is the most holy
place.”
5 Then he measured the wall of the
house, six cubits; and the width of every
side room, four cubits, all around the
house on every side.
6 The side rooms were in three stories,
one over another, and thirty in each story.
They entered into the wall which
belonged to the house for the side rooms
all around, that they might be supported
and not penetrate the wall of the house.
7 The side rooms were wider on the
higher levels, because the walls were
narrower at the higher levels. Therefore
the width of the house increased upward;
and so one went up from the lowest level
to the highest through the middle level.
8 I saw also that the house had a raised
base all around. The foundations of the
side rooms were a full reed of six great
cubits.
9 The thickness of the outer wall of the
side rooms was five cubits. That which
was left was the place of the side rooms
that belonged to the house.
10 Between the rooms was a width of
twenty cubits around the house on every
side.
11 The doors of the side rooms were
toward an open area that was left, one
door toward the north, and another door
toward the south. The width of the open
area was five cubits all around.
12 The building that was before the
separate place at the side toward the west
was seventy cubits wide; and the wall of
the building was five cubits thick all
around, and its length ninety cubits.
13 So he measured the temple, one
hundred cubits long; and the separate
place, and the building, with its walls, one
hundred cubits long;
14 also the width of the face of the
temple, and of the separate place toward
the east, one hundred cubits.
15 He measured the length of the
building before the separate place which
was at its back, and its galleries on the one
side and on the other side, one hundred
cubits from the inner temple, and the
porches of the court,
16 the thresholds, and the closed
windows, and the galleries around on
their three stories, opposite the threshold,
with wood ceilings all around, and from

† **41:2** A cubit is the length from the tip of the middle finger to the elbow on a man’s arm, or about 18 inches or 46 centimeters.

the ground up to the windows, (now the windows were covered),
17 to the space above the door, even to the inner house, and outside, and by all the wall all around inside and outside, by measure.
18 It was made with cherubim and palm trees. A palm tree was between cherub and cherub, and every cherub had two faces,
19 so that there was the face of a man toward the palm tree on the one side, and the face of a young lion toward the palm tree on the other side. It was made like this through all the house all around.
20 Cherubim and palm trees were made from the ground to above the door. The wall of the temple was like this.
21 The door posts of the nave were squared. As for the face of the nave, its appearance was as the appearance of the temple.
22 The altar was of wood, three cubits high, and its length two cubits. Its corners, its base, and its walls were of wood. He said to me, "This is the table that is before the LORD."
23 The temple and the sanctuary had two doors.
24 The doors had two leaves each, two turning leaves: two for the one door, and two leaves for the other.
25 There were made on them, on the doors of the nave, cherubim and palm trees, like those made on the walls. There was a threshold of wood on the face of the porch outside.
26 There were closed windows and palm trees on the one side and on the other side, on the sides of the porch. This is how the side rooms of the temple and the thresholds were arranged.

42

1 Then he brought me out into the outer court, the way toward the north. Then he brought me into the room that was opposite the separate place, and which was opposite the building toward the north.
2 Facing the length of one hundred cubits† was the north door, and the width was fifty cubits.
3 Opposite the twenty cubits which belonged to the inner court, and opposite the pavement which belonged to the outer court, was gallery against gallery in the three stories.
4 Before the rooms was a walk of ten cubits' width inward, a way of one cubit; and their doors were toward the north.
5 Now the upper rooms were shorter; for the galleries took away from these more than from the lower and the middle in the building.
6 For they were in three stories, and they didn't have pillars as the pillars of the courts. Therefore the uppermost was set back more than the lowest and the middle from the ground.
7 The wall that was outside by the side of the rooms, toward the outer court before the rooms, was fifty cubits long.
8 For the length of the rooms that were in the outer court was fifty cubits. Behold, those facing the temple were one hundred cubits.
9 From under these rooms was the entry on the east side, as one goes into them from the outer court.
10 In the thickness of the wall of the court toward the east, before the separate place, and before the building, there were rooms.
11 The way before them was like the appearance of the rooms which were toward the north. Their length and width were the same. All their exits had the same arrangement and doors.
12 Like the doors of the rooms that were toward the south was a door at the head of the way, even the way directly before the wall toward the east, as one enters into them.
13 Then he said to me, "The north rooms and the south rooms, which are opposite the separate place, are the holy rooms, where the priests who are near to the LORD shall eat the most holy things. There they shall lay the most holy things, with

† **42:2** A cubit is the length from the tip of the middle finger to the elbow on a man's arm, or about 18 inches or 46 centimeters.

the meal offering, the sin offering, and the trespass offering; for the place is holy.
14 When the priests enter in, then they shall not go out of the holy place into the outer court until they lay their garments in which they minister there; for they are holy. Then they shall put on other garments, and shall approach that which is for the people."
15 Now when he had finished measuring the inner house, he brought me out by the way of the gate which faces toward the east, and measured it all around.
16 He measured on the east side with the measuring reed five hundred reeds, with the measuring reed all around.
17 He measured on the north side five hundred reeds with the measuring reed all around.
18 He measured on the south side five hundred reeds with the measuring reed.
19 He turned about to the west side, and measured five hundred reeds with the measuring reed.
20 He measured it on the four sides. It had a wall around it, the length five hundred cubits, and the width five hundred cubits, to make a separation between that which was holy and that which was common.

43

1 Afterward he brought me to the gate, even the gate that looks toward the east.
2 Behold, the glory of the God of Israel came from the way of the east. His voice was like the sound of many waters; and the earth was illuminated with his glory.
3 It was like the appearance of the vision which I saw, even according to the vision that I saw when I came to destroy the city; and the visions were like the vision that I saw by the river Chebar; and I fell on my face.
4 The LORD's glory came into the house by the way of the gate which faces toward the east.
5 The Spirit took me up and brought me into the inner court; and behold, the LORD's glory filled the house.
6 I heard one speaking to me out of the house, and a man stood by me.
7 He said to me, "Son of man, this is the place of my throne and the place of the soles of my feet, where I will dwell among the children of Israel forever. The house of Israel will no more defile my holy name, neither they nor their kings, by their prostitution and by the dead bodies of their kings in their high places;
8 in their setting of their threshold by my threshold and their door post beside my door post. There was a wall between me and them; and they have defiled my holy name by their abominations which they have committed. Therefore I have consumed them in my anger.
9 Now let them put away their prostitution, and the dead bodies of their kings far from me. Then I will dwell among them forever.
10 "You, son of man, show the house to the house of Israel, that they may be ashamed of their iniquities; and let them measure the pattern.
11 If they are ashamed of all that they have done, make known to them the form of the house, its fashion, its exits, its entrances, its structure, all its ordinances, all its forms, and all its laws; and write it in their sight, that they may keep the whole form of it, and all its ordinances, and do them.
12 "This is the law of the house. On the top of the mountain the whole limit around it shall be most holy. Behold, this is the law of the house.
13 "These are the measurements of the altar by cubits (the cubit† is a cubit and a hand width): the bottom shall be a cubit, and the width a cubit, and its border around its edge a span;‡ and this shall be the base of the altar.
14 From the bottom on the ground to the lower ledge shall be two cubits, and the

† **43:13** A normal cubit is the length from the tip of the middle finger to the elbow on a man's arm, or about 18 inches or 46 centimeters. A hand width is about 4.3 inches or 11 cm. ‡ **43:13** A span is the length from the tip of a man's thumb to the tip of his little finger when his hand is stretched out (about half a cubit, or 9 inches, or 22.8 cm.)

width one cubit; and from the lesser ledge to the greater ledge shall be four cubits, and the width a cubit.
15 The upper altar shall be four cubits; and from the altar hearth and upward there shall be four horns.
16 The altar hearth shall be twelve cubits long by twelve wide, square in its four sides.
17 The ledge shall be fourteen cubits long by fourteen wide in its four sides; and the border about it shall be half a cubit; and its bottom shall be a cubit around; and its steps shall look toward the east."
18 He said to me, "Son of man, the Lord GOD says: 'These are the ordinances of the altar in the day when they make it, to offer burnt offerings on it, and to sprinkle blood on it.
19 You shall give to the Levitical priests who are of the offspring of Zadok, who are near to me, to minister to me,' says the Lord GOD, 'a young bull for a sin offering.
20 You shall take of its blood and put it on its four horns, and on the four corners of the ledge, and on the border all around. You shall cleanse it and make atonement for it that way.
21 You shall also take the bull of the sin offering, and it shall be burned in the appointed place of the house, outside of the sanctuary.
22 "On the second day you shall offer a male goat without defect for a sin offering; and they shall cleanse the altar, as they cleansed it with the bull.
23 When you have finished cleansing it, you shall offer a young bull without defect and a ram out of the flock without defect.
24 You shall bring them near to the LORD, and the priests shall cast salt on them, and they shall offer them up for a burnt offering to the LORD.
25 "Seven days you shall prepare every day a goat for a sin offering. They shall also prepare a young bull and a ram out of the flock, without defect.
26 Seven days shall they make atonement for the altar and purify it. So shall they consecrate it.
27 When they have accomplished the days, it shall be that on the eighth day and onward, the priests shall make your burnt offerings on the altar and your peace offerings. Then I will accept you,' says the Lord GOD."

44

1 Then he brought me back by the way of the outer gate of the sanctuary, which looks toward the east; and it was shut.
2 The LORD said to me, "This gate shall be shut. It shall not be opened, no man shall enter in by it; for the LORD, the God of Israel, has entered in by it. Therefore it shall be shut.
3 As for the prince, he shall sit in it as prince to eat bread before the LORD. He shall enter by the way of the porch of the gate, and shall go out the same way."
4 Then he brought me by the way of the north gate before the house; and I looked, and behold, the LORD's glory filled the LORD's house; so I fell on my face.
5 The LORD said to me, "Son of man, mark well, and see with your eyes, and hear with your ears all that I tell you concerning all the ordinances of the LORD's house and all its laws; and mark well the entrance of the house, with every exit of the sanctuary.
6 You shall tell the rebellious, even the house of Israel, 'The Lord GOD says: "You house of Israel, let that be enough of all your abominations,
7 in that you have brought in foreigners, uncircumcised in heart and uncircumcised in flesh, to be in my sanctuary, to profane it, even my house, when you offer my bread, the fat and the blood; and they have broken my covenant, to add to all your abominations.
8 You have not performed the duty of my holy things; but you have set performers of my duty in my sanctuary for yourselves."
9 The Lord GOD says, "No foreigner, uncircumcised in heart and uncircumcised in flesh, shall enter into my sanctuary, of any foreigners who are among the children of Israel.
10 " ' "But the Levites who went far from me when Israel went astray, who went

astray from me after their idols, they will bear their iniquity.
11 Yet they shall be ministers in my sanctuary, having oversight at the gates of the house, and ministering in the house. They shall kill the burnt offering and the sacrifice for the people, and they shall stand before them to minister to them.
12 Because they ministered to them before their idols, and became a stumbling block of iniquity to the house of Israel, therefore I have lifted up my hand against them," says the Lord GOD, "and they will bear their iniquity.
13 They shall not come near to me, to execute the office of priest to me, nor to come near to any of my holy things, to the things that are most holy; but they will bear their shame and their abominations which they have committed.
14 Yet I will make them performers of the duty of the house, for all its service and for all that will be done therein.
15 " ' "But the Levitical priests, the sons of Zadok, who performed the duty of my sanctuary when the children of Israel went astray from me, shall come near to me to minister to me. They shall stand before me to offer to me the fat and the blood," says the Lord GOD.
16 "They shall enter into my sanctuary, and they shall come near to my table, to minister to me, and they shall keep my instruction.
17 " ' "It will be that when they enter in at the gates of the inner court, they shall be clothed with linen garments. No wool shall come on them while they minister in the gates of the inner court, and within.
18 They shall have linen turbans on their heads, and shall have linen trousers on their waists. They shall not clothe themselves with anything that makes them sweat.
19 When they go out into the outer court, even into the outer court to the people, they shall put off their garments in which they minister and lay them in the holy rooms. They shall put on other garments, that they not sanctify the people with their garments.
20 " ' "They shall not shave their heads, or allow their locks to grow long. They shall only cut off the hair of their heads.
21 None of the priests shall drink wine when they enter into the inner court.
22 They shall not take for their wives a widow, or her who is put away; but they shall take virgins of the offspring of the house of Israel, or a widow who is the widow of a priest.
23 They shall teach my people the difference between the holy and the common, and cause them to discern between the unclean and the clean.
24 " ' "In a controversy they shall stand to judge. They shall judge it according to my ordinances. They shall keep my laws and my statutes in all my appointed feasts. They shall make my Sabbaths holy.
25 " ' "They shall go in to no dead person to defile themselves; but for father, or for mother, or for son, or for daughter, for brother, or for sister who has had no husband, they may defile themselves.
26 After he is cleansed, they shall reckon to him seven days.
27 In the day that he goes into the sanctuary, into the inner court, to minister in the sanctuary, he shall offer his sin offering," says the Lord GOD.
28 " 'They shall have an inheritance: I am their inheritance; and you shall give them no possession in Israel. I am their possession.
29 They shall eat the meal offering, and the sin offering, and the trespass offering; and every devoted thing in Israel shall be theirs.
30 The first of all the first fruits of every thing, and every offering of everything, of all your offerings, shall be for the priest. You shall also give to the priests the first of your dough, to cause a blessing to rest on your house.
31 The priests shall not eat of anything that dies of itself or is torn, whether it is bird or animal.

45

1 " ' "Moreover, when you divide by lot the land for inheritance, you shall offer an

offering to the LORD, a holy portion of the land. The length shall be the length of twenty-five thousand reeds, and the width shall be ten thousand. It shall be holy in all its border all around.
2 Of this there shall be a five hundred by five hundred square for the holy place, and fifty cubits† for its pasture lands all around.
3 Of this measure you shall measure a length of twenty-five thousand, and a width of ten thousand. In it shall be the sanctuary, which is most holy.
4 It is a holy portion of the land; it shall be for the priests, the ministers of the sanctuary, who come near to minister to the LORD. It shall be a place for their houses and a holy place for the sanctuary.
5 Twenty-five thousand cubits in length and ten thousand in width shall be for the Levites, the ministers of the house, as a possession for themselves, for twenty rooms.
6 “ ‘ “You shall appoint the possession of the city five thousand cubits wide and twenty-five thousand long, side by side with the offering of the holy portion. It shall be for the whole house of Israel.
7 “ ‘ “What is for the prince shall be on the one side and on the other side of the holy allotment and of the possession of the city, in front of the holy allotment and in front of the possession of the city, on the west side westward, and on the east side eastward, and in length corresponding to one of the portions, from the west border to the east border.
8 In the land it shall be to him for a possession in Israel. My princes shall no more oppress my people, but they shall give the land to the house of Israel according to their tribes.”
9 “ ‘The Lord GOD says: “Enough, you princes of Israel! Remove violence and plunder, and execute justice and righteousness! Stop dispossessing my people!” says the Lord GOD.
10 “You shall have just balances, a just ephah,‡ and a just bath.
11 The ephah and the bath shall be of one measure, that the bath may contain one tenth of a homer,§ and the ephah one tenth of a homer. Its measure shall be the same as the homer.
12 The shekel† shall be twenty gerahs.‡ Twenty shekels plus twenty-five shekels plus fifteen shekels shall be your mina.§
13 “ ‘ “This is the offering that you shall offer: the sixth part of an ephah from a homer of wheat, and you shall give the sixth part of an ephah from a homer of barley,
14 and the set portion of oil, of the bath of oil, one tenth of a bath out of the cor, which is ten baths, even a homer (for ten baths are a homer),†
15 and one lamb of the flock out of two hundred, from the well-watered pastures of Israel—for a meal offering, for a burnt offering, and for peace offerings, to make atonement for them,” says the Lord GOD.
16 “All the people of the land shall give to this offering for the prince in Israel.
17 It shall be the prince’s part to give the burnt offerings, the meal offerings, and the drink offerings, in the feasts, and on the new moons, and on the Sabbaths, in all the appointed feasts of the house of Israel. He shall prepare the sin offering, the meal offering, the burnt offering, and the peace offerings, to make atonement for the house of Israel.”
18 “ ‘The Lord GOD says: “In the first month, on the first day of the month, you shall take a young bull without defect, and you shall cleanse the sanctuary.
19 The priest shall take of the blood of the sin offering and put it on the door posts of the house, and on the four corners of the ledge of the altar, and on the posts of the gate of the inner court.
20 So you shall do on the seventh day of

† **45:2** A cubit is the length from the tip of the middle finger to the elbow on a man’s arm, or about 18 inches or 46 centimeters. ‡ **45:10** 1 ephah is about 22 liters or about 2/3 of a bushel § **45:11** 1 homer is about 220 liters or 6 bushels † **45:12** A shekel is about 10 grams or about 0.35 ounces. ‡ **45:12** a gerah is about 0.5 grams or about 7.7 grains § **45:12** A mina is about 600 grams or 1.3 U. S. pounds. † **45:14** 1 cor is the same as 1 homer in volume, and is about 211 liters, 55.9 gallons, or 6 bushels. 1 bath is about 21.1 liters, 5.59 gallons, or 2.4 pecks.

the month for everyone who errs, and for
him who is simple. So you shall make
atonement for the house.
21 " ' "In the first month, on the
fourteenth day of the month, you shall
have the Passover, a feast of seven days;
unleavened bread shall be eaten.
22 On that day the prince shall prepare
for himself and for all the people of the
land a bull for a sin offering.
23 The seven days of the feast he shall
prepare a burnt offering to the LORD,
seven bulls and seven rams without
defect daily the seven days; and a male
goat daily for a sin offering.
24 He shall prepare a meal offering, an
ephah‡ for a bull, an ephah for a ram, and
a hin§ of oil to an ephah.
25 " ' "In the seventh month, on the
fifteenth day of the month, during the
feast, he shall do like that for seven days.
He shall make the same provision for sin
offering, the burnt offering, the meal
offering, and the oil."

46

1 " 'The Lord GOD says: "The gate of the
inner court that looks toward the east
shall be shut the six working days; but on
the Sabbath day it shall be opened, and on
the day of the new moon it shall be
opened.
2 The prince shall enter by the way of
the porch of the gate outside, and shall
stand by the post of the gate; and the
priests shall prepare his burnt offering
and his peace offerings, and he shall
worship at the threshold of the gate. Then
he shall go out, but the gate shall not be
shut until the evening.
3 The people of the land shall worship at
the door of that gate before the LORD on
the Sabbaths and on the new moons.
4 The burnt offering that the prince
shall offer to the LORD shall be on the
Sabbath day, six lambs without defect and
a ram without defect;
5 and the meal offering shall be an
ephah for the ram, and the meal offering
for the lambs as he is able to give, and a
hin† of oil to an ephah.‡
6 On the day of the new moon it shall be
a young bull without defect, six lambs,
and a ram. They shall be without defect.
7 He shall prepare a meal offering: an
ephah for the bull, and an ephah for the
ram, and for the lambs according as he is
able, and a hin of oil to an ephah.
8 When the prince enters, he shall go in
by the way of the porch of the gate, and he
shall go out by its way.
9 " ' "But when the people of the land
come before the LORD in the appointed
feasts, he who enters by the way of the
north gate to worship shall go out by the
way of the south gate; and he who enters
by the way of the south gate shall go out
by the way of the north gate. He shall not
return by the way of the gate by which he
came in, but shall go out straight before
him.
10 The prince shall go in with them
when they go in. When they go out, he
shall go out.
11 " ' "In the feasts and in the appointed
holidays, the meal offering shall be an
ephah§ for a bull, and an ephah for a ram,
and for the lambs as he is able to give, and
a hin of oil to an ephah.
12 When the prince prepares a free will
offering, a burnt offering or peace
offerings as a free will offering to the
LORD, one shall open for him the gate that
looks toward the east; and he shall
prepare his burnt offering and his peace
offerings, as he does on the Sabbath day.
Then he shall go out; and after his going
out one shall shut the gate.
13 " ' "You shall prepare a lamb a year
old without defect for a burnt offering to
the LORD daily. Morning by morning you
shall prepare it.
14 You shall prepare a meal offering
with it morning by morning, the sixth part

‡ **45:24** 1 ephah is about 22 liters or about 2/3 of a bushel § **45:24** A hin is about 6.5 liters or 1.7 gallons. † **46:5** A hin is about 6.5 liters or 1.7 gallons. ‡ **46:5** 1 ephah is about 22 liters or about 2/3 of a bushel § **46:11** 1 ephah is about 22 liters or about 2/3 of a bushel † **46:14** 1 ephah is about 22 liters or about 2/3 of a bushel

of an ephah,† and the third part of a hin of oil to moisten the fine flour; a meal offering to the LORD continually by a perpetual ordinance.
15 Thus they shall prepare the lamb, the meal offering, and the oil, morning by morning, for a continual burnt offering."

16 " 'The Lord GOD says: "If the prince gives a gift to any of his sons, it is his inheritance. It shall belong to his sons. It is their possession by inheritance.
17 But if he gives of his inheritance a gift to one of his servants, it shall be his to the year of liberty; then it shall return to the prince; but as for his inheritance, it shall be for his sons.
18 Moreover the prince shall not take of the people's inheritance, to thrust them out of their possession. He shall give inheritance to his sons out of his own possession, that my people not each be scattered from his possession." ' "

19 Then he brought me through the entry, which was at the side of the gate, into the holy rooms for the priests, which looked toward the north. Behold, there was a place on the back part westward.
20 He said to me, "This is the place where the priests shall boil the trespass offering and the sin offering, and where they shall bake the meal offering, that they not bring them out into the outer court, to sanctify the people."

21 Then he brought me out into the outer court and caused me to pass by the four corners of the court; and behold, in every corner of the court there was a court.
22 In the four corners of the court there were courts enclosed, forty cubits‡ long and thirty wide. These four in the corners were the same size.
23 There was a wall around in them, around the four, and boiling places were made under the walls all around.
24 Then he said to me, "These are the boiling houses, where the ministers of the house shall boil the sacrifice of the people."

47

1 He brought me back to the door of the temple; and behold, waters flowed out from under the threshold of the temple eastward, for the front of the temple faced toward the east. The waters came down from underneath, from the right side of the temple, on the south of the altar.
2 Then he brought me out by the way of the gate northward, and led me around by the way outside to the outer gate, by the way of the gate that looks toward the east. Behold, waters ran out on the right side.
3 When the man went out eastward with the line in his hand, he measured one thousand cubits,† and he caused me to pass through the waters, waters that were to the ankles.
4 Again he measured one thousand, and caused me to pass through the waters, waters that were to the knees. Again he measured one thousand, and caused me to pass through waters that were to the waist.
5 Afterward he measured one thousand; and it was a river that I could not pass through, for the waters had risen, waters to swim in, a river that could not be walked through.
6 He said to me, "Son of man, have you seen this?"
Then he brought me and caused me to return to the bank of the river.
7 Now when I had returned, behold, on the bank of the river were very many trees on the one side and on the other.
8 Then he said to me, "These waters flow out toward the eastern region and will go down into the Arabah. Then they will go toward the sea and flow into the sea which will be made to flow out; and the waters will be healed.
9 It will happen that every living creature which swarms, in every place where the rivers come, will live. Then there will be a very great multitude of fish; for these waters have come there, and the waters of the sea will be healed, and everything will live wherever the river comes.

‡ **46:22** A cubit is the length from the tip of the middle finger to the elbow on a man's arm, or about 18 inches or 46 centimeters. † **47:3** A cubit is the length from the tip of the middle finger to the elbow on a man's arm, or about 18 inches or 46 centimeters.

10 It will happen that fishermen will
stand by it. From En Gedi even to En
Eglaim will be a place for the spreading of
nets. Their fish will be after their kinds, as
the fish of the great sea, exceedingly
many.
11 But its swamps and marshes will not
be healed. They will be given up to salt.
12 By the river banks, on both sides, will
grow every tree for food, whose leaf won't
wither, neither will its fruit fail. It will
produce new fruit every month, because
its waters issue out of the sanctuary. Its
fruit will be for food, and its leaf for
healing."
13 The Lord GOD says: "This shall be the
border by which you shall divide the land
for inheritance according to the twelve
tribes of Israel. Joseph shall have two
portions.
14 You shall inherit it, one as well as
another; for I swore to give it to your
fathers. This land will fall to you for
inheritance.
15 "This shall be the border of the land:
"On the north side, from the great sea,
by the way of Hethlon, to the entrance of
Zedad;
16 Hamath, Berothah, Sibraim (which is
between the border of Damascus and the
border of Hamath), to Hazer Hatticon,
which is by the border of Hauran.
17 The border from the sea shall be
Hazar Enon at the border of Damascus;
and on the north northward is the border
of Hamath. This is the north side.
18 "The east side, between Hauran,
Damascus, Gilead, and the land of Israel,
shall be the Jordan; from the north border
to the east sea you shall measure. This is
the east side.
19 "The south side southward shall be
from Tamar as far as the waters of
Meriboth Kadesh, to the brook, to the
great sea. This is the south side
southward.
20 "The west side shall be the great sea,
from the south border as far as opposite
the entrance of Hamath. This is the west
side.
21 "So you shall divide this land to
yourselves according to the tribes of
Israel.
22 You shall divide it by lot for an
inheritance to you and to the aliens who
live among you, who will father children
among you. Then they shall be to you as
the native-born among the children of
Israel. They shall have inheritance with
you among the tribes of Israel.
23 In whatever tribe the stranger lives,
there you shall give him his inheritance,"
says the Lord GOD.

48

1 "Now these are the names of the
tribes: From the north end, beside the
way of Hethlon to the entrance of
Hamath, Hazar Enan at the border of
Damascus, northward beside Hamath
(and they shall have their sides east and
west), Dan, one portion.
2 "By the border of Dan, from the east
side to the west side, Asher, one portion.
3 "By the border of Asher, from the east
side even to the west side, Naphtali, one
portion.
4 "By the border of Naphtali, from the
east side to the west side, Manasseh, one
portion.
5 "By the border of Manasseh, from the
east side to the west side, Ephraim, one
portion.
6 "By the border of Ephraim, from the
east side even to the west side, Reuben,
one portion.
7 "By the border of Reuben, from the
east side to the west side, Judah, one
portion.
8 "By the border of Judah, from the east
side to the west side, shall be the offering
which you shall offer, twenty-five
thousand reeds in width, and in length as
one of the portions, from the east side to
the west side; and the sanctuary shall be
in the middle of it.
9 "The offering that you shall offer to the
LORD shall be twenty-five thousand reeds
in length, and ten thousand in width.
10 For these, even for the priests, shall
be the holy offering: toward the north
twenty-five thousand in length, and
toward the west ten thousand in width,
and toward the east ten thousand in

width, and toward the south twenty-five thousand in length; and the sanctuary of the LORD shall be in the middle of it.
11 It shall be for the priests who are sanctified of the sons of Zadok, who have kept my instruction, who didn't go astray when the children of Israel went astray, as the Levites went astray.
12 It shall be to them an offering from the offering of the land, a most holy thing, by the border of the Levites.

13 "Alongside the border of the priests, the Levites shall have twenty-five thousand cubits in length and ten thousand in width. All the length shall be twenty-five thousand, and the width ten thousand.
14 They shall sell none of it, nor exchange it, nor shall the first fruits of the land be alienated, for it is holy to the LORD.

15 "The five thousand cubits that are left in the width, in front of the twenty-five thousand, shall be for common use, for the city, for dwelling and for pasture lands; and the city shall be in the middle of it.
16 These shall be its measurements: the north side four thousand and five hundred, and the south side four thousand and five hundred, and on the east side four thousand and five hundred, and the west side four thousand and five hundred.
17 The city shall have pasture lands: toward the north two hundred fifty, and toward the south two hundred fifty, and toward the east two hundred fifty, and toward the west two hundred fifty.
18 The remainder of the length, alongside the holy offering, shall be ten thousand eastward and ten thousand westward; and it shall be alongside the holy offering. Its increase shall be for food to those who labor in the city.
19 Those who labor in the city, out of all the tribes of Israel, shall cultivate it.
20 All the offering shall be a square of twenty-five thousand by twenty-five thousand. You shall offer it as a holy offering, with the possession of the city.
21 "The remainder shall be for the prince, on the one side and on the other of the holy offering and of the possession of the city; in front of the twenty-five thousand of the offering toward the east border, and westward in front of the twenty-five thousand toward the west border, alongside the portions, it shall be for the prince. The holy offering and the sanctuary of the house shall be in the middle of it.
22 Moreover, from the possession of the Levites, and from the possession of the city, being in the middle of that which is the prince's, between the border of Judah and the border of Benjamin, shall be for the prince.
23 "As for the rest of the tribes: from the east side to the west side, Benjamin, one portion.
24 "By the border of Benjamin, from the east side to the west side, Simeon, one portion.
25 "By the border of Simeon, from the east side to the west side, Issachar, one portion.
26 "By the border of Issachar, from the east side to the west side, Zebulun, one portion.
27 "By the border of Zebulun, from the east side to the west side, Gad, one portion.
28 "By the border of Gad, at the south side southward, the border shall be even from Tamar to the waters of Meribath Kadesh, to the brook, to the great sea.
29 "This is the land which you shall divide by lot to the tribes of Israel for inheritance, and these are their several portions, says the Lord GOD.
30 "These are the exits of the city: On the north side four thousand five hundred reeds by measure;
31 and the gates of the city shall be named after the tribes of Israel, three gates northward: the gate of Reuben, one; the gate of Judah, one; the gate of Levi, one.
32 "At the east side four thousand five hundred reeds, and three gates: even the gate of Joseph, one; the gate of Benjamin, one; the gate of Dan, one.

33 “At the south side four thousand five
hundred reeds by measure, and three
gates: the gate of Simeon, one; the gate of
Issachar, one; the gate of Zebulun, one.
34 “At the west side four thousand five
hundred reeds, with their three gates: the
gate of Gad, one; the gate of Asher, one;
the gate of Naphtali, one.
35 “It shall be eighteen thousand reeds
in circumference; and the name of the city
from that day shall be, ‘The LORD is there.’

The Book of Daniel

1 In the third year of the reign of
Jehoiakim king of Judah, Nebuchadnezzar
king of Babylon came to Jerusalem and
besieged it.
2 The Lord† gave Jehoiakim king of
Judah into his hand, with some of the
vessels of the house of God;‡ and he
carried them into the land of Shinar to the
house of his god. He brought the vessels
into the treasure house of his god.
3 The king spoke to Ashpenaz, the
master of his eunuchs, that he should
bring in some of the children of Israel,
even of the royal offspring§ and of the
nobles:
4 youths in whom was no defect, but
well-favored, skillful in all wisdom,
endowed with knowledge, understanding
science, and who had the ability to stand
in the king's palace; and that he should
teach them the learning and the language
of the Chaldeans.
5 The king appointed for them a daily
portion of the king's delicacies and of the
wine which he drank, and that they
should be nourished three years, that at
its end they should stand before the king.
6 Now among these of the children of
Judah were Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael,
and Azariah.
7 The prince of the eunuchs gave names
to them: to Daniel he gave the name
Belteshazzar; to Hananiah, Shadrach; to
Mishael, Meshach; and to Azariah,
Abednego.
8 But Daniel purposed in his heart that
he would not defile himself with the
king's delicacies, nor with the wine which
he drank. Therefore he requested of the
prince of the eunuchs that he might not
defile himself.
9 Now God made Daniel find kindness
and compassion in the sight of the prince
of the eunuchs.
10 The prince of the eunuchs said to
Daniel, "I fear my lord the king, who has
appointed your food and your drink. For
why should he see your faces worse
looking than the youths who are of your
own age? Then you would endanger my
head with the king."
11 Then Daniel said to the steward
whom the prince of the eunuchs had
appointed over Daniel, Hananiah,
Mishael, and Azariah:
12 "Test your servants, I beg you, ten
days; and let them give us vegetables to
eat and water to drink.
13 Then let our faces be examined
before you, and the face of the youths who
eat of the king's delicacies; and as you see,
deal with your servants."
14 So he listened to them in this matter,
and tested them for ten days.
15 At the end of ten days, their faces
appeared fairer and they were fatter in
flesh than all the youths who ate of the
king's delicacies.
16 So the steward took away their
delicacies and the wine that they were
given to drink, and gave them vegetables.
17 Now as for these four youths, God
gave them knowledge and skill in all
learning and wisdom; and Daniel had
understanding in all visions and dreams.
18 At the end of the days which the king
had appointed for bringing them in, the
prince of the eunuchs brought them in
before Nebuchadnezzar.
19 The king talked with them; and
among them all was found no one like
Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah.
Therefore they stood before the king.
20 In every matter of wisdom and
understanding concerning which the king
inquired of them, he found them ten
times better than all the magicians and
enchanters who were in all his realm.
21 Daniel continued even to the first
year of King Cyrus.

2

1 In the second year of the reign of
Nebuchadnezzar, Nebuchadnezzar

† **1:2** The word translated "Lord" is "Adonai." ‡ **1:2** The Hebrew word rendered "God" is "אֱלֹהִים" (Elohim). § **1:3** or, seed

dreamed dreams; and his spirit was troubled, and his sleep went from him.
2 Then the king commanded that the magicians, the enchanters, the sorcerers, and the Chaldeans be called to tell the king his dreams. So they came in and stood before the king.
3 The king said to them, “I have dreamed a dream, and my spirit is troubled to know the dream.”
4 Then the Chaldeans spoke to the king in the Syrian language, “O king, live forever! Tell your servants the dream, and we will show the interpretation.”
5 The king answered the Chaldeans, “The thing has gone from me. If you don’t make known to me the dream and its interpretation, you will be cut in pieces, and your houses will be made a dunghill.
6 But if you show the dream and its interpretation, you will receive from me gifts, rewards, and great honor. Therefore show me the dream and its interpretation.”
7 They answered the second time and said, “Let the king tell his servants the dream, and we will show the interpretation.”
8 The king answered, “I know of a certainty that you are trying to gain time, because you see the thing has gone from me.
9 But if you don’t make known to me the dream, there is but one law for you; for you have prepared lying and corrupt words to speak before me, until the situation changes. Therefore tell me the dream, and I will know that you can show me its interpretation.”
10 The Chaldeans answered the king and said, “There is not a man on the earth who can show the king’s matter, because no king, lord, or ruler has asked such a thing of any magician, enchanter, or Chaldean.
11 It is a rare thing that the king requires, and there is no other who can show it before the king except the gods, whose dwelling is not with flesh.”
12 Because of this, the king was angry and very furious, and commanded that all the wise men of Babylon be destroyed.
13 So the decree went out, and the wise men were to be slain. They sought Daniel and his companions to be slain.
14 Then Daniel returned answer with counsel and prudence to Arioch the captain of the king’s guard, who had gone out to kill the wise men of Babylon.
15 He answered Arioch the king’s captain, “Why is the decree so urgent from the king?” Then Arioch made the thing known to Daniel.
16 Daniel went in, and desired of the king that he would appoint him a time, and he would show the king the interpretation.
17 Then Daniel went to his house and made the thing known to Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah, his companions:
18 that they would desire mercies of the God of heaven concerning this secret, that Daniel and his companions would not perish with the rest of the wise men of Babylon.
19 Then the secret was revealed to Daniel in a vision of the night. Then Daniel blessed the God of heaven.
20 Daniel answered,
“Blessed be the name of God forever and ever;
for wisdom and might are his.
21 He changes the times and the seasons.
He removes kings and sets up kings.
He gives wisdom to the wise,
and knowledge to those who have understanding.
22 He reveals the deep and secret things.
He knows what is in the darkness,
and the light dwells with him.
23 I thank you and praise you,
O God of my fathers,
who have given me wisdom and might,
and have now made known to me what we desired of you;
for you have made known to us the king’s matter.”
24 Therefore Daniel went in to Arioch, whom the king had appointed to destroy the wise men of Babylon. He went and said this to him: “Don’t destroy the wise men of Babylon. Bring me in before the king, and I will show to the king the interpretation.”

25 Then Arioch brought in Daniel before
the king in haste, and said this to him: "I
have found a man of the children of the
captivity of Judah who will make known
to the king the interpretation."
26 The king answered Daniel, whose
name was Belteshazzar, "Are you able to
make known to me the dream which I
have seen, and its interpretation?"
27 Daniel answered before the king, and
said, "The secret which the king has
demanded can't be shown to the king by
wise men, enchanters, magicians, or
soothsayers;
28 but there is a God in heaven who
reveals secrets, and he has made known
to King Nebuchadnezzar what will be in
the latter days. Your dream and the
visions of your head on your bed are
these:
29 "As for you, O king, your thoughts
came on your bed, what should happen
hereafter; and he who reveals secrets has
made known to you what will happen.
30 But as for me, this secret is not
revealed to me for any wisdom that I have
more than any living, but to the intent
that the interpretation may be made
known to the king, and that you may
know the thoughts of your heart.
31 "You, O king, saw, and behold,† a
great image. This image, which was
mighty, and whose brightness was
excellent, stood before you; and its
appearance was terrifying.
32 As for this image, its head was of fine
gold, its chest and its arms of silver, its
belly and its thighs of bronze,
33 its legs of iron, its feet part of iron and
part of clay.
34 You saw until a stone was cut out
without hands, which struck the image on
its feet that were of iron and clay, and
broke them in pieces.
35 Then the iron, the clay, the bronze,
the silver, and the gold were broken in
pieces together, and became like the chaff
of the summer threshing floors. The wind
carried them away, so that no place was
found for them. The stone that struck the
image became a great mountain and filled
the whole earth.
36 "This is the dream; and we will tell its
interpretation before the king.
37 You, O king, are king of kings, to
whom the God of heaven has given the
kingdom, the power, the strength, and the
glory.
38 Wherever the children of men dwell,
he has given the animals of the field and
the birds of the sky into your hand, and
has made you rule over them all. You are
the head of gold.
39 "After you, another kingdom will
arise that is inferior to you; and another
third kingdom of bronze, which will rule
over all the earth.
40 The fourth kingdom will be strong as
iron, because iron breaks in pieces and
subdues all things; and as iron that
crushes all these, it will break in pieces
and crush.
41 Whereas you saw the feet and toes,
part of potters' clay and part of iron, it will
be a divided kingdom; but there will be in
it of the strength of the iron, because you
saw the iron mixed with miry clay.
42 As the toes of the feet were part of
iron, and part of clay, so the kingdom will
be partly strong and partly brittle.
43 Whereas you saw the iron mixed with
miry clay, they will mingle themselves
with the seed of men; but they won't cling
to one another, even as iron does not mix
with clay.
44 "In the days of those kings the God of
heaven will set up a kingdom which will
never be destroyed, nor will its
sovereignty be left to another people; but
it will break in pieces and consume all
these kingdoms, and it will stand forever.
45 Because you saw that a stone was cut
out of the mountain without hands, and
that it broke in pieces the iron, the bronze,
the clay, the silver, and the gold, the great
God has made known to the king what
will happen hereafter. The dream is
certain, and its interpretation sure."

† **2:31** "Behold", from "הֶנֵּה", means look at, take notice, observe, see, or gaze at. It is often used as an interjection.

46 Then King Nebuchadnezzar fell on
his face, worshiped Daniel, and
commanded that they should offer an
offering and sweet odors to him.
47 The king answered to Daniel, and
said, “Of a truth your God is the God of
gods, and the Lord of kings, and a revealer
of secrets, since you have been able to
reveal this secret.”
48 Then the king made Daniel great and
gave him many great gifts, and made him
rule over the whole province of Babylon
and to be chief governor over all the wise
men of Babylon.
49 Daniel requested of the king, and he
appointed Shadrach, Meshach, and
Abednego over the affairs of the province
of Babylon, but Daniel was in the king’s
gate.

3

1 Nebuchadnezzar the king made an
image of gold, whose height was sixty
cubits† and its width six cubits. He set it
up in the plain of Dura, in the province of
Babylon.
2 Then Nebuchadnezzar the king sent to
gather together the local governors, the
deputies, and the governors, the judges,
the treasurers, the counselors, the
sheriffs, and all the rulers of the
provinces, to come to the dedication of the
image which Nebuchadnezzar the king
had set up.
3 Then the local governors, the deputies,
and the governors, the judges, the
treasurers, the counselors, the sheriffs,
and all the rulers of the provinces were
gathered together to the dedication of the
image that Nebuchadnezzar the king had
set up; and they stood before the image
that Nebuchadnezzar had set up.
4 Then the herald cried aloud, “To you it
is commanded, peoples, nations, and
languages,
5 that whenever you hear the sound of
the horn, flute, zither, lyre, harp, pipe,
and all kinds of music, you fall down and
worship the golden image that
Nebuchadnezzar the king has set up.
6 Whoever doesn’t fall down and
worship shall be cast into the middle of a
burning fiery furnace the same hour.”
7 Therefore at that time, when all the
peoples heard the sound of the horn, flute,
zither, lyre, harp, pipe, and all kinds of
music, all the peoples, the nations, and the
languages fell down and worshiped the
golden image that Nebuchadnezzar the
king had set up.
8 Therefore at that time certain
Chaldeans came near and brought
accusation against the Jews.
9 They answered Nebuchadnezzar the
king, “O king, live for ever!
10 You, O king, have made a decree that
every man who hears the sound of the
horn, flute, zither, lyre, harp, pipe, and all
kinds of music shall fall down and
worship the golden image;
11 and whoever doesn’t fall down and
worship shall be cast into the middle of a
burning fiery furnace.
12 There are certain Jews whom you
have appointed over the affairs of the
province of Babylon: Shadrach, Meshach,
and Abednego. These men, O king, have
not respected you. They don’t serve your
gods, and don’t worship the golden image
which you have set up.”
13 Then Nebuchadnezzar in rage and
fury commanded that Shadrach,
Meshach, and Abednego be brought. Then
these men were brought before the king.
14 Nebuchadnezzar answered them, “Is
it true, Shadrach, Meshach, and
Abednego, that you don’t serve my gods
and you don’t worship the golden image
which I have set up?
15 Now if you are ready whenever you
hear the sound of the horn, flute, zither,
lyre, harp, pipe, and all kinds of music to
fall down and worship the image which I
have made, good; but if you don’t
worship, you shall be cast the same hour
into the middle of a burning fiery furnace.

† **3:1** A cubit is the length from the tip of the middle finger to the elbow on a man’s arm, or about 18 inches or 46 centimeters.

Who is that god who will deliver you out of my hands?"

16 Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego answered the king, "Nebuchadnezzar, we have no need to answer you in this matter.

17 If it happens, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace; and he will deliver us out of your hand, O king.

18 But if not, let it be known to you, O king, that we will not serve your gods or worship the golden image which you have set up."

19 Then Nebuchadnezzar was full of fury, and the form of his appearance was changed against Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. He spoke, and commanded that they should heat the furnace seven times more than it was usually heated.

20 He commanded certain mighty men who were in his army to bind Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, and to cast them into the burning fiery furnace.

21 Then these men were bound in their pants, their tunics, and their mantles, and their other clothes, and were cast into the middle of the burning fiery furnace.

22 Therefore because the king's commandment was urgent and the furnace exceedingly hot, the flame of the fire killed those men who took up Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego.

23 These three men, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, fell down bound into the middle of the burning fiery furnace.

24 Then Nebuchadnezzar the king was astonished and rose up in haste. He spoke and said to his counselors, "Didn't we cast three men bound into the middle of the fire?"

They answered the king, "True, O king."

25 He answered, "Look, I see four men loose, walking in the middle of the fire, and they are unharmed. The appearance of the fourth is like a son of the gods.‡"

26 Then Nebuchadnezzar came near to the mouth of the burning fiery furnace. He spoke and said, "Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, you servants of the Most High God, come out, and come here!"

Then Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego came out of the middle of the fire.

27 The local governors, the deputies, and the governors, and the king's counselors, being gathered together, saw these men, that the fire had no power on their bodies. The hair of their head wasn't singed. Their pants weren't changed. The smell of fire wasn't even on them.

28 Nebuchadnezzar spoke and said, "Blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, who has sent his angel and delivered his servants who trusted in him, and have changed the king's word, and have yielded their bodies, that they might not serve nor worship any god except their own God.

29 Therefore I make a decree that every people, nation, and language which speak anything evil against the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego shall be cut in pieces, and their houses shall be made a dunghill, because there is no other god who is able to deliver like this."

30 Then the king promoted Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego in the province of Babylon.

4

1 Nebuchadnezzar the king,
to all the peoples, nations, and languages, who dwell in all the earth:
Peace be multiplied to you.

2 It has seemed good to me to show the signs and wonders that the Most High God has worked toward me.

3 How great are his signs!
How mighty are his wonders!
His kingdom is an everlasting kingdom.
His dominion is from generation to generation.

4 I, Nebuchadnezzar, was at rest in my house, and flourishing in my palace.

5 I saw a dream which made me afraid; and the thoughts on my bed and the visions of my head troubled me.

6 Therefore I made a decree to bring in all the wise men of Babylon before me,

‡ **3:25** Or, the Son of God.

that they might make known to me the interpretation of the dream.
7 Then the magicians, the enchanters, the Chaldeans, and the soothsayers came in; and I told them the dream, but they didn't make known to me its interpretation.
8 But at last, Daniel came in before me, whose name was Belteshazzar according to the name of my god, and in whom is the spirit of the holy gods. I told the dream before him, saying,
9 "Belteshazzar, master of the magicians, because I know that the spirit of the holy gods is in you and no secret troubles you, tell me the visions of my dream that I have seen, and its interpretation.
10 These were the visions of my head on my bed: I saw, and behold, a tree in the middle of the earth; and its height was great.
11 The tree grew and was strong. Its height reached to the sky and its sight to the end of all the earth.
12 Its leaves were beautiful, and it had much fruit, and in it was food for all. The animals of the field had shade under it, and the birds of the sky lived in its branches, and all flesh was fed from it.
13 "I saw in the visions of my head on my bed, and behold, a holy watcher came down from the sky.
14 He cried aloud and said this: 'Cut down the tree, and cut off its branches! Shake off its leaves and scatter its fruit! Let the animals get away from under it and the birds from its branches.
15 Nevertheless leave the stump of its roots in the earth, even with a band of iron and bronze, in the tender grass of the field; and let it be wet with the dew of the sky. Let his portion be with the animals in the grass of the earth.
16 Let his heart be changed from man's, and let an animal's heart be given to him. Then let seven times pass over him.
17 " 'The sentence is by the decree of the watchers and the demand by the word of the holy ones, to the intent that the living may know that the Most High rules in the kingdom of men, and gives it to whomever he will, and sets up over it the lowest of men.'
18 "This dream I, King Nebuchadnezzar, have seen; and you, Belteshazzar, declare the interpretation, because all the wise men of my kingdom are not able to make known to me the interpretation; but you are able, for the spirit of the holy gods is in you."
19 Then Daniel, whose name was Belteshazzar, was stricken mute for a while, and his thoughts troubled him. The king answered, "Belteshazzar, don't let the dream or the interpretation trouble you."
Belteshazzar answered, "My lord, may the dream be for those who hate you, and its interpretation to your adversaries.
20 The tree that you saw, which grew and was strong, whose height reached to the sky and its sight to all the earth;
21 whose leaves were beautiful and its fruit plentiful, and in it was food for all; under which the animals of the field lived, and on whose branches the birds of the sky had their habitation—
22 it is you, O king, that have grown and become strong; for your greatness has grown, and reaches to the sky, and your dominion to the end of the earth.
23 "Whereas the king saw a holy watcher coming down from the sky and saying, 'Cut down the tree, and destroy it; nevertheless leave the stump of its roots in the earth, even with a band of iron and bronze, in the tender grass of the field, and let it be wet with the dew of the sky. Let his portion be with the animals of the field, until seven times pass over him.'
24 "This is the interpretation, O king, and it is the decree of the Most High, which has come on my lord the king:
25 You will be driven from men and your dwelling shall be with the animals of the field. You will be made to eat grass as oxen, and will be wet with the dew of the sky, and seven times shall pass over you, until you know that the Most High rules in

the kingdom of men, and gives it to
whomever he will.
26 Whereas it was commanded to
leave the stump of the roots of the tree,
your kingdom shall be sure to you after
you know that Heaven rules.
27 Therefore, O king, let my counsel be
acceptable to you, and break off your sins
by righteousness, and your iniquities by
showing mercy to the poor. Perhaps there
may be a lengthening of your tranquility."
28 All this came on the King
Nebuchadnezzar.
29 At the end of twelve months he was
walking in the royal palace of Babylon.
30 The king spoke and said, "Is not this
great Babylon, which I have built for the
royal dwelling place by the might of my
power and for the glory of my majesty?"
31 While the word was in the king's
mouth, a voice came from the sky,
saying, "O King Nebuchadnezzar, to you
it is spoken: 'The kingdom has departed
from you.
32 You shall be driven from men, and
your dwelling shall be with the animals of
the field. You shall be made to eat grass
like oxen. Seven times shall pass over you,
until you know that the Most High rules in
the kingdom of men, and gives it to
whomever he will.' "
33 This was fulfilled the same hour on
Nebuchadnezzar. He was driven from
men and ate grass like oxen; and his
body was wet with the dew of the sky
until his hair had grown like eagles'
feathers, and his nails like birds' claws.
34 At the end of the days I,
Nebuchadnezzar, lifted up my eyes to
heaven, and my understanding
returned to me; and I blessed the Most
High, and I praised and honored him
who lives forever,

for his dominion is an everlasting
dominion,
and his kingdom from generation to
generation.

35 All the inhabitants of the earth are
reputed as nothing;
and he does according to his will in
the army of heaven,
and among the inhabitants of the
earth;
and no one can stop his hand,
or ask him, "What are you doing?"
36 At the same time my understanding
returned to me; and for the glory of my
kingdom, my majesty and brightness
returned to me. My counselors and my
lords sought me; and I was established
in my kingdom, and excellent greatness
was added to me.
37 Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise and
extol and honor the King of heaven; for all
his works are truth, and his ways justice;
and those who walk in pride he is able to
abase.

5

1 Belshazzar the king made a great feast
to a thousand of his lords, and drank wine
before the thousand.
2 Belshazzar, while he tasted the wine,
commanded that the golden and silver
vessels which Nebuchadnezzar his father
had taken out of the temple which was in
Jerusalem be brought to him, that the king
and his lords, his wives and his
concubines, might drink from them.
3 Then they brought the golden vessels
that were taken out of the temple of God's
house which was at Jerusalem; and the
king and his lords, his wives and his
concubines, drank from them.
4 They drank wine, and praised the gods
of gold, and of silver, of bronze, of iron, of
wood, and of stone.
5 In the same hour, the fingers of a
man's hand came out and wrote near the
lamp stand on the plaster of the wall of
the king's palace. The king saw the part of
the hand that wrote.
6 Then the king's face was changed in
him, and his thoughts troubled him; and
the joints of his thighs were loosened, and
his knees struck one against another.
7 The king cried aloud to bring in the
enchanters, the Chaldeans, and the
soothsayers. The king spoke and said to
the wise men of Babylon, "Whoever reads
this writing and shows me its
interpretation shall be clothed with
purple, and have a chain of gold about his

neck, and shall be the third ruler in the kingdom."

8 Then all the king's wise men came in; but they could not read the writing, and couldn't make known to the king the interpretation.

9 Then King Belshazzar was greatly troubled, and his face was changed in him, and his lords were perplexed.

10 The queen by reason of the words of the king and his lords came into the banquet house. The queen spoke and said, "O king, live forever; don't let your thoughts trouble you, nor let your face be changed.

11 There is a man in your kingdom in whom is the spirit of the holy gods; and in the days of your father, light and understanding and wisdom, like the wisdom of the gods, were found in him. The king, Nebuchadnezzar, your father—yes, the king, your father—made him master of the magicians, enchanters, Chaldeans, and soothsayers,

12 because an excellent spirit, knowledge, understanding, interpreting of dreams, showing of dark sentences, and dissolving of doubts were found in the same Daniel, whom the king named Belteshazzar. Now let Daniel be called, and he will show the interpretation."

13 Then Daniel was brought in before the king. The king spoke and said to Daniel, "Are you that Daniel of the children of the captivity of Judah, whom the king my father brought out of Judah?

14 I have heard of you, that the spirit of the gods is in you and that light, understanding, and excellent wisdom are found in you.

15 Now the wise men, the enchanters, have been brought in before me, that they should read this writing, and make known to me its interpretation; but they could not show the interpretation of the thing.

16 But I have heard of you, that you can give interpretations and dissolve doubts. Now if you can read the writing and make known to me its interpretation, you shall be clothed with purple, and have a chain of gold around your neck, and shall be the third ruler in the kingdom."

17 Then Daniel answered before the king, "Let your gifts be to yourself, and give your rewards to another. Nevertheless, I will read the writing to the king, and make known to him the interpretation.

18 "To you, king, the Most High God gave Nebuchadnezzar your father the kingdom, and greatness, and glory, and majesty.

19 Because of the greatness that he gave him, all the peoples, nations, and languages trembled and feared before him. He killed whom he wanted to, and he kept alive whom he wanted to. He raised up whom he wanted to, and he put down whom he wanted to.

20 But when his heart was lifted up, and his spirit was hardened so that he dealt proudly, he was deposed from his kingly throne, and they took his glory from him.

21 He was driven from the sons of men, and his heart was made like the animals', and his dwelling was with the wild donkeys. He was fed with grass like oxen, and his body was wet with the dew of the sky, until he knew that the Most High God rules in the kingdom of men, and that he sets up over it whomever he will.

22 "You, his son, Belshazzar, have not humbled your heart, though you knew all this,

23 but have lifted up yourself against the Lord of heaven; and they have brought the vessels of his house before you, and you and your lords, your wives, and your concubines, have drunk wine from them. You have praised the gods of silver and gold, of bronze, iron, wood, and stone, which don't see, or hear, or know; and you have not glorified the God in whose hand your breath is, and whose are all your ways.

24 Then the part of the hand was sent from before him, and this writing was inscribed.

25 "This is the writing that was inscribed: 'MENE, MENE, TEKEL, UPHARSIN.'

26 “This is the interpretation of the thing:
MENE: God has counted your kingdom, and brought it to an end.
27 TEKEL: you are weighed in the balances, and are found wanting.
28 PERES: your kingdom is divided, and given to the Medes and Persians.”
29 Then Belshazzar commanded, and they clothed Daniel with purple, and put a chain of gold about his neck, and made proclamation concerning him, that he should be the third ruler in the kingdom.
30 In that night Belshazzar the Chaldean King was slain.
31 Darius the Mede received the kingdom, being about sixty-two years old.

6

1 It pleased Darius to set over the kingdom one hundred twenty local governors, who should be throughout the whole kingdom;
2 and over them three presidents, of whom Daniel was one, that these local governors might give account to them, and that the king should suffer no loss.
3 Then this Daniel was distinguished above the presidents and the local governors, because an excellent spirit was in him; and the king thought to set him over the whole realm.
4 Then the presidents and the local governors sought to find occasion against Daniel as touching the kingdom; but they could find no occasion or fault, because he was faithful. There wasn’t any error or fault found in him.
5 Then these men said, “We won’t find any occasion against this Daniel, unless we find it against him concerning the law of his God.”
6 Then these presidents and local governors assembled together to the king, and said this to him, “King Darius, live forever!
7 All the presidents of the kingdom, the deputies and the local governors, the counselors and the governors, have consulted together to establish a royal statute and to make a strong decree, that whoever asks a petition of any god or man for thirty days, except of you, O king, he shall be cast into the den of lions.
8 Now, O king, establish the decree and sign the writing, that it not be changed, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which doesn’t alter.”
9 Therefore King Darius signed the writing and the decree.
10 When Daniel knew that the writing was signed, he went into his house (now his windows were open in his room toward Jerusalem) and he kneeled on his knees three times a day, and prayed, and gave thanks before his God, as he did before.
11 Then these men assembled together, and found Daniel making petition and supplication before his God.
12 Then they came near, and spoke before the king concerning the king’s decree: “Haven’t you signed a decree that every man who makes a petition to any god or man within thirty days, except to you, O king, shall be cast into the den of lions?”
The king answered, “This thing is true, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which doesn’t alter.”
13 Then they answered and said before the king, “That Daniel, who is of the children of the captivity of Judah, doesn’t respect you, O king, nor the decree that you have signed, but makes his petition three times a day.”
14 Then the king, when he heard these words, was very displeased, and set his heart on Daniel to deliver him; and he labored until the going down of the sun to rescue him.
15 Then these men assembled together to the king, and said to the king, “Know, O king, that it is a law of the Medes and Persians, that no decree nor statute which the king establishes may be changed.”
16 Then the king commanded, and they brought Daniel and cast him into the den of lions. The king spoke and said to Daniel, “Your God whom you serve continually, he will deliver you.”
17 A stone was brought, and laid on the mouth of the den; and the king sealed it

with his own signet, and with the signet of his lords; that nothing might be changed concerning Daniel.
18 Then the king went to his palace, and passed the night fasting. No musical instruments were brought before him; and his sleep fled from him.
19 Then the king arose very early in the morning, and went in haste to the den of lions.
20 When he came near to Daniel in the den, he cried with a troubled voice. The king spoke and said to Daniel, "Daniel, servant of the living God, is your God, whom you serve continually, able to deliver you from the lions?"
21 Then Daniel said to the king, "O king, live forever!
22 My God has sent his angel, and has shut the lions' mouths, and they have not hurt me, because innocence was found in me before him; and also before you, O king, I have done no harm."
23 Then the king was exceedingly glad, and commanded that they should take Daniel up out of the den. So Daniel was taken up out of the den, and no kind of harm was found on him, because he had trusted in his God.
24 The king commanded, and they brought those men who had accused Daniel, and they cast them into the den of lions—them, their children, and their wives; and the lions mauled them, and broke all their bones in pieces before they came to the bottom of the den.
25 Then King Darius wrote to all the peoples, nations, and languages who dwell in all the earth:
"Peace be multiplied to you.
26 "I 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 steadfast forever.
His kingdom is that which will not be destroyed.
His dominion will be even to the end.
27 He delivers and rescues.
He works signs and wonders in heaven and in earth,
who has delivered Daniel from the power of the lions."
28 So this Daniel prospered in the reign of Darius and in the reign of Cyrus the Persian.

7

1 In the first year of Belshazzar king of Babylon, Daniel had a dream and visions of his head while on his bed. Then he wrote the dream and told the sum of the matters.
2 Daniel spoke and said, "I saw in my vision by night, and, behold, the four winds of the sky broke out on the great sea.
3 Four great animals came up from the sea, different from one another.
4 "The first was like a lion, and had eagle's wings. I watched until its wings were plucked, and it was lifted up from the earth and made to stand on two feet as a man. A man's heart was given to it.
5 "Behold, there was another animal, a second, like a bear. It was raised up on one side, and three ribs were in its mouth between its teeth. They said this to it: 'Arise! Devour much flesh!'
6 "After this I saw, and behold, another, like a leopard, which had on its back four wings of a bird. The animal also had four heads; and dominion was given to it.
7 "After this I saw in the night visions, and, behold, there was a fourth animal, awesome, powerful, and exceedingly strong. It had great iron teeth. It devoured and broke in pieces, and stamped the residue with its feet. It was different from all the animals that were before it. It had ten horns.
8 "I considered the horns, and behold, there came up among them another horn, a little one, before which three of the first horns were plucked up by the roots; and behold, in this horn were eyes like the eyes of a man, and a mouth speaking arrogantly.
9 "I watched until thrones were placed,
and one who was Ancient of Days sat.
His clothing was white as snow,
and the hair of his head like pure wool.
His throne was fiery flames,
and its wheels burning fire.

10 A fiery stream issued and came out
from before him.
Thousands of thousands ministered
to him.
Ten thousand times ten thousand
stood before him.
The judgment was set.
The books were opened.
11 "I watched at that time because of the
voice of the arrogant words which the
horn spoke. I watched even until the
animal was slain, and its body destroyed,
and it was given to be burned with fire.
12 As for the rest of the animals, their
dominion was taken away; yet their lives
were prolonged for a season and a time.
13 "I saw in the night visions, and
behold, there came with the clouds of the
sky one like a son of man, and he came
even to the Ancient of Days, and they
brought him near before him.
14 Dominion was given him, and glory,
and a kingdom, that all the peoples,
nations, and languages should serve him.
His dominion is an everlasting dominion,
which will not pass away, and his
kingdom one that will not be destroyed.
15 "As for me, Daniel, my spirit was
grieved within my body, and the visions
of my head troubled me.
16 I came near to one of those who stood
by, and asked him the truth concerning all
this.
"So he told me, and made me know the
interpretation of the things.
17 'These great animals, which are four,
are four kings, who will arise out of the
earth.
18 But the saints of the Most High will
receive the kingdom, and possess the
kingdom forever, even forever and ever.'
19 "Then I desired to know the truth
concerning the fourth animal, which was
different from all of them, exceedingly
terrible, whose teeth were of iron, and its
nails of bronze; which devoured, broke in
pieces, and stamped the residue with its
feet;
20 and concerning the ten horns that
were on its head and the other horn
which came up, and before which three
fell, even that horn that had eyes and a
mouth that spoke arrogantly, whose look
was more stout than its fellows.
21 I saw, and the same horn made war
with the saints, and prevailed against
them,
22 until the Ancient of Days came, and
judgment was given to the saints of the
Most High, and the time came that the
saints possessed the kingdom.
23 "So he said, 'The fourth animal will be
a fourth kingdom on earth, which will be
different from all the kingdoms, and will
devour the whole earth, and will tread it
down and break it in pieces.
24 As for the ten horns, ten kings will
arise out of this kingdom. Another will
arise after them; and he will be different
from the former, and he will put down
three kings.
25 He will speak words against the Most
High, and will wear out the saints of the
Most High. He will plan to change the
times and the law; and they will be given
into his hand until a time and times and
half a time.
26 " 'But the judgment will be set, and
they will take away his dominion, to
consume and to destroy it to the end.
27 The kingdom and the dominion, and
the greatness of the kingdoms under the
whole sky, will be given to the people of
the saints of the Most High. His kingdom
is an everlasting kingdom, and all
dominions will serve and obey him.'
28 "Here is the end of the matter. As for
me, Daniel, my thoughts troubled me
greatly, and my face was changed in me;
but I kept the matter in my heart."

8

1 In the third year of the reign of King
Belshazzar, a vision appeared to me, even
to me, Daniel, after that which appeared
to me at the first.
2 I saw the vision. Now it was so, that
when I saw, I was in the citadel of Susa,
which is in the province of Elam. I saw in
the vision, and I was by the river Ulai.
3 Then I lifted up my eyes and saw, and
behold, a ram which had two horns stood
before the river. The two horns were

high, but one was higher than the other, and the higher came up last.
4 I saw the ram pushing westward, northward, and southward. No animals could stand before him. There wasn't any who could deliver out of his hand, but he did according to his will, and magnified himself.
5 As I was considering, behold, a male goat came from the west over the surface of the whole earth, and didn't touch the ground. The goat had a notable horn between his eyes.
6 He came to the ram that had the two horns, which I saw standing before the river, and ran on him in the fury of his power.
7 I saw him come close to the ram, and he was moved with anger against him, and struck the ram, and broke his two horns. There was no power in the ram to stand before him; but he cast him down to the ground and trampled on him. There was no one who could deliver the ram out of his hand.
8 The male goat magnified himself exceedingly. When he was strong, the great horn was broken; and instead of it there came up four notable horns toward the four winds of the sky.
9 Out of one of them came out a little horn which grew exceedingly great—toward the south, and toward the east, and toward the glorious land.
10 It grew great, even to the army of the sky; and it cast down some of the army and of the stars to the ground and trampled on them.
11 Yes, it magnified itself, even to the prince of the army; and it took away from him the continual burnt offering, and the place of his sanctuary was cast down.
12 The army was given over to it together with the continual burnt offering through disobedience. It cast down truth to the ground, and it did its pleasure and prospered.
13 Then I heard a holy one speaking; and another holy one said to that certain one who spoke, "How long will the vision about the continual burnt offering, and the disobedience that makes desolate, to give both the sanctuary and the army to be trodden under foot be?"
14 He said to me, "To two thousand and three hundred evenings and mornings. Then the sanctuary will be cleansed."
15 When I, even I Daniel, had seen the vision, I sought to understand it. Then behold, there stood before me someone with the appearance of a man.
16 I heard a man's voice between the banks of the Ulai, which called and said, "Gabriel, make this man understand the vision."
17 So he came near where I stood; and when he came, I was frightened, and fell on my face; but he said to me, "Understand, son of man, for the vision belongs to the time of the end."
18 Now as he was speaking with me, I fell into a deep sleep with my face toward the ground; but he touched me and set me upright.
19 He said, "Behold, I will make you know what will be in the latter time of the indignation, for it belongs to the appointed time of the end.
20 The ram which you saw, that had the two horns, they are the kings of Media and Persia.
21 The rough male goat is the king of Greece. The great horn that is between his eyes is the first king.
22 As for that which was broken, in the place where four stood up, four kingdoms will stand up out of the nation, but not with his power.
23 "In the latter time of their kingdom, when the transgressors have come to the full, a king of fierce face, and understanding riddles, will stand up.
24 His power will be mighty, but not by his own power. He will destroy awesomely, and will prosper in what he does. He will destroy the mighty ones and the holy people.
25 Through his policy he will cause deceit to prosper in his hand. He will magnify himself in his heart, and he will destroy many in their security. He will also stand up against the prince of princes, but he will be broken without human hands.

26 “The vision of the evenings and
mornings which has been told is true; but
seal up the vision, for it belongs to many
days to come.”
27 I, Daniel, fainted, and was sick for
some days. Then I rose up and did the
king’s business. I wondered at the vision,
but no one understood it.

9

1 In the first year of Darius the son of
Ahasuerus, of the offspring of the Medes,
who was made king over the realm of the
Chaldeans—
2 in the first year of his reign I, Daniel,
understood by the books the number of
the years about which the LORD’s† word
came to Jeremiah the prophet for the
accomplishing of the desolations of
Jerusalem, even seventy years.
3 I set my face to the Lord God, to seek
by prayer and petitions, with fasting and
sackcloth and ashes.
4 I prayed to the LORD my God, and
made confession, and said,
“Oh, Lord, the great and dreadful
God, who keeps covenant and loving
kindness with those who love him and
keep his commandments,
5 we have sinned, and have dealt
perversely, and have done wickedly, and
have rebelled, even turning aside from
your precepts and from your ordinances.
6 We haven’t listened to your servants
the prophets, who spoke in your name to
our kings, our princes, and our fathers,
and to all the people of the land.
7 “Lord, righteousness belongs to you,
but to us confusion of face, as it is today;
to the men of Judah, and to the
inhabitants of Jerusalem, and to all
Israel, who are near and who are far off,
through all the countries where you
have driven them, because of their
trespass that they have trespassed
against you.
8 Lord, to us belongs confusion of
face, to our kings, to our princes, and to
our fathers, because we have sinned
against you.
9 To the Lord our God belong mercies
and forgiveness, for we have rebelled
against him.
10 We haven’t obeyed the LORD our
God’s voice, to walk in his laws, which he
set before us by his servants the prophets.
11 Yes, all Israel have transgressed
your law, turning aside, that they should
not obey your voice.
“Therefore the curse and the oath
written in the law of Moses the servant
of God has been poured out on us, for
we have sinned against him.
12 He has confirmed his words, which
he spoke against us and against our judges
who judged us, by bringing on us a great
evil; for under the whole sky, such has not
been done as has been done to Jerusalem.
13 As it is written in the law of Moses,
all this evil has come on us. Yet we have
not entreated the favor of the LORD our
God, that we should turn from our
iniquities and have discernment in your
truth.
14 Therefore the LORD has watched
over the evil, and brought it on us; for the
LORD our God is righteous in all his works
which he does, and we have not obeyed
his voice.
15 “Now, Lord our God, who has
brought your people out of the land of
Egypt with a mighty hand, and have
gotten yourself renown, as it is today,
we have sinned. We have done
wickedly.
16 Lord, according to all your
righteousness, please let your anger and
your wrath be turned away from your city
Jerusalem, your holy mountain; because
for our sins and for the iniquities of our
fathers, Jerusalem and your people have
become a reproach to all who are around
us.
17 “Now therefore, our God, listen to
the prayer of your servant and to his
petitions, and cause your face to shine
on your sanctuary that is desolate, for
the Lord’s sake.
18 My God, turn your ear and hear.
Open your eyes and see our desolations,

† **9:2** When rendered in ALL CAPITAL LETTERS, “LORD” or “GOD” is the translation of God’s Proper Name (Hebrew “יהוה”, usually pronounced Yahweh).

and the city which is called by your name; for we do not present our petitions before you for our righteousness, but for your great mercies' sake.
19 Lord, hear. Lord, forgive. Lord, listen and do. Don't defer, for your own sake, my God, because your city and your people are called by your name."

20 While I was speaking, praying, and confessing my sin and the sin of my people Israel, and presenting my supplication before the LORD my God for the holy mountain of my God—
21 yes, while I was speaking in prayer—the man Gabriel, whom I had seen in the vision at the beginning, being caused to fly swiftly, touched me about the time of the evening offering.
22 He instructed me and talked with me, and said, "Daniel, I have now come to give you wisdom and understanding.
23 At the beginning of your petitions the commandment went out, and I have come to tell you, for you are greatly beloved. Therefore consider the matter and understand the vision.

24 "Seventy weeks are decreed on your people and on your holy city, to finish disobedience, to make an end of sins, to make reconciliation for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most holy.

25 "Know therefore and discern that from the going out of the commandment to restore and build Jerusalem to the Anointed One,‡ the prince, will be seven weeks and sixty-two weeks. It will be built again, with street and moat, even in troubled times.
26 After the sixty-two weeks the Anointed One§ will be cut off, and will have nothing. The people of the prince who come will destroy the city and the sanctuary. Its end will be with a flood, and war will be even to the end. Desolations are determined.
27 He will make a firm covenant with many for one week. In the middle of the week he will cause the sacrifice and the offering to cease. On the wing of abominations will come one who makes desolate; and even to the decreed full end, wrath will be poured out on the desolate."

10

1 In the third year of Cyrus king of Persia a message was revealed to Daniel, whose name was called Belteshazzar; and the message was true, even a great warfare. He understood the message, and had understanding of the vision.
2 In those days I, Daniel, was mourning three whole weeks.
3 I ate no pleasant food. No meat or wine came into my mouth. I didn't anoint myself at all, until three whole weeks were fulfilled.
4 In the twenty-fourth day of the first month, as I was by the side of the great river, which is Hiddekel,†
5 I lifted up my eyes and looked, and behold, there was a man clothed in linen, whose waist was adorned with pure gold of Uphaz.
6 His body also was like beryl, and his face as the appearance of lightning, and his eyes as flaming torches. His arms and his feet were like burnished bronze. The voice of his words was like the voice of a multitude.
7 I, Daniel, alone saw the vision, for the men who were with me didn't see the vision, but a great quaking fell on them, and they fled to hide themselves.
8 So I was left alone and saw this great vision. No strength remained in me; for my face grew deathly pale, and I retained no strength.
9 Yet I heard the voice of his words. When I heard the voice of his words, then I fell into a deep sleep on my face, with my face toward the ground.
10 Behold, a hand touched me, which set me on my knees and on the palms of my hands.
11 He said to me, "Daniel, you greatly beloved man, understand the words that I

‡ **9:25** "Anointed One" can also be translated "Messiah" (same as "Christ"). § **9:26** "Anointed One" can also be translated "Messiah" (same as "Christ"). † **10:4** or, Tigris River

speak to you, and stand upright, for I have been sent to you, now." When he had spoken this word to me, I stood trembling.

12 Then he said to me, "Don't be afraid, Daniel; for from the first day that you set your heart to understand, and to humble yourself before your God, your words were heard. I have come for your words' sake.
13 But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me twenty-one days; but, behold, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me because I remained there with the kings of Persia.
14 Now I have come to make you understand what will happen to your people in the latter days, for the vision is yet for many days."

15 When he had spoken these words to me, I set my face toward the ground and was mute.
16 Behold, one in the likeness of the sons of men touched my lips. Then I opened my mouth, and spoke and said to him who stood before me, "My lord, by reason of the vision my sorrows have overtaken me, and I retain no strength.
17 For how can the servant of this my lord talk with this my lord? For as for me, immediately there remained no strength in me. There was no breath left in me."

18 Then one like the appearance of a man touched me again, and he strengthened me.
19 He said, "Greatly beloved man, don't be afraid. Peace be to you. Be strong. Yes, be strong."

When he spoke to me, I was strengthened, and said, "Let my lord speak, for you have strengthened me."

20 Then he said, "Do you know why I have come to you? Now I will return to fight with the prince of Persia. When I go out, behold, the prince of Greece will come.
21 But I will tell you that which is inscribed in the writing of truth. There is no one who holds with me against these but Michael your prince.

11

1 "As for me, in the first year of Darius the Mede, I stood up to confirm and strengthen him.
2 "Now I will show you the truth. Behold, three more kings will stand up in Persia. The fourth will be far richer than all of them. When he has grown strong through his riches, he will stir up all against the realm of Greece.
3 A mighty king will stand up, who will rule with great dominion, and do according to his will.
4 When he stands up, his kingdom will be broken and will be divided toward the four winds of the sky, but not to his posterity, nor according to his dominion with which he ruled; for his kingdom will be plucked up, even for others besides these.
5 "The king of the south will be strong. One of his princes will become stronger than him, and have dominion. His dominion will be a great dominion.
6 At the end of years they will join themselves together; and the daughter of the king of the south will come to the king of the north to make an agreement, but she will not retain the strength of her arm. He will also not stand, nor will his arm; but she will be given up, with those who brought her, and he who became the father of her, and he who strengthened her in those times.
7 "But out of a shoot from her roots one will stand up in his place, who will come to the army and will enter into the fortress of the king of the north, and will deal against them and will prevail.
8 He will also carry their gods with their molten images, and with their goodly vessels of silver and of gold, captive into Egypt. He will refrain some years from the king of the north.
9 He will come into the realm of the king of the south, but he will return into his own land.
10 His sons will wage war, and will assemble a multitude of great forces which will come on, and overflow, and pass through. They will return and wage war, even to his fortress.

11 “The king of the south will be moved
with anger and will come out and fight
with him, even with the king of the north.
He will send out a great multitude, and
the multitude will be given into his hand.
12 The multitude will be carried off, and
his heart will be exalted. He will cast
down tens of thousands, but he won’t
prevail.
13 The king of the north will return, and
will send out a multitude greater than the
former. He will come on at the end of the
times, even of years, with a great army
and with abundant supplies.

14 “In those times many will stand up
against the king of the south. Also the
children of the violent among your people
will lift themselves up to establish the
vision, but they will fall.
15 So the king of the north will come and
cast up a mound, and take a well-fortified
city. The forces of the south won’t stand,
neither will his select troops, neither will
there be any strength to stand.
16 But he who comes against him will do
according to his own will, and no one will
stand before him. He will stand in the
glorious land, and destruction will be in
his hand.
17 He will set his face to come with the
strength of his whole kingdom, and with
him equitable conditions. He will perform
them. He will give him the daughter of
women, to destroy the kingdom, but she
will not stand, and won’t be for him.
18 After this he will turn his face to the
islands, and will take many, but a prince
will cause the reproach offered by him to
cease. Yes, moreover, he will cause his
reproach to turn on him.
19 Then he will turn his face toward the
fortresses of his own land; but he will
stumble and fall, and won’t be found.

20 “Then one who will cause a tax
collector to pass through the kingdom to
maintain its glory will stand up in his
place; but within few days he shall be
destroyed, not in anger, and not in battle.

21 “In his place a contemptible person
will stand up, to whom they had not given
the honor of the kingdom; but he will
come in time of security, and will obtain
the kingdom by flatteries.
22 The overwhelming forces will be
overwhelmed from before him, and will
be broken. Yes, also the prince of the
covenant.
23 After the treaty made with him he
will work deceitfully; for he will come up
and will become strong with few people.
24 In time of security he will come even
on the fattest places of the province. He
will do that which his fathers have not
done, nor his fathers’ fathers. He will
scatter among them prey, plunder, and
wealth. Yes, he will devise his plans
against the strongholds, but only for a
time.

25 “He will stir up his power and his
courage against the king of the south with
a great army; and the king of the south
will wage war in battle with an
exceedingly great and mighty army, but
he won’t stand; for they will devise plans
against him.
26 Yes, those who eat of his delicacies
will destroy him, and his army will be
swept away. Many will fall down slain.
27 As for both these kings, their hearts
will be to do evil, and they will speak lies
at one table; but it won’t prosper, for the
end will still be at the appointed time.
28 Then he will return into his land with
great wealth. His heart will be against the
holy covenant. He will take action, and
return to his own land.

29 “He will return at the appointed time
and come into the south; but it won’t be in
the latter time as it was in the former.
30 For ships of Kittim will come against
him. Therefore he will be grieved, and
will return, and have indignation against
the holy covenant, and will take action.
He will even return, and have regard to
those who forsake the holy covenant.

31 “Forces from him will profane the
sanctuary, even the fortress, and will take
away the continual burnt offering. Then
they will set up the abomination that
makes desolate.
32 He will corrupt those who do
wickedly against the covenant by

flatteries; but the people who know their God will be strong and take action.

33 “Those who are wise among the people will instruct many; yet they will fall by the sword and by flame, by captivity and by plunder, many days.
34 Now when they fall, they will be helped with a little help; but many will join themselves to them with flatteries.
35 Some of those who are wise will fall—to refine them, and to purify, and to make them white, even to the time of the end, because it is yet for the time appointed.

36 “The king will do according to his will. He will exalt himself and magnify himself above every god, and will speak marvelous things against the God of gods. He will prosper until the indignation is accomplished, for that which is determined will be done.
37 He won’t regard the gods of his fathers, or the desire of women, or regard any god; for he will magnify himself above all.
38 But in their place, he will honor the god of fortresses. He will honor a god whom his fathers didn’t know with gold, silver, and with precious stones and pleasant things.
39 He will deal with the strongest fortresses by the help of a foreign god. He will increase with glory whoever acknowledges him. He will cause them to rule over many, and will divide the land for a price.

40 “At the time of the end the king of the south will contend with him; and the king of the north will come against him like a whirlwind, with chariots, with horsemen, and with many ships. He will enter into the countries, and will overflow and pass through.
41 He will enter also into the glorious land, and many countries will be overthrown; but these will be delivered out of his hand: Edom, Moab, and the chief of the children of Ammon.
42 He will also stretch out his hand on the countries. The land of Egypt won’t escape.
43 But he will have power over the treasures of gold and of silver, and over all the precious things of Egypt. The Libyans and the Ethiopians will follow his steps.
44 But news out of the east and out of the north will trouble him; and he will go out with great fury to destroy and utterly to sweep away many.
45 He will plant the tents of his palace between the sea and the glorious holy mountain; yet he will come to his end, and no one will help him.

12

1 “At that time Michael will stand up, the great prince who stands for the children of your people; and there will be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time. At that time your people will be delivered, everyone who is found written in the book.
2 Many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth will awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt.
3 Those who are wise will shine as the brightness of the expanse. Those who turn many to righteousness will shine as the stars forever and ever.
4 But you, Daniel, shut up the words and seal the book, even to the time of the end. Many will run back and forth, and knowledge will be increased.”

5 Then I, Daniel, looked, and behold, two others stood, one on the river bank on this side, and the other on the river bank on that side.
6 One said to the man clothed in linen, who was above the waters of the river, “How long will it be to the end of these wonders?”
7 I heard the man clothed in linen, who was above the waters of the river, when he held up his right hand and his left hand to heaven, and swore by him who lives forever that it will be for a time, times, and a half; and when they have finished breaking in pieces the power of the holy people, all these things will be finished.
8 I heard, but I didn’t understand. Then I said, “My lord, what will be the outcome of these things?”

9 He said, “Go your way, Daniel; for the
words are shut up and sealed until the
time of the end.
10 Many will purify themselves, and
make themselves white, and be refined,
but the wicked will do wickedly; and none
of the wicked will understand, but those
who are wise will understand.
11 “From the time that the continual
burnt offering is taken away and the
abomination that makes desolate set up,
there will be one thousand two hundred
ninety days.
12 Blessed is he who waits, and comes to
the one thousand three hundred
thirty-five days.
13 “But go your way until the end; for
you will rest, and will stand in your
inheritance at the end of the days.”

The Book of Hosea

1 The LORD's† word that came to Hosea
the son of Beeri, in the days of Uzziah,
Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of
Judah, and in the days of Jeroboam the
son of Joash, king of Israel.

2 When the LORD spoke at first by
Hosea, the LORD said to Hosea, "Go, take
for yourself a wife of prostitution and
children of unfaithfulness; for the land
commits great adultery, forsaking the
LORD."

3 So he went and took Gomer the
daughter of Diblaim; and she conceived,
and bore him a son.

4 The LORD said to him, "Call his name
Jezreel, for yet a little while, and I will
avenge the blood of Jezreel on the house
of Jehu, and will cause the kingdom of the
house of Israel to cease.

5 It will happen in that day that I will
break the bow of Israel in the valley of
Jezreel."

6 She conceived again, and bore a
daughter.

Then he said to him, "Call her name
Lo-Ruhamah,‡ for I will no longer have
mercy on the house of Israel, that I should
in any way pardon them.

7 But I will have mercy on the house of
Judah, and will save them by the LORD
their God,§ and will not save them by
bow, sword, battle, horses, or horsemen."

8 Now when she had weaned
Lo-Ruhamah, she conceived, and bore a
son.

9 He said, "Call his name Lo-Ammi,† for
you are not my people, and I will not be
yours.

10 Yet the number of the children of
Israel will be as the sand of the sea, which
can't be measured or counted; and it will
come to pass that, in the place where it
was said to them, 'You are not my people,'
they will be called 'sons of the living God.'

11 The children of Judah and the
children of Israel will be gathered
together, and they will appoint
themselves one head, and will go up from
the land; for great will be the day of
Jezreel.

2

1 "Say to your brothers, 'My people!'†
and to your sisters, 'My loved one!'‡

2 Contend with your mother!
Contend, for she is not my wife,
neither am I her husband;
and let her put away her prostitution
from her face,
and her adulteries from between her
breasts;

3 lest I strip her naked,
and make her bare as in the day that
she was born,
and make her like a wilderness,
and set her like a dry land,
and kill her with thirst.

4 Indeed, on her children I will have no
mercy,
for they are children of
unfaithfulness.

5 For their mother has played the
prostitute.
She who conceived them has done
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.'

6 Therefore behold,§ I will hedge up your
way with thorns,
and I will build a wall against her,
that she can't find her way.

7 She will follow after her lovers,
but she won't overtake them;
and she will seek them,
but won't find them.
Then she will say, 'I will go and return to
my first husband,

† **1:1** When rendered in ALL CAPITAL LETTERS, "LORD" or "GOD" is the translation of God's Proper Name (Hebrew "יהוה", usually pronounced Yahweh). ‡ **1:6** Lo-Ruhamah means "not loved". § **1:7** The Hebrew word rendered "God" is "אֱלֹהִים" (Elohim). † **1:9** Lo-Ammi means "not my people". † **2:1** 'Ammi' in Hebrew ‡ **2:1** 'Ruhamah' in Hebrew § **2:6** "Behold", from "הִנֵּה", means look at, take notice, observe, see, or gaze at. It is often used as an interjection.

for then it was better with me than
now.’
8 For she didn’t know that I gave her the
grain, the new wine, and the oil,
and multiplied to her silver and gold,
which they used for Baal.
9 Therefore I will take back my grain in its
time,
and my new wine in its season,
and will pluck away my wool and my
flax which should have covered her
nakedness.
10 Now I will uncover her lewdness in the
sight of her lovers,
and no one will deliver her out of my
hand.
11 I will also cause all her celebrations to
cease:
her feasts, her new moons, her
Sabbaths, and all her solemn
assemblies.
12 I will lay waste her vines and her fig
trees,
about which she has said, ‘These are
my wages that my lovers have
given me,’
and I will make them a forest,
and the animals of the field shall eat
them.
13 I will visit on her the days of the Baals,
to which she burned incense
when she decked herself with her
earrings and her jewels,
and went after her lovers
and forgot me,” says the LORD.
14 “Therefore behold, I will allure her,
and bring her into the wilderness,
and speak tenderly to her.
15 I will give her vineyards from there,
and the valley of Achor for a door of
hope;
and she will respond there
as in the days of her youth,
and as in the day when she came up
out of the land of Egypt.
16 It will be in that day,” says the LORD,
“that you will call me ‘my husband,’
and no longer call me ‘my master.’
17 For I will take away the names of the
Baals out of her mouth,
and they will no longer be mentioned
by name.
18 In that day I will make a covenant for
them with the animals of the field,
and with the birds of the sky,
and with the creeping things of the
ground.
I will break the bow, the sword, and the
battle out of the land,
and will make them lie down safely.
19 I will betroth you to me forever.
Yes, I will betroth you to me in
righteousness, in justice, in loving
kindness, and in compassion.
20 I will even betroth you to me in
faithfulness;
and you shall know the LORD.
21 It will happen in that day, that I will
respond,” says the LORD.
“I will respond to the heavens,
and they will respond to the earth;
22 and the earth will respond to the
grain, and the new wine, and the
oil;
and they will respond to Jezreel.
23 I will sow her to me in the earth;
and I will have mercy on her who had
not obtained mercy;
and I will tell those who were not my
people, ‘You are my people;’
and they will say, ‘You are My God!’ ”

3

1 The LORD said to me, “Go again, love a
woman loved by another, and an
adulteress, even as the LORD loves the
children of Israel, though they turn to
other gods, and love cakes of raisins.”
2 So I bought her for myself for fifteen
pieces of silver and a homer† and a half of
barley.
3 I said to her, “You shall stay with me
many days. You shall not play the
prostitute, and you shall not be with any
other man. I will also be so toward you.”
4 For the children of Israel shall live
many days without king, without prince,
without sacrifice, without sacred stone,
and without ephod or idols.
5 Afterward the children of Israel shall
return and seek the LORD their God, and
David their king, and shall come with

† **3:2** 1 homer is about 220 liters or 6 bushels

trembling to the LORD and to his blessings
in the last days.

4

1 Hear the LORD's word, you children of
Israel,
for the LORD has a charge against the
inhabitants of the land:
"Indeed there is no truth, nor goodness,
nor knowledge of God in the land.
2 There is cursing, lying, murder, stealing,
and committing adultery;
they break boundaries, and
bloodshed causes bloodshed.
3 Therefore the land will mourn,
and everyone who dwells in it will
waste away,
with all living things in her,
even the animals of the field and the
birds of the sky;
yes, the fish of the sea also die.

4 "Yet let no man bring a charge, neither
let any man accuse;
for your people are like those who
bring charges against a priest.
5 You will stumble in the day,
and the prophet will also stumble
with you in the night;
and I will destroy your mother.
6 My people are destroyed for lack of
knowledge.
Because you have rejected
knowledge, I will also reject you,
that you may be no priest to me.
Because you have forgotten your God's
law,
I will also forget your children.
7 As they were multiplied, so they sinned
against me.
I will change their glory into shame.
8 They feed on the sin of my people,
and set their heart on their iniquity.
9 It will be like people, like priest;
and I will punish them for their ways,
and will repay them for their deeds.
10 They will eat, and not have enough.
They will play the prostitute, and will
not increase;
because they have abandoned
listening to the LORD.
11 Prostitution, wine, and new wine take
away understanding.
12 My people consult with their
wooden idol,
and answer to a stick of wood.
Indeed the spirit of prostitution has led
them astray,
and they have been unfaithful to
their God.
13 They sacrifice on the tops of the
mountains,
and burn incense on the hills, under
oaks, poplars, and terebinths,
because its shade is good.
Therefore your daughters play the
prostitute,
and your brides commit adultery.
14 I will not punish your daughters when
they play the prostitute,
nor your brides when they commit
adultery;
because the men consort with prostitutes,
and they sacrifice with the shrine
prostitutes;
so the people without understanding
will come to ruin.

15 "Though you, Israel, play the prostitute,
yet don't let Judah offend;
and don't come to Gilgal,
neither go up to Beth Aven,
nor swear, 'As the LORD lives.'
16 For Israel has behaved extremely
stubbornly, like a stubborn heifer.
Then how will the LORD feed them
like a lamb in a meadow?
17 Ephraim is joined to idols.
Leave him alone!
18 Their drink has become sour.
They play the prostitute continually.
Her rulers dearly love their shameful
way.
19 The wind has wrapped her up in its
wings;
and they shall be disappointed
because of their sacrifices.

5

1 "Listen to this, you priests!
Listen, house of Israel,
and give ear, house of the king!
For the judgment is against you;

for you have been a snare at Mizpah,
and a net spread on Tabor.
2 The rebels are deep in slaughter,
but I discipline all of them.
3 I know Ephraim,
and Israel is not hidden from me;
for now, Ephraim, you have played the prostitute.
Israel is defiled.
4 Their deeds won't allow them to turn to their God,
for the spirit of prostitution is within them,
and they don't know the LORD.
5 The pride of Israel testifies to his face.
Therefore Israel and Ephraim will stumble in their iniquity.
Judah also will stumble with them.
6 They will go with their flocks and with their herds to seek the LORD,
but they won't find him.
He has withdrawn himself from them.
7 They are unfaithful to the LORD;
for they have borne illegitimate children.
Now the new moon will devour them with their fields.

8 "Blow the cornet in Gibeah,
and the trumpet in Ramah!
Sound a battle cry at Beth Aven,
behind you, Benjamin!
9 Ephraim will become a desolation in the day of rebuke.
Among the tribes of Israel, I have made known that which will surely be.
10 The princes of Judah are like those who remove a landmark.
I will pour out my wrath on them like water.
11 Ephraim is oppressed,
he is crushed in judgment,
because he is intent in his pursuit of idols.
12 Therefore I am to Ephraim like a moth,
and to the house of Judah like rottenness.

13 "When Ephraim saw his sickness,
and Judah his wound,
then Ephraim went to Assyria,
and sent to King Jareb:
but he is not able to heal you,
neither will he cure you of your wound.
14 For I will be to Ephraim like a lion,
and like a young lion to the house of Judah.
I myself will tear in pieces and go away.
I will carry off, and there will be no one to deliver.
15 I will go and return to my place,
until they acknowledge their offense,
and seek my face.
In their affliction they will seek me earnestly."

6

1 "Come! Let's return to the LORD;
for he has torn us to pieces,
and he will heal us;
he has injured us,
and he will bind up our wounds.
2 After two days he will revive us.
On the third day he will raise us up,
and we will live before him.
3 Let's acknowledge the LORD.
Let's press on to know the LORD.
As surely as the sun rises,
the LORD will appear.
He will come to us like the rain,
like the spring rain that waters the earth."

4 "Ephraim, what shall I do to you?
Judah, what shall I do to you?
For your love is like a morning cloud,
and like the dew that disappears early.
5 Therefore I have cut them to pieces with the prophets;
I killed them with the words of my mouth.
Your judgments are like a flash of lightning.
6 For I desire mercy, and not sacrifice;
and the knowledge of God more than burnt offerings.
7 But they, like Adam, have broken the covenant.
They were unfaithful to me there.

8 Gilead is a city of those who work
iniquity;
it is stained with blood.
9 As gangs of robbers wait to ambush a
man,
so the company of priests murder on
the path toward Shechem,
committing shameful crimes.
10 In the house of Israel I have seen a
horrible thing.
There is prostitution in Ephraim.
Israel is defiled.

11 "Also, Judah, there is a harvest
appointed for you,
when I restore the fortunes of my
people.

7

1 When I would heal Israel,
then the iniquity of Ephraim is
uncovered,
also the wickedness of Samaria;
for they commit falsehood,
and the thief enters in,
and the gang of robbers ravages
outside.
2 They don't consider in their hearts that I
remember all their wickedness.
Now their own deeds have engulfed
them.
They are before my face.
3 They make the king glad with their
wickedness,
and the princes with their lies.
4 They are all adulterers.
They are burning like an oven that
the baker stops stirring,
from the kneading of the dough, until
it is leavened.
5 On the day of our king, the princes made
themselves sick with the heat of
wine.
He joined his hand with mockers.
6 For they have prepared their heart like
an oven,
while they lie in wait.
Their anger smolders all night.
In the morning it burns as a flaming
fire.
7 They are all hot as an oven,
and devour their judges.
All their kings have fallen.
There is no one among them who
calls to me.
8 Ephraim mixes himself among the
nations.
Ephraim is a pancake not turned over.
9 Strangers have devoured his strength,
and he doesn't realize it.
Indeed, gray hairs are here and there on
him,
and he doesn't realize it.
10 The pride of Israel testifies to his face;
yet they haven't returned to the LORD
their God,
nor sought him, for all this.

11 "Ephraim is like an easily deceived
dove, without understanding.
They call to Egypt.
They go to Assyria.
12 When they go, I will spread my net on
them.
I will bring them down like the birds
of the sky.
I will chastise them, as their
congregation has heard.
13 Woe to them!
For they have wandered from me.
Destruction to them!
For they have trespassed against me.
Though I would redeem them,
yet they have spoken lies against me.
14 They haven't cried to me with their
heart,
but they howl on their beds.
They assemble themselves for grain and
new wine.
They turn away from me.
15 Though I have taught and strengthened
their arms,
yet they plot evil against me.
16 They return, but not to the Most High.
They are like a faulty bow.
Their princes will fall by the sword
for the rage of their tongue.
This will be their derision in the land
of Egypt.

8

1 "Put the trumpet to your lips!
Something like an eagle is over the
LORD's house,

because they have broken my
covenant
and rebelled against my law.
2 They cry to me, ‘My God, we, Israel,
acknowledge you!’
3 Israel has cast off that which is good.
The enemy will pursue him.
4 They have set up kings, but not by me.
They have made princes, and I didn’t
approve.
Of their silver and their gold they
have made themselves idols,
that they may be cut off.
5 Let Samaria throw out his calf idol!
My anger burns against them!
How long will it be until they are
capable of purity?
6 For this is even from Israel!
The workman made it, and it is no
God;
indeed, the calf of Samaria shall be
broken in pieces.
7 For they sow the wind,
and they will reap the whirlwind.
He has no standing grain.
The stalk will yield no head.
If it does yield, strangers will swallow
it up.
8 Israel is swallowed up.
Now they are among the nations like
a worthless thing.
9 For they have gone up to Assyria,
like a wild donkey wandering alone.
Ephraim has hired lovers for himself.
10 But although they sold themselves
among the nations,
I will now gather them;
and they begin to waste away because
of the oppression of the king of
mighty ones.
11 Because Ephraim has multiplied altars
for sinning,
they became for him altars for
sinning.
12 I wrote for him the many things of my
law,
but they were regarded as a strange
thing.
13 As for the sacrifices of my offerings,
they sacrifice meat and eat it,
but the LORD doesn’t accept them.
Now he will remember their iniquity,
and punish their sins.
They will return to Egypt.
14 For Israel has forgotten his Maker and
built palaces;
and Judah has multiplied fortified
cities;
but I will send a fire on his cities,
and it will devour its fortresses.”

9

1 Don’t rejoice, Israel, to jubilation like
the nations;
for you were unfaithful to your God.
You love the wages of a prostitute at
every grain threshing floor.
2 The threshing floor and the wine press
won’t feed them,
and the new wine will fail her.
3 They won’t dwell in the LORD’s land;
but Ephraim will return to Egypt,
and they will eat unclean food in
Assyria.
4 They won’t pour out wine offerings to
the LORD,
neither will they be pleasing to him.
Their sacrifices will be to them like
the bread of mourners;
all who eat of it will be polluted;
for their bread will be for their
appetite.
It will not come into the LORD’s
house.
5 What will you do in the day of solemn
assembly,
and in the day of the feast of the
LORD?
6 For, behold, when they flee destruction,
Egypt will gather them up.
Memphis will bury them.
Nettles will possess their pleasant
things of silver.
Thorns will be in their tents.
7 The days of visitation have come.
The days of reckoning have come.
Israel will consider the prophet to be a
fool,
and the man who is inspired to be
insane,
because of the abundance of your
sins,
and because your hostility is great.

8 A prophet watches over Ephraim with my God.
A fowler's snare is on all of his paths,
and hostility in the house of his God.
9 They have deeply corrupted themselves,
as in the days of Gibeah.
He will remember their iniquity.
He will punish them for their sins.
10 I found Israel like grapes in the wilderness.
I saw your fathers as the first ripe in the fig tree at its first season;
but they came to Baal Peor, and consecrated themselves to the shameful thing,
and became abominable like that which they loved.
11 As for Ephraim, their glory will fly away like a bird.
There will be no birth, no one with child, and no conception.
12 Though they bring up their children,
yet I will bereave them, so that not a man shall be left.
Indeed, woe also to them when I depart from them!
13 I have seen Ephraim, like Tyre, planted in a pleasant place;
but Ephraim will bring out his children to the murderer.
14 Give them—LORD what will you give?
Give them a miscarrying womb and dry breasts.

15 "All their wickedness is in Gilgal;
for there I hated them.
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.
16 Ephraim is struck.
Their root has dried up.
They will bear no fruit.
Even though they give birth, yet I will kill the beloved ones of their womb."

17 My God will cast them away, because they didn't listen to him;
and they will be wanderers among the nations.

10

1 Israel is a luxuriant vine that produces his fruit.
According to the abundance of his fruit he has multiplied his altars.
As their land has prospered, they have adorned their sacred stones.
2 Their heart is divided.
Now they will be found guilty.
He will demolish their altars.
He will destroy their sacred stones.
3 Surely now they will say, "We have no king; for we don't fear the LORD;
and the king, what can he do for us?"
4 They make promises, swearing falsely in making covenants.
Therefore judgment springs up like poisonous weeds in the furrows of the field.
5 The inhabitants of Samaria will be in terror for the calves of Beth Aven,
for its people will mourn over it,
along with its priests who rejoiced over it,
for its glory, because it has departed from it.
6 It also will be carried to Assyria for a present to a great king.
Ephraim will receive shame,
and Israel will be ashamed of his own counsel.
7 Samaria and her king float away like a twig on the water.
8 The high places also of Aven, the sin of Israel, will be destroyed.
The thorn and the thistle will come up on their altars.
They will tell the mountains, "Cover us!" and the hills, "Fall on us!"

9 "Israel, you have sinned from the days of Gibeah.
There they remained.
The battle against the children of iniquity doesn't overtake them in Gibeah.
10 When it is my desire, I will chastise them;
and the nations will be gathered against them
when they are bound to their two transgressions.

11 Ephraim is a trained heifer that loves to thresh,
so I will put a yoke on her beautiful neck.
I will set a rider on Ephraim.
Judah will plow.
Jacob will break his clods.
12 Sow to yourselves in righteousness,
reap according to kindness.
Break up your fallow ground,
for it is time to seek the LORD,
until he comes and rains righteousness on you.
13 You have plowed wickedness.
You have reaped iniquity.
You have eaten the fruit of lies,
for you trusted in your way, in the multitude of your mighty men.
14 Therefore a battle roar will arise among your people,
and all your fortresses will be destroyed,
as Shalman destroyed Beth Arbel in the day of battle.
The mother was dashed in pieces with her children.
15 So Bethel will do to you because of your great wickedness.
At daybreak the king of Israel will be destroyed.

11

1 "When Israel was a child, then I loved him,
and called my son out of Egypt.
2 They called to them, so they went from them.
They sacrificed to the Baals,
and burned incense to engraved images.
3 Yet I taught Ephraim to walk.
I took them by their arms,
but they didn't know that I healed them.
4 I drew them with cords of a man, with ties of love;
and I was to them like those who lift up the yoke on their necks;
and I bent down to him and I fed him.

5 "They won't return into the land of Egypt;
but the Assyrian will be their king,
because they refused to repent.
6 The sword will fall on their cities,
and will destroy the bars of their gates,
and will put an end to their plans.
7 My people are determined to turn from me.
Though they call to the Most High,
he certainly won't exalt them.

8 "How can I give you up, Ephraim?
How can I hand you over, Israel?
How can I make you like Admah?
How can I make you like Zeboiim?
My heart is turned within me,
my compassion is aroused.
9 I will not execute the fierceness of my anger.
I will not return to destroy Ephraim,
for I am God, and not man—the Holy One among you.
I will not come in wrath.
10 They will walk after the LORD,
who will roar like a lion;
for he will roar, and the children will come trembling from the west.
11 They will come trembling like a bird out of Egypt,
and like a dove out of the land of Assyria;
and I will settle them in their houses," says the LORD.

12 Ephraim surrounds me with falsehood,
and the house of Israel with deceit.
Judah still strays from God,
and is unfaithful to the Holy One.

12

1 Ephraim feeds on wind,
and chases the east wind.
He continually multiplies lies and desolation.
They make a covenant with Assyria,
and oil is carried into Egypt.
2 The LORD also has a controversy with Judah,
and will punish Jacob according to his ways;
according to his deeds he will repay him.

3 In the womb he took his brother by the heel,
and in his manhood he contended with God.
4 Indeed, he struggled with the angel, and prevailed;
he wept, and made supplication to him.
He found him at Bethel, and there he spoke with us—
5 even the LORD, the God of Armies.
The LORD is his name of renown!
6 Therefore turn to your God.
Keep kindness and justice,
and wait continually for your God.

7 A merchant has dishonest scales in his hand.
He loves to defraud.
8 Ephraim said, "Surely I have become rich.
I have found myself wealth.
In all my wealth they won't find in me any iniquity that is sin."

9 "But I am the LORD your God from the land of Egypt.
I will yet again make you dwell in tents,
as in the days of the solemn feast.
10 I have also spoken to the prophets,
and I have multiplied visions;
and by the ministry of the prophets I have used parables.
11 If Gilead is wicked,
surely they are worthless.
In Gilgal they sacrifice bulls.
Indeed, their altars are like heaps in the furrows of the field.
12 Jacob fled into the country of Aram.
Israel served to get a wife.
For a wife he tended flocks and herds.
13 By a prophet the LORD brought Israel up out of Egypt,
and by a prophet he was preserved.
14 Ephraim has bitterly provoked anger.
Therefore his blood will be left on him,
and his Lord† will repay his contempt.

† **12:14** The word translated "Lord" is "Adonai."

13

1 When Ephraim spoke, there was trembling.
He exalted himself in Israel,
but when he became guilty through Baal, he died.
2 Now they sin more and more,
and have made themselves molten images of their silver,
even idols according to their own understanding,
all of them the work of the craftsmen.
They say of them, 'They offer human sacrifice and kiss the calves.'
3 Therefore they will be like the morning mist,
like the dew that passes away early,
like the chaff that is driven with the whirlwind out of the threshing floor,
and like the smoke out of the chimney.

4 "Yet I am the LORD your God from the land of Egypt;
and you shall acknowledge no god but me,
and besides me there is no savior.
5 I knew you in the wilderness,
in the land of great drought.
6 According to their pasture, so were they filled;
they were filled, and their heart was exalted.
Therefore they have forgotten me.
7 Therefore I am like a lion to them.
Like a leopard, I will lurk by the path.
8 I will meet them like a bear that is bereaved of her cubs,
and will tear the covering of their heart.
There I will devour them like a lioness.
The wild animal will tear them.
9 You are destroyed, Israel, because you are against me,
against your helper.
10 Where is your king now, that he may save you in all your cities?
And your judges, of whom you said,
'Give me a king and princes'?
11 I have given you a king in my anger,

and have taken him away in my
wrath.
12 The guilt of Ephraim is stored up.
His sin is stored up.
13 The sorrows of a travailing woman will
come on him.
He is an unwise son,
for when it is time, he doesn't come to
the opening of the womb.
14 I will ransom them from the power of
Sheol.†
I will redeem them from death!
Death, where are your plagues?
Sheol, where is your destruction?

"Compassion will be hidden from my eyes.
15 Though he is fruitful among his
brothers, an east wind will come,
the breath of the LORD coming up
from the wilderness;
and his spring will become dry,
and his fountain will be dried up.
He will plunder the storehouse of
treasure.
16 Samaria will bear her guilt,
for she has rebelled against her God.
They will fall by the sword.
Their infants will be dashed in pieces,
and their pregnant women will be
ripped open."

14

1 Israel, return to the LORD your God;
for you have fallen because of your
sin.
2 Take words with you, and return to the
LORD.
Tell him, "Forgive all our sins,
and accept that which is good;
so we offer bulls as we vowed of our
lips.
3 Assyria can't save us.
We won't ride on horses;
neither will we say any more to the
work of our hands, 'Our gods!'
for in you the fatherless finds mercy."

4 "I will heal their waywardness.
I will love them freely;
for my anger is turned away from
them.
5 I will be like the dew to Israel.
He will blossom like the lily,
and send down his roots like
Lebanon.
6 His branches will spread,
and his beauty will be like the olive
tree,
and his fragrance like Lebanon.
7 Men will dwell in his shade.
They will revive like the grain,
and blossom like the vine.
Their fragrance will be like the wine
of Lebanon.
8 Ephraim, what have I to do any more
with idols?
I answer, and will take care of him.
I am like a green cypress tree;
from me your fruit is found."

9 Who is wise, that he may understand
these things?
Who is prudent, that he may know
them?
For the ways of the LORD are right,
and the righteous walk in them,
but the rebellious stumble in them.

† **13:14** Sheol is the place of the dead.

The Book of Joel

1 The LORD's† word that came to Joel,
the son of Pethuel.
2 Hear this, you elders,
and listen, all you inhabitants of the land!
Has this ever happened in your days,
or in the days of your fathers?
3 Tell your children about it,
and have your children tell their children,
and their children, another generation.
4 What the swarming locust has left, the great locust has eaten.
What the great locust has left, the grasshopper has eaten.
What the grasshopper has left, the caterpillar has eaten.
5 Wake up, you drunkards, and weep!
Wail, all you drinkers of wine, because of the sweet wine,
for it is cut off from your mouth.
6 For a nation has come up on my land, strong, and without number.
His teeth are the teeth of a lion,
and he has the fangs of a lioness.
7 He has laid my vine waste,
and stripped my fig tree.
He has stripped its bark, and thrown it away.
Its branches are made white.
8 Mourn like a virgin dressed in sackcloth for the husband of her youth!
9 The meal offering and the drink offering are cut off from the LORD's house.
The priests, the LORD's ministers, mourn.
10 The field is laid waste.
The land mourns, for the grain is destroyed,
The new wine has dried up,
and the oil languishes.
11 Be confounded, you farmers!
Wail, you vineyard keepers,
for the wheat and for the barley;
for the harvest of the field has perished.
12 The vine has dried up, and the fig tree withered—
the pomegranate tree, the palm tree also, and the apple tree,
even all of the trees of the field are withered;
for joy has withered away from the sons of men.
13 Put on sackcloth and mourn, you priests!
Wail, you ministers of the altar.
Come, lie all night in sackcloth, you ministers of my God,‡
for the meal offering and the drink offering are withheld from your God's house.
14 Sanctify a fast.
Call a solemn assembly.
Gather the elders and all the inhabitants of the land to the house of the LORD, your God,
and cry to the LORD.
15 Alas for the day!
For the day of the LORD is at hand,
and it will come as destruction from the Almighty.
16 Isn't the food cut off before our eyes,
joy and gladness from the house of our God?
17 The seeds rot under their clods.
The granaries are laid desolate.
The barns are broken down, for the grain has withered.
18 How the animals groan!
The herds of livestock are perplexed, because they have no pasture.
Yes, the flocks of sheep are made desolate.
19 LORD, I cry to you,
for the fire has devoured the pastures of the wilderness,
and the flame has burned all the trees of the field.
20 Yes, the animals of the field pant to you,
for the water brooks have dried up,
and the fire has devoured the pastures of the wilderness.

† **1:1** When rendered in ALL CAPITAL LETTERS, "LORD" or "GOD" is the translation of God's Proper Name (Hebrew "יהוה", usually pronounced Yahweh). ‡ **1:13** The Hebrew word rendered "God" is "אֱלֹהִים" (Elohim).

2

1 Blow the trumpet in Zion,
and sound an alarm in my holy mountain!
Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble,
for the day of the LORD comes,
for it is close at hand:
2 A day of darkness and gloominess,
a day of clouds and thick darkness.
As the dawn spreading on the mountains,
a great and strong people;
there has never been the like,
neither will there be any more after them,
even to the years of many generations.
3 A fire devours before them,
and behind them, a flame burns.
The land is as the garden of Eden before them,
and behind them, a desolate wilderness.
Yes, and no one has escaped them.
4 Their appearance is as the appearance of horses,
and they run as horsemen.
5 Like the noise of chariots on the tops of the mountains, they leap,
like the noise of a flame of fire that devours the stubble,
like a strong people set in battle array.
6 At their presence the peoples are in anguish.
All faces have grown pale.
7 They run like mighty men.
They climb the wall like warriors.
They each march in his line, and they don't swerve off course.
8 One doesn't jostle another.
They each march in their own path.
They burst through the defenses and don't break ranks.
9 They rush on the city.
They run on the wall.
They climb up into the houses.
They enter in at the windows like thieves.
10 The earth quakes before them.
The heavens tremble.
The sun and the moon are darkened,
and the stars withdraw their shining.
11 The LORD thunders his voice before his army,
for his forces are very great;
for he is strong who obeys his command;
for the day of the LORD is great and very awesome,
and who can endure it?
12 "Yet even now," says the LORD, "turn to me with all your heart,
and with fasting, and with weeping, and with mourning."
13 Tear your heart and not your garments,
and turn to the LORD, your God;
for he is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger, and abundant in loving kindness,
and relents from sending calamity.
14 Who knows? He may turn and relent,
and leave a blessing behind him,
even a meal offering and a drink offering to the LORD, your God.
15 Blow the trumpet in Zion!
Sanctify a fast.
Call a solemn assembly.
16 Gather the people.
Sanctify the assembly.
Assemble the elders.
Gather the children, and those who nurse from breasts.
Let the bridegroom go out of his room,
and the bride out of her chamber.
17 Let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep between the porch and the altar,
and let them say, "Spare your people, LORD,
and don't give your heritage to reproach,
that the nations should rule over them.
Why should they say among the peoples,
'Where is their God?' "
18 Then the LORD was jealous for his land,
and had pity on his people.
19 The LORD answered his people,
"Behold,† I will send you grain, new wine, and oil,
and you will be satisfied with them;

† **2:19** "Behold", from "הִנֵּה", means look at, take notice, observe, see, or gaze at. It is often used as an interjection.

and I will no more make you a
reproach among the nations.
20 But I will remove the northern army far
away from you,
and will drive it into a barren and
desolate land,
its front into the eastern sea,
and its back into the western sea;
and its stench will come up,
and its bad smell will rise."
Surely he has done great things.
21 Land, don't be afraid.
Be glad and rejoice, for the LORD has
done great things.
22 Don't be afraid, you animals of the field;
for the pastures of the wilderness
spring up,
for the tree bears its fruit.
The fig tree and the vine yield their
strength.

23 "Be glad then, you children of Zion,
and rejoice in the LORD, your God;
for he gives you the early rain in just
measure,
and he causes the rain to come down
for you,
the early rain and the latter rain, as
before.
24 The threshing floors will be full of
wheat,
and the vats will overflow with new
wine and oil.
25 I will restore to you the years that the
swarming locust has eaten,
the great locust, the grasshopper, and
the caterpillar,
my great army, which I sent among
you.
26 You will have plenty to eat and be
satisfied,
and will praise the name of the LORD,
your God,
who has dealt wondrously with you;
and my people will never again be
disappointed.
27 You will know that I am among Israel,
and that I am the LORD, your God,
and there is no one else;
and my people will never again be
disappointed.
28 "It will happen afterward, that I will
pour out my Spirit on all flesh;
and your sons and your daughters
will prophesy.
Your old men will dream dreams.
Your young men will see visions.
29 And also on the servants and on the
handmaids in those days,
I will pour out my Spirit.
30 I will show wonders in the heavens and
on the earth:
blood, fire, and pillars of smoke.
31 The sun will be turned into darkness,
and the moon into blood,
before the great and terrible day of
the LORD comes.
32 It will happen that whoever will call on
the LORD's name shall be saved;
for in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem
there will be those who escape,
as the LORD has said,
and among the remnant, those whom
the LORD calls.

3

1 "For, behold, in those days,
and in that time,
when I restore the fortunes of Judah
and Jerusalem,
2 I will gather all nations,
and will bring them down into the
valley of Jehoshaphat;
and I will execute judgment on them
there for my people,
and for my heritage, Israel, whom
they have scattered among the
nations.
They have divided my land,
3 and have cast lots for my people,
and have given a boy for a prostitute,
and sold a girl for wine, that they may
drink.

4 "Yes, and what are you to me, Tyre and
Sidon,
and all the regions of Philistia?
Will you repay me?
And if you repay me,
I will swiftly and speedily return your
repayment on your own head.
5 Because you have taken my silver and
my gold,

and have carried my finest treasures
into your temples,
6 and have sold the children of Judah
and the children of Jerusalem to the
sons of the Greeks,
that you may remove them far from
their border.
7 Behold, I will stir them up out of the
place where you have sold them,
and will return your repayment on
your own head;
8 and I will sell your sons and your
daughters into the hands of the
children of Judah,
and they will sell them to the men of
Sheba,
to a faraway nation,
for the LORD has spoken it."

9 Proclaim this among the nations:
"Prepare for war!
Stir up the mighty men.
Let all the warriors draw near.
Let them come up.
10 Beat your plowshares into swords,
and your pruning hooks into spears.
Let the weak say, 'I am strong.'
11 Hurry and come, all you surrounding
nations,
and gather yourselves together."
Cause your mighty ones to come down
there, LORD.
12 "Let the nations arouse themselves,
and come up to the valley of
Jehoshaphat;
for there I will sit to judge all the
surrounding nations.
13 Put in the sickle;
for the harvest is ripe.
Come, tread, for the wine press is full,
the vats overflow, for their
wickedness is great."
14 Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of
decision!
For the day of the LORD is near in the
valley of decision.
15 The sun and the moon are darkened,
and the stars withdraw their shining.
16 The LORD will roar from Zion,
and thunder from Jerusalem;
and the heavens and the earth will
shake;
but the LORD will be a refuge to his
people,
and a stronghold to the children of
Israel.
17 "So you will know that I am the LORD,
your God,
dwelling in Zion, my holy mountain.
Then Jerusalem will be holy,
and no strangers will pass through
her any more.
18 It will happen in that day,
that the mountains will drop down
sweet wine,
the hills will flow with milk,
all the brooks of Judah will flow with
waters;
and a fountain will flow out from the
LORD's house,
and will water the valley of Shittim.
19 Egypt will be a desolation
and Edom will be a desolate
wilderness,
for the violence done to the children
of Judah,
because they have shed innocent
blood in their land.
20 But Judah will be inhabited forever,
and Jerusalem from generation to
generation.
21 I will cleanse their blood
that I have not cleansed,
for the LORD dwells in Zion."

The Book of Amos

1 The words of Amos, who was among
the herdsmen of Tekoa, which he saw
concerning Israel in the days of Uzziah
king of Judah and in the days of Jeroboam
the son of Joash, king of Israel, two years
before the earthquake.
2 He said:
"The LORD† will roar from Zion,
and utter his voice from Jerusalem;
and the pastures of the shepherds will
mourn,
and the top of Carmel will wither."
3 The LORD says:
"For three transgressions of Damascus,
yes, for four,
I will not turn away its punishment,
because they have threshed Gilead
with threshing instruments of iron;
4 but I will send a fire into the house of
Hazael,
and it will devour the palaces of Ben
Hadad.
5 I will break the bar of Damascus,
and cut off the inhabitant from the
valley of Aven,
and him who holds the scepter from
the house of Eden;
and the people of Syria shall go into
captivity to Kir,"
says the LORD.
6 The LORD says:
"For three transgressions of Gaza, yes, for
four,
I will not turn away its punishment,
because they carried away captive
the whole community,
to deliver them up to Edom;
7 but I will send a fire on the wall of Gaza,
and it will devour its palaces.
8 I will cut off the inhabitant from Ashdod,
and him who holds the scepter from
Ashkelon;
and I will turn my hand against Ekron;
and the remnant of the Philistines
will perish,"
says the Lord‡ GOD.
9 The LORD says:
"For three transgressions of Tyre, yes, for
four,
I will not turn away its punishment;
because they delivered up the whole
community to Edom,
and didn't remember the brotherly
covenant;
10 but I will send a fire on the wall of Tyre,
and it will devour its palaces."
11 The LORD says:
"For three transgressions of Edom, yes,
for four,
I will not turn away its punishment,
because he pursued his brother with
the sword
and cast off all pity,
and his anger raged continually,
and he kept his wrath forever;
12 but I will send a fire on Teman,
and it will devour the palaces of
Bozrah."
13 The LORD says:
"For three transgressions of the children
of Ammon, yes, for four,
I will not turn away its punishment,
because they have ripped open the
pregnant women of Gilead,
that they may enlarge their border.
14 But I will kindle a fire in the wall of
Rabbah,
and it will devour its palaces,
with shouting in the day of battle,
with a storm in the day of the
whirlwind;
15 and their king will go into captivity,
he and his princes together,"
says the LORD.

2

1 The LORD says:
"For three transgressions of Moab, yes, for
four,
I will not turn away its punishment,
because he burned the bones of the
king of Edom into lime;
2 but I will send a fire on Moab,

† **1:2** When rendered in ALL CAPITAL LETTERS, "LORD" or "GOD" is the translation of God's Proper Name (Hebrew "יהוה", usually pronounced Yahweh). ‡ **1:8** The word translated "Lord" is "Adonai."

and it will devour the palaces of
Kerioth;
and Moab will die with tumult, with
shouting, and with the sound of the
trumpet;
3 and I will cut off the judge from among
them,
and will kill all its princes with him,"
says the LORD.
4 The LORD says:
"For three transgressions of Judah, yes,
for four,
I will not turn away its punishment,
because they have rejected the
LORD's law,
and have not kept his statutes,
and their lies have led them astray,
after which their fathers walked;
5 but I will send a fire on Judah,
and it will devour the palaces of
Jerusalem."
6 The LORD says:
"For three transgressions of Israel, yes, for
four,
I will not turn away its punishment,
because they have sold the righteous
for silver,
and the needy for a pair of sandals;
7 They trample the heads of the poor
into the dust of the earth
and deny justice to the oppressed.
A man and his father use the same
maiden, to profane my holy name.
8 They lay themselves down beside
every altar on clothes taken in
pledge.
In the house of their God† they drink
the wine of those who have been
fined.
9 Yet I destroyed the Amorite before them,
whose height was like the height of
the cedars,
and he was strong as the oaks;
yet I destroyed his fruit from above,
and his roots from beneath.
10 Also I brought you up out of the land of
Egypt
and led you forty years in the
wilderness,
to possess the land of the Amorite.
11 I raised up some of your sons for
prophets,
and some of your young men for
Nazirites.
Isn't this true,
you children of Israel?" says the
LORD.
12 "But you gave the Nazirites wine to
drink,
and commanded the prophets,
saying, 'Don't prophesy!'
13 Behold,‡ I will crush you in your place,
as a cart crushes that is full of grain.
14 Flight will perish from the swift.
The strong won't strengthen his force.
The mighty won't deliver himself.
15 He who handles the bow won't stand.
He who is swift of foot won't escape.
He who rides the horse won't deliver
himself.
16 He who is courageous among the
mighty
will flee away naked on that day,"
says the LORD.

3

1 Hear this word that the LORD has
spoken against you, children of Israel,
against the whole family which I brought
up out of the land of Egypt, saying:
2 "I have chosen only you of all the
families of the earth.
Therefore I will punish you for all of
your sins."
3 Do two walk together,
unless they have agreed?
4 Will a lion roar in the thicket,
when he has no prey?
Does a young lion cry out of his den,
if he has caught nothing?
5 Can a bird fall in a trap on the earth,
where no snare is set for him?
Does a snare spring up from the ground,
when there is nothing to catch?
6 Does the trumpet alarm sound in a city,
without the people being afraid?
Does evil happen to a city,
and the LORD hasn't done it?
7 Surely the Lord GOD will do nothing,

† **2:8** The Hebrew word rendered "God" is "אֱלֹהִים" (Elohim). ‡ **2:13** "Behold", from "הִנֵּה", means look at, take notice, observe, see, or gaze at. It is often used as an interjection.

unless he reveals his secret to his
servants the prophets.
8 The lion has roared.
Who will not fear?
The Lord GOD has spoken.
Who can but prophesy?
9 Proclaim in the palaces at Ashdod,
and in the palaces in the land of
Egypt,
and say, “Assemble yourselves on the
mountains of Samaria,
and see what unrest is in her,
and what oppression is among them.”
10 “Indeed they don’t know to do right,”
says the LORD,
“Who hoard plunder and loot in their
palaces.”
11 Therefore the Lord GOD says:
“An adversary will overrun the land;
and he will pull down your
strongholds,
and your fortresses will be
plundered.”
12 The LORD says:
“As the shepherd rescues out of the mouth
of the lion two legs,
or a piece of an ear,
so shall the children of Israel be
rescued who sit in Samaria on the
corner of a couch,
and on the silken cushions of a bed.”
13 “Listen, and testify against the house
of Jacob,” says the Lord GOD, the God of
Armies.
14 “For in the day that I visit the
transgressions of Israel on him,
I will also visit the altars of Bethel;
and the horns of the altar will be cut
off,
and fall to the ground.
15 I will strike the winter house with the
summer house;
and the houses of ivory will perish,
and the great houses will have an
end,”
says the LORD.

4

1 Listen to this word, you cows of
Bashan, who are on the mountain of
Samaria, who oppress the poor, who
crush the needy, who tell their husbands,
“Bring us drinks!”
2 The Lord GOD has sworn by his holiness,
“Behold, the days shall come on you
that they will take you away with
hooks,
and the last of you with fish hooks.
3 You will go out at the breaks in the wall,
everyone straight before her;
and you will cast yourselves into
Harmon,” says the LORD.
4 “Go to Bethel, and sin;
to Gilgal, and sin more.
Bring your sacrifices every morning,
your tithes every three days,
5 offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving of
that which is leavened,
and proclaim free will offerings and
brag about them;
for this pleases you, you children of
Israel,” says the Lord GOD.
6 “I also have given you cleanness of teeth
in all your cities,
and lack of bread in every town;
yet you haven’t returned to me,” says
the LORD.
7 “I also have withheld the rain from you,
when there were yet three months to
the harvest;
and I caused it to rain on one city,
and caused it not to rain on another
city.
One field was rained on,
and the field where it didn’t rain
withered.
8 So two or three cities staggered to one
city to drink water,
and were not satisfied;
yet you haven’t returned to me,” says
the LORD.
9 “I struck you with blight and mildew
many times in your gardens and
your vineyards,
and the swarming locusts have
devoured your fig trees and your
olive trees;
yet you haven’t returned to me,” says
the LORD.
10 “I sent plagues among you like I did
Egypt.
I have slain your young men with the
sword,
and have carried away your horses.

I filled your nostrils with the stench of your camp,
yet you haven't returned to me," says the LORD.
11 "I have overthrown some of you,
as when God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah,
and you were like a burning stick plucked out of the fire;
yet you haven't returned to me," says the LORD.
12 "Therefore I will do this to you, Israel;
because I will do this to you,
prepare to meet your God, Israel.
13 For, behold, he who forms the mountains, creates the wind,
declares to man what is his thought,
who makes the morning darkness,
and treads on the high places of the earth:
The LORD, the God of Armies, is his name."

5

1 Listen to this word which I take up for a lamentation over you, O house of Israel:
2 "The virgin of Israel has fallen;
She shall rise no more.
She is cast down on her land;
there is no one to raise her up."
3 For the Lord GOD says:
"The city that went out a thousand shall have a hundred left,
and that which went out one hundred shall have ten left to the house of Israel."
4 For the LORD says to the house of Israel:
"Seek me, and you will live;
5 but don't seek Bethel,
nor enter into Gilgal,
and don't pass to Beersheba;
for Gilgal shall surely go into captivity,
and Bethel shall come to nothing.
6 Seek the LORD, and you will live,
lest he break out like fire in the house of Joseph,
and it devour, and there be no one to quench it in Bethel.
7 You who turn justice to wormwood,
and cast down righteousness to the earth!
8 Seek him who made the Pleiades and Orion,
and turns the shadow of death into the morning,
and makes the day dark with night;
who calls for the waters of the sea,
and pours them out on the surface of the earth, the LORD is his name,
9 who brings sudden destruction on the strong,
so that destruction comes on the fortress.
10 They hate him who reproves in the gate,
and they abhor him who speaks blamelessly.
11 Therefore, because you trample on the poor and take taxes from him of wheat,
you have built houses of cut stone,
but you will not dwell in them.
You have planted pleasant vineyards,
but you shall not drink their wine.
12 For I know how many are your offenses,
and how great are your sins—
you who afflict the just,
who take a bribe,
and who turn away the needy in the courts.
13 Therefore a prudent person keeps silent in such a time,
for it is an evil time.
14 Seek good, and not evil,
that you may live;
and so the LORD, the God of Armies, will be with you,
as you say.
15 Hate evil, love good,
and establish justice in the courts.
It may be that the LORD, the God of Armies, will be gracious to the remnant of Joseph."
16 Therefore the LORD, the God of Armies, the Lord, says:
"Wailing will be in all the wide ways.
They will say in all the streets, 'Alas! Alas!'
They will call the farmer to mourning,
and those who are skillful in lamentation to wailing.
17 In all vineyards there will be wailing,
for I will pass through the middle of you," says the LORD.
18 "Woe to you who desire the day of the LORD!

Why do you long for the day of the
LORD?
It is darkness,
and not light.
19 As if a man fled from a lion,
and a bear met him;
or he went into the house and leaned his
hand on the wall,
and a snake bit him.
20 Won't the day of the LORD be darkness,
and not light?
Even very dark, and no brightness in
it?
21 I hate, I despise your feasts,
and I can't stand your solemn
assemblies.
22 Yes, though you offer me your burnt
offerings and meal offerings,
I will not accept them;
neither will I regard the peace
offerings of your fat animals.
23 Take away from me the noise of your
songs!
I will not listen to the music of your
harps.
24 But let justice roll on like rivers,
and righteousness like a mighty
stream.
25 "Did you bring to me sacrifices and
offerings in the wilderness forty years,
house of Israel?
26 You also carried the tent of your king
and the shrine of your images, the star of
your god, which you made for yourselves.
27 Therefore I will cause you to go into
captivity beyond Damascus," says the
LORD, whose name is the God of Armies.

6

1 Woe to those who are at ease in Zion,
and to those who are secure on the
mountain of Samaria,
the notable men of the chief of the
nations,
to whom the house of Israel come!
2 Go to Calneh, and see.
From there go to Hamath the great.
Then go down to Gath of the
Philistines.
Are they better than these kingdoms?
Is their border greater than your
border?
3 Alas for you who put far away the evil
day,
and cause the seat of violence to come
near,
4 who lie on beds of ivory,
and stretch themselves on their
couches,
and eat the lambs out of the flock,
and the calves out of the middle of the
stall,
5 who strum on the strings of a harp,
who invent for themselves
instruments of music, like David;
6 who drink wine in bowls,
and anoint themselves with the best
oils,
but they are not grieved for the
affliction of Joseph.
7 Therefore they will now go captive with
the first who go captive.
The feasting and lounging will end.
8 "The Lord GOD has sworn by himself,"
says the LORD, the God of Armies:
"I abhor the pride of Jacob,
and detest his fortresses.
Therefore I will deliver up the city
with all that is in it.
9 It will happen that if ten men remain in
one house,
they will die.
10 "When a man's relative carries him,
even he who burns him, to bring bodies
out of the house, and asks him who is in
the innermost parts of the house, 'Is there
yet any with you?' And he says, 'No;' then
he will say, 'Hush! Indeed we must not
mention the LORD's name.'

11 "For, behold, the LORD commands, and
the great house will be smashed to
pieces,
and the little house into bits.
12 Do horses run on the rocky crags?
Does one plow there with oxen?
But you have turned justice into poison,
and the fruit of righteousness into
bitterness,
13 you who rejoice in a thing of nothing,
who say,
'Haven't we taken for ourselves horns
by our own strength?'
14 For, behold, I will raise up against you a
nation, house of Israel,"

says the LORD, the God of Armies;
"and they will afflict you from the
entrance of Hamath to the brook of
the Arabah."

7

1 Thus the Lord GOD showed me:
behold, he formed locusts in the
beginning of the shooting up of the latter
growth; and behold, it was the latter
growth after the king's harvest.
2 When they finished eating the grass of
the land, then I said, "Lord GOD, forgive, I
beg you! How could Jacob stand? For he is
small."
3 The LORD relented concerning this. "It
shall not be," says the LORD.
4 Thus the Lord GOD showed me:
behold, the Lord GOD called for judgment
by fire; and it dried up the great deep, and
would have devoured the land.
5 Then I said, "Lord GOD, stop, I beg you!
How could Jacob stand? For he is small."
6 The LORD relented concerning this.
"This also shall not be," says the Lord GOD.
7 Thus he showed me: behold, the Lord
stood beside a wall made by a plumb line,
with a plumb line in his hand.
8 The LORD said to me, "Amos, what do
you see?"
I said, "A plumb line."
Then the Lord said, "Behold, I will set a
plumb line in the middle of my people
Israel. I will not again pass by them any
more.
9 The high places of Isaac will be
desolate, the sanctuaries of Israel will be
laid waste; and I will rise against the
house of Jeroboam with the sword."
10 Then Amaziah the priest of Bethel
sent to Jeroboam king of Israel, saying,
"Amos has conspired against you in the
middle of the house of Israel. The land is
not able to bear all his words.
11 For Amos says, 'Jeroboam will die by
the sword, and Israel shall surely be led
away captive out of his land.' "
12 Amaziah also said to Amos, "You seer,
go, flee away into the land of Judah, and
there eat bread, and prophesy there,
13 but don't prophesy again any more at
Bethel; for it is the king's sanctuary, and it
is a royal house!"
14 Then Amos answered Amaziah, "I
was no prophet, neither was I a prophet's
son, but I was a herdsman, and a farmer
of sycamore figs;
15 and the LORD took me from following
the flock, and the LORD said to me, 'Go,
prophesy to my people Israel.'
16 Now therefore listen to the LORD's
word: 'You say, Don't prophesy against
Israel, and don't preach against the house
of Isaac.'
17 Therefore the LORD says: 'Your wife
shall be a prostitute in the city, and your
sons and your daughters shall fall by the
sword, and your land shall be divided by
line; and you yourself shall die in a land
that is unclean, and Israel shall surely be
led away captive out of his land.' "

8

1 Thus the Lord GOD showed me:
behold, a basket of summer fruit.
2 He said, "Amos, what do you see?"
I said, "A basket of summer fruit."
Then the LORD said to me,
"The end has come on my people Israel.
I will not again pass by them any
more.
3 The songs of the temple will be wailing
in that day," says the Lord GOD.
"The dead bodies will be many. In
every place they will throw them
out with silence.
4 Hear this, you who desire to swallow up
the needy,
and cause the poor of the land to fail,
5 saying, 'When will the new moon be
gone, that we may sell grain?
And the Sabbath, that we may market
wheat,
making the ephah† small, and the
shekel‡ large,
and dealing falsely with balances of
deceit;
6 that we may buy the poor for silver,
and the needy for a pair of sandals,

† **8:5** 1 ephah is about 22 liters or about 2/3 of a bushel

‡ **8:5** a normal shekel is about 10 grams or about 0.35 ounces.

and sell the sweepings with the
wheat?' "
7 The LORD has sworn by the pride of
Jacob,
"Surely I will never forget any of their
works.
8 Won't the land tremble for this,
and everyone mourn who dwells in
it?
Yes, it will rise up wholly like the River;
and it will be stirred up and sink
again, like the River of Egypt.
9 It will happen in that day," says the Lord
GOD,
"that I will cause the sun to go down
at noon,
and I will darken the earth in the
clear day.
10 I will turn your feasts into mourning,
and all your songs into lamentation;
and I will make you wear sackcloth on all
your bodies,
and baldness on every head.
I will make it like the mourning for an
only son,
and its end like a bitter day.
11 Behold, the days come," says the Lord
GOD,
"that I will send a famine in the land,
not a famine of bread,
nor a thirst for water,
but of hearing the LORD's words.
12 They will wander from sea to sea,
and from the north even to the east;
they will run back and forth to seek
the LORD's word,
and will not find it.
13 In that day the beautiful virgins
and the young men will faint for
thirst.
14 Those who swear by the sin of Samaria,
and say, 'As your god, Dan, lives,'
and, 'As the way of Beersheba lives,'
they will fall, and never rise up
again."

9

1 I saw the Lord standing beside the
altar, and he said, "Strike the tops of the
pillars, that the thresholds may shake.
Break them in pieces on the head of all of
them. I will kill the last of them with the
sword. Not one of them will flee away.
Not one of them will escape.
2 Though they dig into Sheol,† there my
hand will take them; and though they
climb up to heaven, there I will bring
them down.
3 Though they hide themselves in the
top of Carmel, I will search and take them
out from there; and though they be
hidden from my sight in the bottom of the
sea, there I will command the serpent,
and it will bite them.
4 Though they go into captivity before
their enemies, there I will command the
sword, and it will kill them. I will set my
eyes on them for evil, and not for good.
5 For the Lord, the GOD‡ of Armies, is he
who touches the land and it melts, and all
who dwell in it will mourn; and it will rise
up wholly like the River, and will sink
again, like the River of Egypt.
6 It is he who builds his rooms in the
heavens, and has founded his vault on the
earth; he who calls for the waters of the
sea, and pours them out on the surface of
the earth—the LORD is his name.
7 Are you not like the children of the
Ethiopians to me, children of Israel?" says
the LORD. "Haven't I brought up Israel out
of the land of Egypt, and the Philistines
from Caphtor, and the Syrians from Kir?
8 Behold, the eyes of the Lord GOD are
on the sinful kingdom, and I will destroy it
from off the surface of the earth, except
that I will not utterly destroy the house of
Jacob," says the LORD.
9 "For behold, I will command, and I will
sift the house of Israel among all the
nations as grain is sifted in a sieve, yet not
the least kernel will fall on the earth.
10 All the sinners of my people will die
by the sword, who say, 'Evil won't
overtake nor meet us.'
11 In that day I will raise up the tent of
David who is fallen and close up its
breaches, and I will raise up its ruins, and
I will build it as in the days of old,
12 that they may possess the remnant of

† **9:2** Sheol is the place of the dead. ‡ **9:5** When rendered in ALL CAPITAL LETTERS, "LORD" or "GOD" is the translation of God's Proper Name (Hebrew "יהוה", usually pronounced Yahweh).

Edom and all the nations who are called
by my name," says the LORD who does
this.
13 "Behold, the days come," says the LORD,
"that the plowman shall overtake the
reaper,
and the one treading grapes him who
sows seed;
and sweet wine will drip from the
mountains,
and flow from the hills.
14 I will bring my people Israel back from
captivity,
and they will rebuild the ruined
cities, and inhabit them;
and they will plant vineyards, and
drink wine from them.
They shall also make gardens,
and eat their fruit.
15 I will plant them on their land,
and they will no more be plucked up
out of their land which I have given
them,"
says the LORD your God.

The Book of Obadiah

1 The vision of Obadiah. This is what the Lord† GOD‡ says about Edom. We have heard news from the LORD, and an ambassador is sent among the nations, saying, “Arise, and let’s rise up against her in battle.

2 Behold,§ I have made you small among the nations. You are greatly despised.

3 The pride of your heart has deceived you, you who dwell in the clefts of the rock, whose habitation is high, who says in his heart, ‘Who will bring me down to the ground?’

4 Though you mount on high as the eagle, and though your nest is set among the stars, I will bring you down from there,” says the LORD.

5 “If thieves came to you, if robbers by night—oh, what disaster awaits you—wouldn’t they only steal until they had enough? If grape pickers came to you, wouldn’t they leave some gleaning grapes?

6 How Esau will be ransacked! How his hidden treasures are sought out!

7 All the men of your alliance have brought you on your way, even to the border. The men who were at peace with you have deceived you, and prevailed against you. Friends who eat your bread lay a snare under you. There is no understanding in him.”

8 “Won’t I in that day”, says the LORD, “destroy the wise men out of Edom, and understanding out of the mountain of Esau?

9 Your mighty men, Teman, will be dismayed, to the end that everyone may be cut off from the mountain of Esau by slaughter.

10 For the violence done to your brother Jacob, shame will cover you, and you will be cut off forever.

11 In the day that you stood on the other side, in the day that strangers carried away his substance and foreigners entered into his gates and cast lots for Jerusalem, even you were like one of them.

12 But don’t look down on your brother in the day of his disaster, and don’t rejoice over the children of Judah in the day of their destruction. Don’t speak proudly in the day of distress.

13 Don’t enter into the gate of my people in the day of their calamity. Don’t look down on their affliction in the day of their calamity, neither seize their wealth on the day of their calamity.

14 Don’t stand in the crossroads to cut off those of his who escape. Don’t deliver up those of his who remain in the day of distress.

15 For the day of the LORD is near all the nations! As you have done, it will be done to you. Your deeds will return upon your own head.

16 For as you have drunk on my holy mountain, so all the nations will drink continually. Yes, they will drink, swallow down, and will be as though they had not been.

17 But in Mount Zion, there will be those who escape, and it will be holy. The house of Jacob will possess their possessions.

18 The house of Jacob will be a fire, the house of Joseph a flame, and the house of Esau for stubble. They will burn among them and devour them. There will not be any remaining to the house of Esau.” Indeed, the LORD has spoken.

19 Those of the South will possess the mountain of Esau, and those of the lowland, the Philistines. They will possess the field of Ephraim, and the field of Samaria. Benjamin will possess Gilead.

20 The captives of this army of the children of Israel, who are among the Canaanites, will possess even to Zarephath; and the captives of Jerusalem, who are in Sepharad, will possess the

† **1:1** The word translated “Lord” is “Adonai.” ‡ **1:1** When rendered in ALL CAPITAL LETTERS, “LORD” or “GOD” is the translation of God’s Proper Name (Hebrew “יהוה”, usually pronounced Yahweh). § **1:2** “Behold”, from “הִנֵּה”, means look at, take notice, observe, see, or gaze at. It is often used as an interjection.

cities of the Negev.
21 Saviors will go up on Mount Zion to
judge the mountains of Esau, and the
kingdom will be the LORD's.

The Book of Jonah

1 Now the LORD's† word came to Jonah
the son of Amittai, saying,
2 "Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city,
and preach against it, for their
wickedness has come up before me."
3 But Jonah rose up to flee to Tarshish
from the presence of the LORD. He went
down to Joppa, and found a ship going to
Tarshish; so he paid its fare, and went
down into it, to go with them to Tarshish
from the presence of the LORD.
4 But the LORD sent out a great wind on
the sea, and there was a mighty storm on
the sea, so that the ship was likely to break
up.
5 Then the mariners were afraid, and
every man cried to his god. They threw
the cargo that was in the ship into the sea
to lighten the ship. But Jonah had gone
down into the innermost parts of the ship
and he was laying down, and was fast
asleep.
6 So the ship master came to him, and
said to him, "What do you mean, sleeper?
Arise, call on your God!‡ Maybe your God§
will notice us, so that we won't perish."
7 They all said to each other, "Come!
Let's cast lots, that we may know who is
responsible for this evil that is on us." So
they cast lots, and the lot fell on Jonah.
8 Then they asked him, "Tell us, please,
for whose cause this evil is on us. What is
your occupation? Where do you come
from? What is your country? Of what
people are you?"
9 He said to them, "I am a Hebrew, and I
fear the LORD, the God† of heaven, who
has made the sea and the dry land."
10 Then the men were exceedingly
afraid, and said to him, "What have you
done?" For the men knew that he was
fleeing from the presence of the LORD,
because he had told them.
11 Then they said to him, "What shall we
do to you, that the sea may be calm to us?"
For the sea grew more and more stormy.
12 He said to them, "Take me up, and
throw me into the sea. Then the sea will
be calm for you; for I know that because
of me this great storm is on you."
13 Nevertheless the men rowed hard to
get them back to the land; but they could
not, for the sea grew more and more
stormy against them.
14 Therefore they cried to the LORD, and
said, "We beg you, LORD, we beg you,
don't let us die for this man's life, and
don't lay on us innocent blood; for you,
LORD, have done as it pleased you."
15 So they took up Jonah and threw him
into the sea; and the sea ceased its raging.
16 Then the men feared the LORD
exceedingly; and they offered a sacrifice
to the LORD and made vows.
17 The LORD prepared a huge fish to
swallow up Jonah, and Jonah was in the
belly of the fish three days and three
nights.

2

1 Then Jonah prayed to the LORD, his
God, out of the fish's belly.
2 He said,
"I called because of my affliction to the
LORD.
He answered me.
Out of the belly of Sheol† I cried.
You heard my voice.
3 For you threw me into the depths,
in the heart of the seas.
The flood was all around me.
All your waves and your billows
passed over me.
4 I said, 'I have been banished from your
sight;
yet I will look again toward your holy
temple.'
5 The waters surrounded me,
even to the soul.
The deep was around me.
The weeds were wrapped around my
head.

† **1:1** When rendered in ALL CAPITAL LETTERS, "LORD" or "GOD" is the translation of God's Proper Name (Hebrew "יהוה", usually pronounced Yahweh). ‡ **1:6** or, gods § **1:6** or, gods † **1:9** The Hebrew word rendered "God" is "אֱלֹהִים" (Elohim). † **2:2** Sheol is the place of the dead.

6 I went down to the bottoms of the
mountains.
The earth barred me in forever;
yet you have brought my life up from
the pit, LORD my God.

7 “When my soul fainted within me, I
remembered the LORD.
My prayer came in to you, into your
holy temple.
8 Those who regard vain idols forsake
their own mercy.
9 But I will sacrifice to you with the
voice of thanksgiving.
I will pay that which I have vowed.
Salvation belongs to the LORD.”
10 Then the LORD spoke to the fish, and it vomited out Jonah on the dry land.

3

1 The LORD’s word came to Jonah the second time, saying,
2 “Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and preach to it the message that I give you.”
3 So Jonah arose, and went to Nineveh, according to the LORD’s word. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly great city, three days’ journey across.
4 Jonah began to enter into the city a day’s journey, and he cried out, and said, “In forty days, Nineveh will be overthrown!”
5 The people of Nineveh believed God; and they proclaimed a fast and put on sackcloth, from their greatest even to their least.
6 The news reached the king of Nineveh, and he arose from his throne, took off his royal robe, covered himself with sackcloth, and sat in ashes.
7 He made a proclamation and published through Nineveh by the decree of the king and his nobles, saying, “Let neither man nor animal, herd nor flock, taste anything; let them not feed, nor drink water;
8 but let them be covered with sackcloth, both man and animal, and let them cry mightily to God. Yes, let them turn everyone from his evil way and from the violence that is in his hands.
9 Who knows whether God will not turn and relent, and turn away from his fierce anger, so that we might not perish?”
10 God saw their works, that they turned from their evil way. God relented of the disaster which he said he would do to them, and he didn’t do it.

4

1 But it displeased Jonah exceedingly, and he was angry.
2 He prayed to the LORD, and said, “Please, LORD, wasn’t this what I said when I was still in my own country? Therefore I hurried to flee to Tarshish, for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abundant in loving kindness, and you relent of doing harm.
3 Therefore now, LORD, take, I beg you, my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live.”
4 The LORD said, “Is it right for you to be angry?”
5 Then Jonah went out of the city and sat on the east side of the city, and there made himself a booth and sat under it in the shade, until he might see what would become of the city.
6 The LORD God prepared a vine and made it to come up over Jonah, that it might be a shade over his head to deliver him from his discomfort. So Jonah was exceedingly glad because of the vine.
7 But God prepared a worm at dawn the next day, and it chewed on the vine so that it withered.
8 When the sun arose, God prepared a sultry east wind; and the sun beat on Jonah’s head, so that he was faint and requested for himself that he might die. He said, “It is better for me to die than to live.”
9 God said to Jonah, “Is it right for you to be angry about the vine?”
He said, “I am right to be angry, even to death.”
10 The LORD said, “You have been concerned for the vine, for which you have not labored, neither made it grow; which came up in a night and perished in a night.

11 Shouldn’t I be concerned for Nineveh,
that great city, in which are more than
one hundred twenty thousand persons
who can’t discern between their right
hand and their left hand, and also many
animals?”

The Book of Micah

1 The LORD's† word that came to Micah
of Morasheth in the days of Jotham, Ahaz,
and Hezekiah, kings of Judah, which he
saw concerning Samaria and Jerusalem.
2 Hear, you peoples, all of you!
Listen, O earth, and all that is therein.
Let the Lord‡ GOD be witness against you,
the Lord from his holy temple.
3 For behold,§ the LORD comes out of his
place,
and will come down and tread on the
high places of the earth.
4 The mountains melt under him,
and the valleys split apart like wax
before the fire,
like waters that are poured down a
steep place.

5 "All this is for the disobedience of Jacob,
and for the sins of the house of Israel.
What is the disobedience of Jacob?
Isn't it Samaria?
And what are the high places of Judah?
Aren't they Jerusalem?
6 Therefore I will make Samaria like a
rubble heap of the field,
like places for planting vineyards;
and I will pour down its stones into the
valley,
and I will uncover its foundations.
7 All her idols will be beaten to pieces,
all her temple gifts will be burned
with fire,
and I will destroy all her images;
for of the hire of a prostitute has she
gathered them,
and to the hire of a prostitute shall
they return."

8 For this I will lament and wail.
I will go stripped and naked.
I will howl like the jackals
and mourn like the ostriches.
9 For her wounds are incurable;
for it has come even to Judah.
It reaches to the gate of my people,
even to Jerusalem.
10 Don't tell it in Gath.
Don't weep at all.
At Beth Ophrah† I have rolled myself
in the dust.
11 Pass on, inhabitant of Shaphir, in
nakedness and shame.
The inhabitant of Zaanan won't come
out.
The wailing of Beth Ezel will take
from you his protection.
12 For the inhabitant of Maroth waits
anxiously for good,
because evil has come down from the
LORD to the gate of Jerusalem.
13 Harness the chariot to the swift steed,
inhabitant of Lachish.
She was the beginning of sin to the
daughter of Zion;
for the transgressions of Israel were
found in you.
14 Therefore you will give a parting gift to
Moresheth Gath.
The houses of Achzib will be a
deceitful thing to the kings of Israel.
15 I will yet bring a conqueror to you,
inhabitants of Mareshah.
The glory of Israel will come to
Adullam.
16 Shave your heads,
and cut off your hair for the children
of your delight.
Enlarge your baldness like the vulture,
for they have gone into captivity from
you!

2

1 Woe to those who devise iniquity
and work evil on their beds!
When the morning is light, they practice
it,
because it is in the power of their
hand.
2 They covet fields and seize them,
and houses, then take them away.
They oppress a man and his house,

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even a man and his heritage.
3 Therefore the LORD says:
"Behold, I am planning against these
people a disaster,
from which you will not remove your
necks,
neither will you walk haughtily,
for it is an evil time.
4 In that day they will take up a parable
against you,
and lament with a doleful
lamentation, saying,
'We are utterly ruined!
My people's possession is divided up.
Indeed he takes it from me and
assigns our fields to traitors!' "
5 Therefore you will have no one who
divides the land by lot in the LORD's
assembly.
6 "Don't prophesy!"—they prophesy—
"Don't prophesy about these things.
Disgrace won't overtake us."
7 Shall it be said, O house of Jacob,
"Is the LORD's Spirit angry?
Are these his doings?
Don't my words do good to him who
walks blamelessly?"
8 But lately my people have risen up as an
enemy.
You strip the robe and clothing from
those who pass by without a care,
returning from battle.
9 You drive the women of my people out
from their pleasant houses;
from their young children you take
away my blessing forever.
10 Arise, and depart!
For this is not your resting place,
because of uncleanness that destroys,
even with a grievous destruction.
11 If a man walking in a spirit of falsehood
lies, saying,
"I will prophesy to you of wine and of
strong drink,"
he would be the prophet of this
people.
12 I will surely assemble all of you, Jacob.
I will surely gather the remnant of
Israel.
I will put them together as the sheep of
Bozrah,
as a flock in the middle of their
pasture.
They will swarm with people.
13 He who breaks open the way goes up
before them.
They break through the gate, and go
out.
Their king passes on before them,
with the LORD at their head.

3

1 I said,
"Please listen, you heads of Jacob,
and rulers of the house of Israel:
Isn't it for you to know justice?
2 You who hate the good,
and love the evil;
who tear off their skin,
and their flesh from off their bones;
3 who also eat the flesh of my people,
and peel their skin from off them,
and break their bones,
and chop them in pieces, as for the
pot,
and as meat within the cauldron.
4 Then they will cry to the LORD,
but he will not answer them.
Yes, he will hide his face from them at that
time,
because they made their deeds evil."
5 The LORD says concerning the
prophets who lead my people astray—for
those who feed their teeth, they proclaim,
"Peace!" and whoever doesn't provide for
their mouths, they prepare war against
him:
6 "Therefore night is over you, with no
vision,
and it is dark to you, that you may not
divine;
and the sun will go down on the
prophets,
and the day will be black over them.
7 The seers shall be disappointed,
and the diviners confounded.
Yes, they shall all cover their lips,
for there is no answer from God."†
8 But as for me, I am full of power by the
LORD's Spirit,
and of judgment, and of might,

† **3:7** The Hebrew word rendered "God" is "אֱלֹהִים" (Elohim).

to declare to Jacob his disobedience,
and to Israel his sin.
9 Please listen to this, you heads of the house of Jacob,
and rulers of the house of Israel,
who abhor justice,
and pervert all equity,
10 who build up Zion with blood,
and Jerusalem with iniquity.
11 Her leaders judge for bribes,
and her priests teach for a price,
and her prophets tell fortunes for money;
yet they lean on the LORD, and say,
"Isn't the LORD among us?
No disaster will come on us."
12 Therefore Zion for your sake will be plowed like a field,
and Jerusalem will become heaps of rubble,
and the mountain of the temple like the high places of a forest.

4

1 But in the latter days,
it will happen that the mountain of the LORD's temple will be established on the top of the mountains,
and it will be exalted above the hills;
and peoples will stream to it.
2 Many nations will go and say,
"Come! Let's go up to the mountain of the LORD,
and to the house of the God of Jacob;
and he will teach us of his ways,
and we will walk in his paths."
For the law will go out of Zion,
and the LORD's word from Jerusalem;
3 and he will judge between many peoples,
and will decide concerning strong nations afar off.
They will beat their swords into plowshares,
and their spears into pruning hooks.
Nation will not lift up sword against nation,
neither will they learn war any more.
4 But every man will sit under his vine and under his fig tree.
No one will make them afraid,
for the mouth of the LORD of Armies has spoken.
5 Indeed all the nations may walk in the name of their gods,
but we will walk in the name of the LORD our God forever and ever.
6 "In that day," says the LORD,
"I will assemble that which is lame,
and I will gather that which is driven away,
and that which I have afflicted;
7 and I will make that which was lame a remnant,
and that which was cast far off a strong nation:
and the LORD will reign over them on Mount Zion from then on, even forever."
8 You, tower of the flock, the hill of the daughter of Zion,
to you it will come.
Yes, the former dominion will come,
the kingdom of the daughter of Jerusalem.

9 Now why do you cry out aloud?
Is there no king in you?
Has your counselor perished,
that pains have taken hold of you as of a woman in travail?
10 Be in pain, and labor to give birth, daughter of Zion,
like a woman in travail;
for now you will go out of the city,
and will dwell in the field,
and will come even to Babylon.
There you will be rescued.
There the LORD will redeem you from the hand of your enemies.

11 Now many nations have assembled against you, that say,
"Let her be defiled,
and let our eye gloat over Zion."
12 But they don't know the thoughts of the LORD,
neither do they understand his counsel;
for he has gathered them like the sheaves to the threshing floor.
13 Arise and thresh, daughter of Zion,
for I will make your horn iron,
and I will make your hoofs bronze.

You will beat in pieces many peoples.
I will devote their gain to the LORD,
and their substance to the Lord of the whole earth.

5

1 Now you shall gather yourself in troops,
daughter of troops.
He has laid siege against us.
They will strike the judge of Israel with a rod on the cheek.
2 But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah,
being small among the clans of Judah,
out of you one will come out to me who is to be ruler in Israel;
whose goings out are from of old, from ancient times.
3 Therefore he will abandon them until the time that she who is in labor gives birth.
Then the rest of his brothers will return to the children of Israel.
4 He shall stand, and shall shepherd in the strength of the LORD,
in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.
They will live, for then he will be great to the ends of the earth.
5 He will be our peace when Assyria invades our land
and when he marches through our fortresses,
then we will raise against him seven shepherds,
and eight leaders of men.
6 They will rule the land of Assyria with the sword,
and the land of Nimrod in its gates.
He will deliver us from the Assyrian,
when he invades our land,
and when he marches within our border.
7 The remnant of Jacob will be among many peoples
like dew from the LORD,
like showers on the grass,
that don't wait for man
nor wait for the sons of men.
8 The 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;
who, if he goes through, treads down and tears in pieces,
and there is no one to deliver.
9 Let your hand be lifted up above your adversaries,
and let all of your enemies be cut off.
10 "It will happen in that day", says the LORD,
"that I will cut off your horses from among you
and will destroy your chariots.
11 I will cut off the cities of your land
and will tear down all your strongholds.
12 I will destroy witchcraft from your hand.
You shall have no soothsayers.
13 I will cut off your engraved images and your pillars from among you;
and you shall no more worship the work of your hands.
14 I will uproot your Asherah poles from among you;
and I will destroy your cities.
15 I will execute vengeance in anger
and wrath on the nations that didn't listen."

6

1 Listen now to what the LORD says:
"Arise, plead your case before the mountains,
and let the hills hear what you have to say.
2 Hear, you mountains, the LORD's indictment,
and you enduring foundations of the earth;
for the LORD has a case against his people,
and he will contend with Israel.
3 My people, what have I done to you?
How have I burdened you?
Answer me!
4 For I brought you up out of the land of Egypt,
and redeemed you out of the house of bondage.
I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam.

5 My people, remember now what Balak
king of Moab devised,
and what Balaam the son of Beor
answered him from Shittim to
Gilgal,
that you may know the righteous acts
of the LORD."

6 How shall I come before the LORD,
and bow myself before the exalted
God?
Shall I come before him with burnt
offerings,
with calves a year old?
7 Will the LORD be pleased with
thousands of rams?
With tens of thousands of rivers of
oil?
Shall I give my firstborn for my
disobedience?
The fruit of my body for the sin of my
soul?
8 He has shown you, O man, what is good.
What does the LORD require of you,
but to act justly,
to love mercy, and to walk humbly
with your God?

9 The LORD's voice calls to the city—
and wisdom fears your name—
"Listen to the rod,
and he who appointed it.
10 Are there yet treasures of wickedness in
the house of the wicked,
and a short ephah† that is accursed?
11 Shall I tolerate dishonest scales,
and a bag of deceitful weights?
12 Her rich men are full of violence,
her inhabitants speak lies,
and their tongue is deceitful in their
speech.
13 Therefore I also have struck you with a
grievous wound.
I have made you desolate because of
your sins.
14 You shall eat, but not be satisfied.
Your hunger will be within you.
You will store up, but not save,
and that which you save I will give up
to the sword.
15 You will sow, but won't reap.
You will tread the olives, but won't
anoint yourself with oil;
and crush grapes, but won't drink the
wine.
16 For the statutes of Omri are kept,
and all the works of Ahab's house.
You walk in their counsels,
that I may make you a ruin,
and your inhabitants a hissing.
You will bear the reproach of my
people."

7

1 Misery is mine!
Indeed, I am like one who gathers the
summer fruits, as gleanings of the
vineyard.
There is no cluster of grapes to eat.
My soul desires to eat the early fig.
2 The godly man has perished out of the
earth,
and there is no one upright among
men.
They all lie in wait for blood;
every man hunts his brother with a
net.
3 Their hands are on that which is evil to
do it diligently.
The ruler and judge ask for a bribe.
The powerful man dictates the evil desire
of his soul.
Thus they conspire together.
4 The best of them is like a brier.
The most upright is worse than a
thorn hedge.
The day of your watchmen,
even your visitation, has come;
now is the time of their confusion.
5 Don't trust in a neighbor.
Don't put confidence in a friend.
With the woman lying in your
embrace,
be careful of the words of your
mouth!
6 For the son dishonors the father,
the daughter rises up against her
mother,
the daughter-in-law against her
mother-in-law;

† **6:10** An ephah is a measure of volume (about 22 liters or about 2/3 of a bushel), and a short ephah is made smaller than a full ephah for the purpose of cheating customers.

a man's enemies are the men of his
own house.
7 But as for me, I will look to the LORD.
I will wait for the God of my salvation.
My God will hear me.
8 Don't rejoice against me, my enemy.
When I fall, I will arise.
When I sit in darkness, the LORD will
be a light to me.
9 I will bear the indignation of the LORD,
because I have sinned against him,
until he pleads my case and executes
judgment for me.
He will bring me out to the light.
I will see his righteousness.
10 Then my enemy will see it,
and shame will cover her who said to
me,
"Where is the LORD your God?"
My eyes will see her.
Now she will be trodden down like
the mire of the streets.
11 A day to build your walls!
In that day, he will extend your
boundary.
12 In that day they will come to you from
Assyria and the cities of Egypt,
and from Egypt even to the River,
and from sea to sea,
and mountain to mountain.
13 Yet the land will be desolate because of
those who dwell therein,
for the fruit of their doings.
14 Shepherd your people with your staff,
the flock of your heritage,
who dwell by themselves in a forest.
Let them feed in the middle of fertile
pasture land,
in Bashan and Gilead, as in the days
of old.
15 "As in the days of your coming out of the
land of Egypt,
I will show them marvelous things."
16 The nations will see and be ashamed of
all their might.
They will lay their hand on their
mouth.
Their ears will be deaf.
17 They will lick the dust like a serpent.
Like crawling things of the earth, they
will come trembling out of their
dens.
They will come with fear to the LORD
our God,
and will be afraid because of you.
18 Who is a God like you, who pardons
iniquity,
and passes over the disobedience of
the remnant of his heritage?
He doesn't retain his anger forever,
because he delights in loving
kindness.
19 He will again have compassion on us.
He will tread our iniquities under
foot.
You will cast all their sins into the
depths of the sea.
20 You will give truth to Jacob,
and mercy to Abraham,
as you have sworn to our fathers
from the days of old.

The Book of Nahum

1 A revelation about Nineveh. The book
of the vision of Nahum the Elkoshite.
2 The LORD† is a jealous God‡ and
avenges. The LORD avenges and is full of
wrath. The LORD takes vengeance on his
adversaries, and he maintains wrath
against his enemies.
3 The LORD is slow to anger, and great
in power, and will by no means leave the
guilty unpunished. The LORD has his way
in the whirlwind and in the storm, and
the clouds are the dust of his feet.
4 He rebukes the sea and makes it dry,
and dries up all the rivers. Bashan and
Carmel languish. The flower of Lebanon
languishes.
5 The mountains quake before him, and
the hills melt away. The earth trembles at
his presence, yes, the world, and all who
dwell in it.
6 Who can stand before his indignation?
Who can endure the fierceness of his
anger? His wrath is poured out like fire,
and the rocks are broken apart by him.
7 The LORD is good, a stronghold in the
day of trouble; and he knows those who
take refuge in him.
8 But with an overflowing flood, he will
make a full end of her place, and will
pursue his enemies into darkness.
9 What do you plot against the LORD?
He will make a full end. Affliction won't
rise up the second time.
10 For entangled like thorns, and
drunken as with their drink, they are
consumed utterly like dry stubble.
11 One has gone out of you who devises
evil against the LORD, who counsels
wickedness.
12 The LORD says: "Though they are in
full strength and likewise many, even so
they will be cut down and pass away.
Though I have afflicted you, I will afflict
you no more.
13 Now I will break his yoke from off
you, and will burst your bonds apart."
14 The LORD has commanded
concerning you: "No more descendants
will bear your name. Out of the house of
your gods, I will cut off the engraved
image and the molten image. I will make
your grave, for you are vile."
15 Behold,§ on the mountains the feet of
him who brings good news, who
publishes peace! Keep your feasts, Judah!
Perform your vows, for the wicked one
will no more pass through you. He is
utterly cut off.

2

1 He who dashes in pieces has come up
against you. Keep the fortress! Watch the
way! Strengthen your waist! Fortify your
power mightily!
2 For the LORD restores the excellency
of Jacob as the excellency of Israel, for the
destroyers have destroyed them and
ruined their vine branches.
3 The shield of his mighty men is made
red. The valiant men are in scarlet. The
chariots flash with steel in the day of his
preparation, and the pine spears are
brandished.
4 The chariots rage in the streets. They
rush back and forth in the wide ways.
Their appearance is like torches. They run
like the lightnings.
5 He summons his picked troops. They
stumble on their way. They dash to its
wall, and the protective shield is put in
place.
6 The gates of the rivers are opened, and
the palace is dissolved.
7 It is decreed: she is uncovered, she is
carried away; and her servants moan as
with the voice of doves, beating on their
breasts.
8 But Nineveh has been from of old like
a pool of water, yet they flee away. "Stop!
Stop!" they cry, but no one looks back.
9 Take the plunder of silver. Take the
plunder of gold, for there is no end of

† **1:2** When rendered in ALL CAPITAL LETTERS, "LORD" or "GOD" is the translation of God's Proper Name (Hebrew "יהוה", usually pronounced Yahweh). ‡ **1:2** The Hebrew word rendered "God" is "אֱלֹהִים" (Elohim). § **1:15** "Behold", from "הִנֵּה", means look at, take notice, observe, see, or gaze at. It is often used as an interjection.

treasure, an abundance of every precious thing.
10 She is empty, void, and waste. The heart melts, the knees knock together, their bodies and faces have grown pale.
11 Where is the den of the lions, and the feeding place of the young lions, where the lion and the lioness walked with the lion's cubs, and no one made them afraid?
12 The lion tore in pieces enough for his cubs, and strangled prey for his lionesses, and filled his caves with the kill and his dens with prey.
13 "Behold, I am against you," says the LORD of Armies, "and I will burn her chariots in the smoke, and the sword will devour your young lions; and I will cut off your prey from the earth, and the voice of your messengers will no longer be heard."

3

1 Woe to the bloody city! It is all full of lies and robbery—no end to the prey.
2 The noise of the whip, the noise of the rattling of wheels, prancing horses, and bounding chariots,
3 the horseman charging, and the flashing sword, the glittering spear, and a multitude of slain, and a great heap of corpses, and there is no end of the bodies. They stumble on their bodies
4 because of the multitude of the prostitution of the alluring prostitute, the mistress of witchcraft, who sells nations through her prostitution, and families through her witchcraft.
5 "Behold, I am against you," says the LORD of Armies, "and I will lift your skirts over your face. I will show the nations your nakedness, and the kingdoms your shame.
6 I will throw abominable filth on you and make you vile, and will make you a spectacle.
7 It will happen that all those who look at you will flee from you, and say, 'Nineveh is laid waste! Who will mourn for her?' Where will I seek comforters for you?"
8 Are you better than No-Amon,† who was situated among the rivers,‡ who had the waters around her, whose rampart was the sea, and her wall was of the sea?
9 Cush and Egypt were her boundless strength. Put and Libya were her helpers.
10 Yet was she carried away. She went into captivity. Her young children also were dashed in pieces at the head of all the streets, and they cast lots for her honorable men, and all her great men were bound in chains.
11 You also will be drunken. You will be hidden. You also will seek a stronghold because of the enemy.
12 All your fortresses will be like fig trees with the first-ripe figs. If they are shaken, they fall into the mouth of the eater.
13 Behold, your troops among you are women. The gates of your land are set wide open to your enemies. The fire has devoured your bars.
14 Draw water for the siege. Strengthen your fortresses. Go into the clay, and tread the mortar. Make the brick kiln strong.
15 There the fire will devour you. The sword will cut you off. It will devour you like the grasshopper. Multiply like grasshoppers. Multiply like the locust.
16 You have increased your merchants more than the stars of the skies. The grasshopper strips and flees away.
17 Your guards are like the locusts, and your officials like the swarms of locusts, which settle on the walls on a cold day, but when the sun appears, they flee away, and their place is not known where they are.
18 Your shepherds slumber, king of Assyria. Your nobles lie down. Your people are scattered on the mountains, and there is no one to gather them.
19 There is no healing your wound, for your injury is fatal. All who hear the report of you clap their hands over you, for who hasn't felt your endless cruelty?

† **3:8** or, Thebes ‡ **3:8** or, Nile

The Book of Habakkuk

1 The revelation which Habakkuk the
prophet saw.
2 LORD,† how long will I cry, and you
will not hear? I cry out to you “Violence!”
and will you not save?
3 Why do you show me iniquity, and
look at perversity? For destruction and
violence are before me. There is strife,
and contention rises up.
4 Therefore the law is paralyzed, and
justice never prevails; for the wicked
surround the righteous; therefore justice
comes out perverted.
5 “Look among the nations, watch, and
wonder marvelously; for I am working a
work in your days which you will not
believe though it is told you.
6 For, behold,‡ I am raising up the
Chaldeans, that bitter and hasty nation
who march through the width of the
earth, to possess dwelling places that are
not theirs.
7 They are feared and dreaded. Their
judgment and their dignity proceed from
themselves.
8 Their horses also are swifter than
leopards, and are more fierce than the
evening wolves. Their horsemen press
proudly on. Yes, their horsemen come
from afar. They fly as an eagle that
hurries to devour.
9 All of them come for violence. Their
hordes face forward. They gather
prisoners like sand.
10 Yes, they scoff at kings, and princes
are a derision to them. They laugh at
every stronghold, for they build up an
earthen ramp and take it.
11 Then they sweep by like the wind and
go on. They are indeed guilty, whose
strength is their god.”
12 Aren’t you from everlasting, LORD
my God,§ my Holy One? We will not die.
LORD, you have appointed them for
judgment. You, Rock, have established
him to punish.
13 You who have purer eyes than to see
evil, and who cannot look on perversity,
why do you tolerate those who deal
treacherously and keep silent when the
wicked swallows up the man who is more
righteous than he,
14 and make men like the fish of the sea,
like the creeping things that have no ruler
over them?
15 He takes up all of them with the hook.
He catches them in his net and gathers
them in his dragnet. Therefore he rejoices
and is glad.
16 Therefore he sacrifices to his net and
burns incense to his dragnet, because by
them his life is luxurious and his food is
good.
17 Will he therefore continually empty
his net, and kill the nations without
mercy?

2

1 I will stand at my watch and set myself
on the ramparts, and will look out to see
what he will say to me, and what I will
answer concerning my complaint.
2 The LORD answered me, “Write the
vision, and make it plain on tablets, that
he who runs may read it.
3 For the vision is yet for the appointed
time, and it hurries toward the end, and
won’t prove false. Though it takes time,
wait for it, because it will surely come. It
won’t delay.
4 Behold, his soul is puffed up. It is not
upright in him, but the righteous will live
by his faith.
5 Yes, moreover, wine is treacherous: an
arrogant man who doesn’t stay at home,
who enlarges his desire as Sheol;† he is
like death and can’t be satisfied, but
gathers to himself all nations and heaps to
himself all peoples.
6 Won’t all these take up a parable
against him, and a taunting proverb

† **1:2** When rendered in ALL CAPITAL LETTERS, “LORD” or “GOD” is the translation of God’s Proper Name (Hebrew “יהוה”, usually pronounced Yahweh). ‡ **1:6** “Behold”, from “הִנֵּה”, means look at, take notice, observe, see, or gaze at. It is often used as an interjection. § **1:12** The Hebrew word rendered “God” is “אֱלֹהִים” (Elohim). † **2:5** Sheol is the place of the dead.

against him, and say, ‘Woe to him who
increases that which is not his, and who
enriches himself by extortion! How long?’
7 Won’t your debtors rise up suddenly,
and wake up those who make you
tremble, and you will be their victim?
8 Because you have plundered many
nations, all the remnant of the peoples
will plunder you because of men’s blood,
and for the violence done to the land, to
the city and to all who dwell in it.
9 Woe to him who gets an evil gain for
his house, that he may set his nest on high,
that he may be delivered from the hand of
evil!
10 You have devised shame to your
house by cutting off many peoples, and
have sinned against your soul.
11 For the stone will cry out of the wall,
and the beam out of the woodwork will
answer it.
12 Woe to him who builds a town with
blood, and establishes a city by iniquity!
13 Behold, isn’t it from the LORD of
Armies that the peoples labor for the fire,
and the nations weary themselves for
vanity?
14 For the earth will be filled with the
knowledge of the LORD’s glory, as the
waters cover the sea.
15 “Woe to him who gives his neighbor
drink, pouring your inflaming wine until
they are drunk, so that you may gaze at
their naked bodies!
16 You are filled with shame, and not
glory. You will also drink and be exposed!
The cup of the LORD’s right hand will
come around to you, and disgrace will
cover your glory.
17 For the violence done to Lebanon will
overwhelm you, and the destruction of
the animals will terrify you, because of
men’s blood and for the violence done to
the land, to every city and to those who
dwell in them.
18 “What value does the engraved image
have, that its maker has engraved it; the
molten image, even the teacher of lies,
that he who fashions its form trusts in it,
to make mute idols?
19 Woe to him who says to the wood,
‘Awake!’ or to the mute stone, ‘Arise!’
Shall this teach? Behold, it is overlaid with
gold and silver, and there is no breath at
all within it.
20 But the LORD is in his holy temple.
Let all the earth be silent before him!”

3

1 A prayer of Habakkuk, the prophet, set
to victorious music.
2 LORD, I have heard of your fame.
I stand in awe of your deeds, LORD.
Renew your work in the middle of the
years.
In the middle of the years make it
known.
In wrath, you remember mercy.
3 God came from Teman,
the Holy One from Mount Paran.
Selah.

His glory covered the heavens,
and his praise filled the earth.
4 His splendor is like the sunrise.
Rays shine from his hand, where his
power is hidden.
5 Plague went before him,
and pestilence followed his feet.
6 He stood, and shook the earth.
He looked, and made the nations
tremble.
The ancient mountains were
crumbled.
The age-old hills collapsed.
His ways are eternal.
7 I saw the tents of Cushan in affliction.
The dwellings of the land of Midian
trembled.
8 Was the LORD displeased with the
rivers?
Was your anger against the rivers,
or your wrath against the sea,
that you rode on your horses,
on your chariots of salvation?
9 You uncovered your bow.
You called for your sworn arrows.
Selah.
You split the earth with rivers.
10 The mountains saw you, and were
afraid.
The storm of waters passed by.
The deep roared and lifted up its
hands on high.
11 The sun and moon stood still in the sky

at the light of your arrows as they
went,
at the shining of your glittering spear.
12 You marched through the land in wrath.
You threshed the nations in anger.
13 You went out for the salvation of your
people,
for the salvation of your anointed.
You crushed the head of the land of
wickedness.
You stripped them head to foot.
Selah.

14 You pierced the heads of his warriors
with their own spears.
They came as a whirlwind to scatter
me,
gloating as if to devour the wretched
in secret.
15 You trampled the sea with your horses,
churning mighty waters.
16 I heard, and my body trembled.
My lips quivered at the voice.
Rottenness enters into my bones, and I
tremble in my place
because I must wait quietly for the
day of trouble,
for the coming up of the people who
invade us.
17 For even though the fig tree doesn't
flourish,
nor fruit be in the vines,
the labor of the olive fails,
the fields yield no food,
the flocks are cut off from the fold,
and there is no herd in the stalls,
18 yet I will rejoice in the LORD.
I will be joyful in the God of my
salvation!
19 GOD, the Lord,† is my strength.
He makes my feet like deer's feet,
and enables me to go in high places.
For the music director, on my stringed
instruments.

† **3:19** The word translated "Lord" is "Adonai."

The Book of Zephaniah

1 The LORD's† word which came to
Zephaniah, the son of Cushi, the son of
Gedaliah, the son of Amariah, the son of
Hezekiah, in the days of Josiah, the son of
Amon, king of Judah.

2 I will utterly sweep away everything
from the surface of the earth, says the
LORD.
3 I will sweep away man and animal. I
will sweep away the birds of the sky, the
fish of the sea, and the heaps of rubble
with the wicked. I will cut off man from
the surface of the earth, says the LORD.
4 I will stretch out my hand against
Judah and against all the inhabitants of
Jerusalem. I will cut off the remnant of
Baal from this place—the name of the
idolatrous and pagan priests,
5 those who worship the army of the sky
on the housetops, those who worship and
swear by the LORD and also swear by
Malcam,
6 those who have turned back from
following the LORD, and those who
haven't sought the LORD nor inquired
after him.
7 Be silent at the presence of the Lord‡
GOD, for the day of the LORD is at hand.
For the LORD has prepared a sacrifice. He
has consecrated his guests.
8 It will happen in the day of the LORD's
sacrifice that I will punish the princes, the
king's sons, and all those who are clothed
with foreign clothing.
9 In that day, I will punish all those who
leap over the threshold, who fill their
master's house with violence and deceit.
10 In that day, says the LORD, there will
be the noise of a cry from the fish gate, a
wailing from the second quarter, and a
great crashing from the hills.
11 Wail, you inhabitants of Maktesh, for
all the people of Canaan are undone! All
those who were loaded with silver are cut
off.
12 It will happen at that time, that I will
search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will
punish the men who are settled on their
dregs, who say in their heart, "The LORD
will not do good, neither will he do evil."
13 Their wealth will become a plunder,
and their houses a desolation. Yes, they
will build houses, but won't inhabit them.
They will plant vineyards, but won't drink
their wine.
14 The great day of the LORD is near. It is
near and hurries greatly, the voice of the
day of the LORD. The mighty man cries
there bitterly.
15 That day is a day of wrath, a day of
distress and anguish, a day of trouble and
ruin, a day of darkness and gloom, a day
of clouds and blackness,
16 a day of the trumpet and alarm
against the fortified cities and against the
high battlements.
17 I will bring such distress on men that
they will walk like blind men because
they have sinned against the LORD. Their
blood will be poured out like dust and
their flesh like dung.
18 Neither their silver nor their gold will
be able to deliver them in the day of the
LORD's wrath, but the whole land will be
devoured by the fire of his jealousy; for he
will make an end, yes, a terrible end, of all
those who dwell in the land.

2

1 Gather yourselves together, yes,
gather together, you nation that has no
shame,
2 before the appointed time when the
day passes as the chaff, before the fierce
anger of the LORD comes on you, before
the day of the LORD's anger comes on you.
3 Seek the LORD, all you humble of the
land, who have kept his ordinances. Seek
righteousness. Seek humility. It may be
that you will be hidden in the day of the
LORD's anger.

† **1:1** When rendered in ALL CAPITAL LETTERS, "LORD" or "GOD" is the translation of God's Proper Name (Hebrew "יהוה", usually pronounced Yahweh). ‡ **1:7** The word translated "Lord" is "Adonai."

4 For Gaza will be forsaken, and
Ashkelon a desolation. They will drive out
Ashdod at noonday, and Ekron will be
rooted up.
5 Woe to the inhabitants of the sea coast,
the nation of the Cherethites! The LORD's
word is against you, Canaan, the land of
the Philistines. I will destroy you until
there is no inhabitant.
6 The sea coast will be pastures, with
cottages for shepherds and folds for
flocks.
7 The coast will be for the remnant of
the house of Judah. They will find pasture.
In the houses of Ashkelon, they will lie
down in the evening, for the LORD, their
God,† will visit them and restore them.
8 I have heard the reproach of Moab and
the insults of the children of Ammon, with
which they have reproached my people
and magnified themselves against their
border.
9 Therefore, as I live, says the LORD of
Armies, the God of Israel, surely Moab
will be as Sodom, and the children of
Ammon as Gomorrah, a possession of
nettles and salt pits, and a perpetual
desolation. The remnant of my people
will plunder them, and the survivors of
my nation will inherit them.
10 This they will have for their pride,
because they have reproached and
magnified themselves against the people
of the LORD of Armies.
11 The LORD will be awesome to them,
for he will famish all the gods of the land.
Men will worship him, everyone from his
place, even all the shores of the nations.
12 You Cushites also, you will be killed
by my sword.
13 He will stretch out his hand against
the north, destroy Assyria, and will make
Nineveh a desolation, as dry as the
wilderness.
14 Herds will lie down in the middle of
her, all kinds of animals. Both the pelican
and the porcupine will lodge in its
capitals. Their calls will echo through the
windows. Desolation will be in the
thresholds, for he has laid bare the cedar
beams.
15 This is the joyous city that lived
carelessly, that said in her heart, "I am,
and there is no one besides me." How she
has become a desolation, a place for
animals to lie down in! Everyone who
passes by her will hiss and shake their
fists.

3

1 Woe to her who is rebellious and
polluted, the oppressing city!
2 She didn't obey the voice. She didn't
receive correction. She didn't trust in the
LORD. She didn't draw near to her God.
3 Her princes within her are roaring
lions. Her judges are evening wolves.
They leave nothing until the next day.
4 Her prophets are arrogant and
treacherous people. Her priests have
profaned the sanctuary. They have done
violence to the law.
5 The LORD, within her, is righteous. He
will do no wrong. Every morning he
brings his justice to light. He doesn't fail,
but the unjust know no shame.
6 I have cut off nations. Their
battlements are desolate. I have made
their streets waste, so that no one passes
by. Their cities are destroyed, so that
there is no man, so that there is no
inhabitant.
7 I said, "Just fear me. Receive
correction," so that her dwelling won't be
cut off, according to all that I have
appointed concerning her. But they rose
early and corrupted all their doings.
8 "Therefore wait for me", says the
LORD, "until the day that I rise up to the
prey, for my determination is to gather
the nations, that I may assemble the
kingdoms to pour on them my
indignation, even all my fierce anger, for
all the earth will be devoured with the fire
of my jealousy.
9 For then I will purify the lips of the
peoples, that they may all call on the
LORD's name, to serve him shoulder to
shoulder.
10 From beyond the rivers of Cush, my
worshipers, even the daughter of my
dispersed people, will bring my offering.

† **2:7** The Hebrew word rendered "God" is "אֱלֹהִים" (Elohim).

11 In that day you will not be
disappointed for all your doings in which
you have transgressed against me; for
then I will take away out from among you
your proudly exulting ones, and you will
no more be arrogant in my holy
mountain.
12 But I will leave among you an
afflicted and poor people, and they will
take refuge in the LORD's name.
13 The remnant of Israel will not do
iniquity nor speak lies, neither will a
deceitful tongue be found in their mouth,
for they will feed and lie down, and no
one will make them afraid."
14 Sing, daughter of Zion! Shout, Israel!
Be glad and rejoice with all your heart,
daughter of Jerusalem.
15 The LORD has taken away your
judgments. He has thrown out your
enemy. The King of Israel, the LORD, is
among you. You will not be afraid of evil
any more.
16 In that day, it will be said to
Jerusalem, "Don't be afraid, Zion. Don't let
your hands be weak."
17 The LORD, your God, is among you, a
mighty one who will save. He will rejoice
over you with joy. He will calm you in his
love. He will rejoice over you with
singing.
18 I will remove those who grieve about
the appointed feasts from you. They are a
burden and a reproach to you.
19 Behold,† at that time I will deal with
all those who afflict you; and I will save
those who are lame and gather those who
were driven away. I will give them praise
and honor, whose shame has been in all
the earth.
20 At that time I will bring you in, and at
that time I will gather you; for I will give
you honor and praise among all the
peoples of the earth when I restore your
fortunes before your eyes, says the LORD.

† **3:19** "Behold", from "הִנֵּה", means look at, take notice, observe, see, or gaze at. It is often used as an interjection.

The Book of Haggai

1 In the second year of Darius the king,
in the sixth month, in the first day of the
month, the LORD's† word came by Haggai
the prophet, to Zerubbabel the son of
Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to
Joshua the son of Jehozadak, the high
priest, saying,
2 "This is what the LORD of Armies says:
These people say, 'The time hasn't yet
come, the time for the LORD's house to be
built.' "
3 Then the LORD's word came by Haggai
the prophet, saying,
4 "Is it a time for you yourselves to dwell
in your paneled houses, while this house
lies waste?
5 Now therefore this is what the LORD of
Armies says: 'Consider your ways.
6 You have sown much, and bring in
little. You eat, but you don't have enough.
You drink, but you aren't filled with drink.
You clothe yourselves, but no one is
warm; and he who earns wages earns
wages to put them into a bag with holes in
it.'
7 "This is what the LORD of Armies says:
'Consider your ways.
8 Go up to the mountain, bring wood,
and build the house. I will take pleasure in
it, and I will be glorified," says the LORD.
9 "You looked for much, and, behold,‡ it
came to little; and when you brought it
home, I blew it away. Why?" says the
LORD of Armies, "Because of my house
that lies waste, while each of you is busy
with his own house.
10 Therefore for your sake the heavens
withhold the dew, and the earth
withholds its fruit.
11 I called for a drought on the land, on
the mountains, on the grain, on the new
wine, on the oil, on that which the ground
produces, on men, on livestock, and on all
the labor of the hands."
12 Then Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel
and Joshua the son of Jehozadak, the high
priest, with all the remnant of the people,
obeyed the LORD their God's§ voice, and
the words of Haggai the prophet, as the
LORD their God had sent him; and the
people feared the LORD.
13 Then Haggai, the LORD's messenger,
spoke the LORD's message to the people,
saying, "I am with you," says the LORD.
14 The LORD stirred up the spirit of
Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor
of Judah, and the spirit of Joshua the son
of Jehozadak, the high priest, and the
spirit of all the remnant of the people; and
they came and worked on the house of the
LORD of Armies, their God,
15 in the twenty-fourth day of the
month, in the sixth month, in the second
year of Darius the king.

2

1 In the seventh month, in the
twenty-first day of the month, the LORD's
word came by Haggai the prophet, saying,
2 "Speak now to Zerubbabel the son of
Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to
Joshua the son of Jehozadak, the high
priest, and to the remnant of the people,
saying,
3 'Who is left among you who saw this
house in its former glory? How do you see
it now? Isn't it in your eyes as nothing?
4 Yet now be strong, Zerubbabel,' says
the LORD. 'Be strong, Joshua son of
Jehozadak, the high priest. Be strong, all
you people of the land,' says the LORD,
'and work, for I am with you,' says the
LORD of Armies.
5 This is the word that I covenanted with
you when you came out of Egypt, and my
Spirit lived among you. 'Don't be afraid.'
6 For this is what the LORD of Armies
says: 'Yet once more, it is a little while, and
I will shake the heavens, the earth, the
sea, and the dry land;

† **1:1** When rendered in ALL CAPITAL LETTERS, "LORD" or "GOD" is the translation of God's Proper Name (Hebrew "יהוה", usually pronounced Yahweh). ‡ **1:9** "Behold", from "הִנֵּה", means look at, take notice, observe, see, or gaze at. It is often used as an interjection. § **1:12** The Hebrew word rendered "God" is "אֱלֹהִים" (Elohim).

7 and I will shake all nations. The
treasure of all nations will come, and I
will fill this house with glory, says the
LORD of Armies.
8 The silver is mine, and the gold is
mine,' says the LORD of Armies.
9 'The latter glory of this house will be
greater than the former,' says the LORD of
Armies; 'and in this place I will give
peace,' says the LORD of Armies."
10 In the twenty-fourth day of the ninth
month, in the second year of Darius, the
LORD's word came by Haggai the prophet,
saying,
11 "The LORD of Armies says: Ask now
the priests concerning the law, saying,
12 'If someone carries holy meat in the
fold of his garment, and with his fold
touches bread, stew, wine, oil, or any
food, will it become holy?' "

The priests answered, "No."

13 Then Haggai said, "If one who is
unclean by reason of a dead body touches
any of these, will it be unclean?"

The priests answered, "It will be
unclean."
14 Then Haggai answered, " 'So is this
people, and so is this nation before me,'
says the LORD; 'and so is every work of
their hands. That which they offer there is
unclean.
15 Now, please consider from this day
and backward, before a stone was laid on
a stone in the LORD's temple.
16 Through all that time, when one came
to a heap of twenty measures, there were
only ten. When one came to the wine vat
to draw out fifty, there were only twenty.
17 I struck you with blight, mildew, and
hail in all the work of your hands; yet you
didn't turn to me,' says the LORD.
18 'Consider, please, from this day and
backward, from the twenty-fourth day of
the ninth month, since the day that the
foundation of the LORD's temple was laid,
consider it.
19 Is the seed yet in the barn? Yes, the
vine, the fig tree, the pomegranate, and
the olive tree haven't produced. From
today I will bless you.' "
20 The LORD's word came the second
time to Haggai in the twenty-fourth day of
the month, saying,
21 "Speak to Zerubbabel, governor of
Judah, saying, 'I will shake the heavens
and the earth.
22 I will overthrow the throne of
kingdoms. I will destroy the strength of
the kingdoms of the nations. I will
overthrow the chariots and those who
ride in them. The horses and their riders
will come down, everyone by the sword of
his brother.
23 In that day, says the LORD of Armies, I
will take you, Zerubbabel my servant, the
son of Shealtiel,' says the LORD, 'and will
make you like a signet ring, for I have
chosen you,' says the LORD of Armies."

The Book of Zechariah

1 In the eighth month, in the second
year of Darius, the LORD's† word came to
the prophet Zechariah the son of
Berechiah, the son of Iddo, saying,
2 "The LORD was very displeased with
your fathers.
3 Therefore tell them, the LORD of
Armies says: 'Return to me,' says the
LORD of Armies, 'and I will return to you,'
says the LORD of Armies.
4 Don't you be like your fathers, to
whom the former prophets proclaimed,
saying: The LORD of Armies says, 'Return
now from your evil ways and from your
evil doings;' but they didn't hear nor listen
to me, says the LORD.
5 Your fathers, where are they? And the
prophets, do they live forever?
6 But my words and my decrees, which I
commanded my servants the prophets,
didn't they overtake your fathers?

"Then they repented and said, 'Just as
the LORD of Armies determined to do to
us, according to our ways and according
to our practices, so he has dealt with us.' "

7 On the twenty-fourth day of the
eleventh month, which is the month
Shebat, in the second year of Darius, the
LORD's word came to the prophet
Zechariah the son of Berechiah, the son of
Iddo, saying,
8 "I had a vision in the night, and
behold,‡ a man riding on a red horse, and
he stood among the myrtle trees that were
in a ravine; and behind him there were
red, brown, and white horses.
9 Then I asked, 'My lord, what are
these?' "

The angel who talked with me said to
me, "I will show you what these are."

10 The man who stood among the myrtle
trees answered, "They are the ones the
LORD has sent to go back and forth
through the earth."

11 They reported to the LORD's angel
who stood among the myrtle trees, and
said, "We have walked back and forth
through the earth, and behold, all the
earth is at rest and in peace."

12 Then the LORD's angel replied, "O
LORD of Armies, how long will you not
have mercy on Jerusalem and on the cities
of Judah, against which you have had
indignation these seventy years?"

13 The LORD answered the angel who
talked with me with kind and comforting
words.
14 So the angel who talked with me said
to me, "Proclaim, saying, 'The LORD of
Armies says: "I am jealous for Jerusalem
and for Zion with a great jealousy.
15 I am very angry with the nations that
are at ease; for I was but a little
displeased, but they added to the
calamity."
16 Therefore the LORD says: "I have
returned to Jerusalem with mercy. My
house shall be built in it," says the LORD
of Armies, "and a line shall be stretched
out over Jerusalem." '
17 "Proclaim further, saying, 'The LORD
of Armies says: "My cities will again
overflow with prosperity, and the LORD
will again comfort Zion, and will again
choose Jerusalem." ' "
18 I lifted up my eyes and saw, and
behold, four horns.
19 I asked the angel who talked with me,
"What are these?"

He answered me, "These are the horns
which have scattered Judah, Israel, and
Jerusalem."

20 The LORD showed me four craftsmen.
21 Then I asked, "What are these coming
to do?"

He said, "These are the horns which
scattered Judah, so that no man lifted up
his head; but these have come to terrify
them, to cast down the horns of the

† **1:1** When rendered in ALL CAPITAL LETTERS, "LORD" or "GOD" is the translation of God's Proper Name (Hebrew "יהוה", usually pronounced Yahweh). ‡ **1:8** "Behold", from "הִנֵּה", means look at, take notice, observe, see, or gaze at. It is often used as an interjection.

nations that lifted up their horn against the land of Judah to scatter it."

2

1 I lifted up my eyes, and saw, and behold, a man with a measuring line in his hand.
2 Then I asked, "Where are you going?"

He said to me, "To measure Jerusalem, to see what is its width and what is its length."

3 Behold, the angel who talked with me went out, and another angel went out to meet him,
4 and said to him, "Run, speak to this young man, saying, 'Jerusalem will be inhabited as villages without walls, because of the multitude of men and livestock in it.
5 For I,' says the LORD, 'will be to her a wall of fire around it, and I will be the glory in the middle of her.

6 Come! Come! Flee from the land of the north,' says the LORD; 'for I have spread you abroad as the four winds of the sky,' says the LORD.
7 'Come, Zion! Escape, you who dwell with the daughter of Babylon.'
8 For the LORD of Armies says: 'For honor he has sent me to the nations which plundered you; for he who touches you touches the apple of his eye.
9 For, behold, I will shake my hand over them, and they will be a plunder to those who served them; and you will know that the LORD of Armies has sent me.
10 Sing and rejoice, daughter of Zion! For behold, I come and I will dwell within you,' says the LORD.
11 Many nations shall join themselves to the LORD in that day, and shall be my people; and I will dwell among you, and you shall know that the LORD of Armies has sent me to you.
12 The LORD will inherit Judah as his portion in the holy land, and will again choose Jerusalem.
13 Be silent, all flesh, before the LORD; for he has roused himself from his holy habitation!"

3

1 He showed me Joshua the high priest standing before the LORD's angel, and Satan standing at his right hand to be his adversary.
2 The LORD said to Satan, "The LORD rebuke you, Satan! Yes, the LORD who has chosen Jerusalem rebuke you! Isn't this a burning stick plucked out of the fire?"
3 Now Joshua was clothed with filthy garments, and was standing before the angel.
4 He answered and spoke to those who stood before him, saying, "Take the filthy garments off him." To him he said, "Behold, I have caused your iniquity to pass from you, and I will clothe you with rich clothing."
5 I said, "Let them set a clean turban on his head."

So they set a clean turban on his head, and clothed him; and the LORD's angel was standing by.
6 The LORD's angel solemnly assured Joshua, saying,
7 "The LORD of Armies says: 'If you will walk in my ways, and if you will follow my instructions, then you also shall judge my house, and shall also keep my courts, and I will give you a place of access among these who stand by.
8 Hear now, Joshua the high priest, you and your fellows who sit before you, for they are men who are a sign; for, behold, I will bring out my servant, the Branch.
9 For, behold, the stone that I have set before Joshua: on one stone are seven eyes; behold, I will engrave its inscription,' says the LORD of Armies, 'and I will remove the iniquity of that land in one day.
10 In that day,' says the LORD of Armies, 'you will invite every man his neighbor under the vine and under the fig tree.' "

4

1 The angel who talked with me came again and wakened me, as a man who is wakened out of his sleep.
2 He said to me, "What do you see?"

I said, “I have seen, and behold, a lamp
stand all of gold, with its bowl on the top
of it, and its seven lamps on it; there are
seven pipes to each of the lamps which
are on the top of it;
3 and two olive trees by it, one on the
right side of the bowl, and the other on the
left side of it.”
4 I answered and spoke to the angel who
talked with me, saying, “What are these,
my lord?”
5 Then the angel who talked with me
answered me, “Don’t you know what
these are?”
I said, “No, my lord.”
6 Then he answered and spoke to me,
saying, “This is the LORD’s word to
Zerubbabel, saying, ‘Not by might, nor by
power, but by my Spirit,’ says the LORD of
Armies.
7 Who are you, great mountain? Before
Zerubbabel you are a plain; and he will
bring out the capstone with shouts of
‘Grace, grace, to it!’ ”
8 Moreover the LORD’s word came to
me, saying,
9 “The hands of Zerubbabel have laid
the foundation of this house. His hands
shall also finish it; and you will know that
the LORD of Armies has sent me to you.
10 Indeed, who despises the day of small
things? For these seven shall rejoice, and
shall see the plumb line in the hand of
Zerubbabel. These are the LORD’s eyes,
which run back and forth through the
whole earth.”
11 Then I asked him, “What are these
two olive trees on the right side of the
lamp stand and on the left side of it?”
12 I asked him the second time, “What
are these two olive branches, which are
beside the two golden spouts that pour the
golden oil out of themselves?”
13 He answered me, “Don’t you know
what these are?”
I said, “No, my lord.”
14 Then he said, “These are the two
anointed ones who stand by the Lord† of
the whole earth.”

5

1 Then again I lifted up my eyes and
saw, and behold, a flying scroll.
2 He said to me, “What do you see?”
I answered, “I see a flying scroll; its
length is twenty cubits,† and its width ten
cubits.”
3 Then he said to me, “This is the curse
that goes out over the surface of the whole
land, for everyone who steals shall be cut
off according to it on the one side; and
everyone who swears falsely shall be cut
off according to it on the other side.
4 I will cause it to go out,” says the LORD
of Armies, “and it will enter into the house
of the thief, and into the house of him who
swears falsely by my name; and it will
remain in the middle of his house, and
will destroy it with its timber and its
stones.”
5 Then the angel who talked with me
came forward and said to me, “Lift up
now your eyes and see what this is that is
appearing.”
6 I said, “What is it?”
He said, “This is the ephah‡ basket that
is appearing.” He said moreover, “This is
their appearance in all the land—
7 and behold, a lead cover weighing one
talent§ was lifted up—and there was a
woman sitting in the middle of the ephah†
basket.”
8 He said, “This is Wickedness;” and he
threw her down into the middle of the
ephah basket; and he threw the lead
weight on its mouth.
9 Then I lifted up my eyes and saw, and
behold, there were two women; and the
wind was in their wings. Now they had
wings like the wings of a stork, and they
lifted up the ephah basket between earth
and the sky.

† **4:14** The word translated “Lord” is “Adonai.” † **5:2** A cubit is the length from the tip of the middle finger to the elbow on a man’s arm, or about 18 inches or 46 centimeters. ‡ **5:6** An ephah is a measure of volume of about 22 liters, 5.8 U. S. gallons, or about 2/3 of a bushel. § **5:7** A talent is about 30 kilograms or 66 pounds. † **5:7** 1 ephah is about 22 liters or about 2/3 of a bushel

10 Then I said to the angel who talked
with me, “Where are these carrying the
ephah basket?”
11 He said to me, “To build her a house
in the land of Shinar. When it is prepared,
she will be set there in her own place.”

6

1 Again I lifted up my eyes, and saw, and
behold, four chariots came out from
between two mountains; and the
mountains were mountains of bronze.
2 In the first chariot were red horses. In
the second chariot were black horses.
3 In the third chariot were white horses.
In the fourth chariot were dappled horses,
all of them powerful.
4 Then I asked the angel who talked with
me, “What are these, my lord?”
5 The angel answered me, “These are the
four winds of the sky, which go out from
standing before the Lord of all the earth.
6 The one with the black horses goes out
toward the north country; and the white
went out after them; and the dappled
went out toward the south country.”
7 The strong went out, and sought to go
that they might walk back and forth
through the earth. He said, “Go around
and through the earth!” So they walked
back and forth through the earth.
8 Then he called to me, and spoke to me,
saying, “Behold, those who go toward the
north country have quieted my spirit in
the north country.”
9 The LORD’s word came to me, saying,
10 “Take of them of the captivity, even of
Heldai, of Tobijah, and of Jedaiah; and
come the same day, and go into the house
of Josiah the son of Zephaniah, where
they have come from Babylon.
11 Yes, take silver and gold, and make
crowns, and set them on the head of
Joshua the son of Jehozadak, the high
priest;
12 and speak to him, saying, ‘The LORD
of Armies says, “Behold, the man whose
name is the Branch! He will grow up out
of his place; and he will build the LORD’s
temple.
13 He will build the LORD’s temple. He
will bear the glory, and will sit and rule on
his throne. He will be a priest on his
throne. The counsel of peace will be
between them both.
14 The crowns shall be to Helem, to
Tobijah, to Jedaiah, and to Hen the son of
Zephaniah, for a memorial in the LORD’s
temple.
15 Those who are far off shall come and
build in the LORD’s temple; and you shall
know that the LORD of Armies has sent
me to you. This will happen, if you will
diligently obey the LORD your God’s
voice.” ’ ”†

7

1 In the fourth year of King Darius, the
LORD’s word came to Zechariah in the
fourth day of the ninth month, the month
of Chislev.
2 The people of Bethel sent Sharezer and
Regem Melech and their men to entreat
the LORD’s favor,
3 and to speak to the priests of the house
of the LORD of Armies and to the
prophets, saying, “Should I weep in the
fifth month, separating myself, as I have
done these so many years?”
4 Then the word of the LORD of Armies
came to me, saying,
5 “Speak to all the people of the land and
to the priests, saying, ‘When you fasted
and mourned in the fifth and in the
seventh month for these seventy years,
did you at all fast to me, really to me?
6 When you eat and when you drink,
don’t you eat for yourselves and drink for
yourselves?
7 Aren’t these the words which the
LORD proclaimed by the former prophets
when Jerusalem was inhabited and in
prosperity, and its cities around her, and
the South and the lowland were
inhabited?’ ”
8 The LORD’s word came to Zechariah,
saying,
9 “Thus has the LORD of Armies spoken,
saying, ‘Execute true judgment, and show
kindness and compassion every man to
his brother.

† **6:15** The Hebrew word rendered “God” is “אֱלֹהִים” (Elohim).

10 Don't oppress the widow, the
fatherless, the foreigner, nor the poor;
and let none of you devise evil against his
brother in your heart.'
11 But they refused to listen, and turned
their backs, and stopped their ears, that
they might not hear.
12 Yes, they made their hearts as hard as
flint, lest they might hear the law and the
words which the LORD of Armies had sent
by his Spirit by the former prophets.
Therefore great wrath came from the
LORD of Armies.
13 It has come to pass that, as he called
and they refused to listen, so they will call
and I will not listen," said the LORD of
Armies;
14 "but I will scatter them with a
whirlwind among all the nations which
they have not known. Thus the land was
desolate after them, so that no man
passed through nor returned; for they
made the pleasant land desolate."

8

1 The word of the LORD of Armies came
to me.
2 The LORD of Armies says: "I am
jealous for Zion with great jealousy, and I
am jealous for her with great wrath."
3 The LORD says: "I have returned to
Zion, and will dwell in the middle of
Jerusalem. Jerusalem shall be called 'The
City of Truth;' and the mountain of the
LORD of Armies, 'The Holy Mountain.' "
4 The LORD of Armies says: "Old men
and old women will again dwell in the
streets of Jerusalem, every man with his
staff in his hand because of their old age.
5 The streets of the city will be full of
boys and girls playing in its streets."
6 The LORD of Armies says: "If it is
marvelous in the eyes of the remnant of
this people in those days, should it also be
marvelous in my eyes?" says the LORD of
Armies.
7 The LORD of Armies says: "Behold, I
will save my people from the east country
and from the west country.
8 I will bring them, and they will dwell
within Jerusalem. They will be my people,
and I will be their God, in truth and in
righteousness."
9 The LORD of Armies says: "Let your
hands be strong, you who hear in these
days these words from the mouth of the
prophets who were in the day that the
foundation of the house of the LORD of
Armies was laid, even the temple, that it
might be built.
10 For before those days there was no
wages for man nor any wages for an
animal, neither was there any peace to
him who went out or came in, because of
the adversary. For I set all men everyone
against his neighbor.
11 But now I will not be to the remnant
of this people as in the former days," says
the LORD of Armies.
12 "For the seed of peace and the vine
will yield its fruit, and the ground will
give its increase, and the heavens will
give their dew. I will cause the remnant of
this people to inherit all these things.
13 It shall come to pass that, as you were
a curse among the nations, house of Judah
and house of Israel, so I will save you, and
you shall be a blessing. Don't be afraid.
Let your hands be strong."
14 For the LORD of Armies says: "As I
thought to do evil to you when your
fathers provoked me to wrath," says the
LORD of Armies, "and I didn't repent,
15 so again I have thought in these days
to do good to Jerusalem and to the house
of Judah. Don't be afraid.
16 These are the things that you shall do:
speak every man the truth with his
neighbor. Execute the judgment of truth
and peace in your gates,
17 and let none of you devise evil in your
hearts against his neighbor, and love no
false oath; for all these are things that I
hate," says the LORD.
18 The word of the LORD of Armies
came to me.
19 The LORD of Armies says: "The fasts
of the fourth, fifth, seventh, and tenth
months shall be for the house of Judah
joy, gladness, and cheerful feasts.
Therefore love truth and peace."

20 The LORD of Armies says: “Many
peoples and the inhabitants of many cities
will yet come.
21 The inhabitants of one will go to
another, saying, ‘Let’s go speedily to
entreat the favor of the LORD, and to seek
the LORD of Armies. I will go also.’
22 Yes, many peoples and strong nations
will come to seek the LORD of Armies in
Jerusalem and to entreat the favor of the
LORD.”
23 The LORD of Armies says: “In those
days, ten men out of all the languages of
the nations will take hold of the skirt of
him who is a Jew, saying, ‘We will go with
you, for we have heard that God is with
you.’ ”

9

1 A revelation.
The LORD’s word is against the land of
Hadrach,
and will rest upon Damascus—
for the eye of man
and of all the tribes of Israel is toward
the LORD—
2 and Hamath, also, which borders on it,
Tyre and Sidon, because they are very
wise.
3 Tyre built herself a stronghold,
and heaped up silver like the dust,
and fine gold like the mire of the
streets.
4 Behold, the Lord will dispossess her,
and he will strike her power in the
sea;
and she will be devoured with fire.

5 Ashkelon will see it, and fear;
Gaza also, and will writhe in agony;
as will Ekron, for her expectation will
be disappointed;
and the king will perish from Gaza,
and Ashkelon will not be inhabited.
6 Foreigners will dwell in Ashdod,
and I will cut off the pride of the
Philistines.
7 I will take away his blood out of his
mouth,
and his abominations from between
his teeth;
and he also will be a remnant for our God;
and he will be as a chieftain in Judah,
and Ekron as a Jebusite.
8 I will encamp around my house against
the army,
that no one pass through or return;
and no oppressor will pass through
them any more:
for now I have seen with my eyes.

9 Rejoice greatly, daughter of Zion!
Shout, daughter of Jerusalem!
Behold, your King comes to you!
He is righteous, and having salvation;
lowly, and riding on a donkey,
even on a colt, the foal of a donkey.
10 I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim
and the horse from Jerusalem.
The battle bow will be cut off;
and he will speak peace to the
nations.
His dominion will be from sea to sea,
and from the River to the ends of the
earth.

11 As for you also,
because of the blood of your
covenant,
I have set free your prisoners from
the pit in which is no water.
12 Turn to the stronghold, you prisoners of
hope!
Even today I declare that I will restore
double to you.
13 For indeed I bend Judah as a bow for
me.
I have loaded the bow with Ephraim.
I will stir up your sons, Zion,
against your sons, Greece,
and will make you like the sword of a
mighty man.

14 The LORD will be seen over them.
His arrow will flash like lightning.
The Lord GOD will blow the trumpet,
and will go with whirlwinds of the
south.
15 The LORD of Armies will defend them.
They will destroy and overcome with
sling stones.
They will drink, and roar as through wine.
They will be filled like bowls,
like the corners of the altar.

16 The LORD their God will save them in
that day as the flock of his people;

for they are like the jewels of a crown,
lifted on high over his land.
17 For how great is his goodness,
and how great is his beauty!
Grain will make the young men flourish,
and new wine the virgins.

10

1 Ask of the LORD rain in the spring time,
the LORD who makes storm clouds,
and he gives rain showers to
everyone for the plants in the field.
2 For the teraphim† have spoken vanity,
and the diviners have seen a lie;
and they have told false dreams.
They comfort in vain.
Therefore they go their way like
sheep.
They are oppressed, because there is
no shepherd.

3 My anger is kindled against the
shepherds,
and I will punish the male goats,
for the LORD of Armies has visited his
flock, the house of Judah,
and will make them as his majestic
horse in the battle.
4 From him will come the cornerstone,
from him the tent peg,
from him the battle bow,
from him every ruler together.
5 They will be as mighty men,
treading down muddy streets in the
battle.
They will fight, because the LORD is with
them.
The riders on horses will be
confounded.

6 "I will strengthen the house of Judah,
and I will save the house of Joseph.
I will bring them back,
for I have mercy on them.
They will be as though I had not cast them
off,
for I am the LORD their God, and I
will hear them.
7 Ephraim will be like a mighty man,
and their heart will rejoice as through
wine.
Yes, their children will see it and rejoice.
Their heart will be glad in the LORD.
8 I will signal for them and gather them,
for I have redeemed them.
They will increase as they were
before.
9 I will sow them among the peoples.
They will remember me in far
countries.
They will live with their children and
will return.
10 I will bring them again also out of the
land of Egypt,
and gather them out of Assyria.
I will bring them into the land of Gilead
and Lebanon;
and there won't be room enough for
them.
11 He will pass through the sea of
affliction,
and will strike the waves in the sea,
and all the depths of the Nile will dry
up;
and the pride of Assyria will be
brought down,
and the scepter of Egypt will depart.
12 I will strengthen them in the LORD.
They will walk up and down in his
name," says the LORD.

11

1 Open your doors, Lebanon,
that the fire may devour your cedars.
2 Wail, cypress tree, for the cedar has
fallen,
because the stately ones are
destroyed.
Wail, you oaks of Bashan,
for the strong forest has come down.
3 A voice of the wailing of the shepherds!
For their glory is destroyed—a voice of
the roaring of young lions!
For the pride of the Jordan is ruined.
4 The LORD my God says: "Feed the flock
of slaughter.
5 Their buyers slaughter them and go
unpunished. Those who sell them say,
'Blessed be the LORD, for I am rich;' and
their own shepherds don't pity them.

† **10:2** teraphim were household idols that may have been associated with inheritance rights to the household property.

6 For I will no more pity the inhabitants
of the land," says the LORD; "but, behold, I
will deliver every one of the men into his
neighbor's hand and into the hand of his
king. They will strike the land, and out of
their hand I will not deliver them."
7 So I fed the flock to be slaughtered,
especially the oppressed of the flock. I
took for myself two staffs. The one I called
"Favor" and the other I called "Union",
and I fed the flock.
8 I cut off the three shepherds in one
month; for my soul was weary of them,
and their soul also loathed me.
9 Then I said, "I will not feed you. That
which dies, let it die; and that which is to
be cut off, let it be cut off; and let those
who are left eat each other's flesh."
10 I took my staff Favor and cut it apart,
that I might break my covenant that I had
made with all the peoples.
11 It was broken in that day; and thus
the poor of the flock that listened to me
knew that it was the LORD's word.
12 I said to them, "If you think it best,
give me my wages; and if not, keep them."
So they weighed for my wages thirty
pieces of silver.
13 The LORD said to me, "Throw it to the
potter—the handsome price that I was
valued at by them!" I took the thirty
pieces of silver and threw them to the
potter in the LORD's house.
14 Then I cut apart my other staff, Union,
that I might break the brotherhood
between Judah and Israel.
15 The LORD said to me, "Take for
yourself yet again the equipment of a
foolish shepherd.
16 For, behold, I will raise up a shepherd
in the land who will not visit those who
are cut off, neither will seek those who are
scattered, nor heal that which is broken,
nor feed that which is sound; but he will
eat the meat of the fat sheep, and will tear
their hoofs in pieces.
17 Woe to the worthless shepherd who
leaves the flock! The sword will strike his
arm and his right eye. His arm will be
completely withered, and his right eye
will be totally blinded!"

12

1 A revelation of the LORD's word
concerning Israel: The LORD, who
stretches out the heavens and lays the
foundation of the earth, and forms the
spirit of man within him says:
2 "Behold, I will make Jerusalem a cup
of reeling to all the surrounding peoples,
and it will also be on Judah in the siege
against Jerusalem.
3 It will happen in that day that I will
make Jerusalem a burdensome stone for
all the peoples. All who burden
themselves with it will be severely
wounded, and all the nations of the earth
will be gathered together against it.
4 In that day," says the LORD, "I will
strike every horse with terror and his
rider with madness. I will open my eyes
on the house of Judah, and will strike
every horse of the peoples with blindness.
5 The chieftains of Judah will say in
their heart, 'The inhabitants of Jerusalem
are my strength in the LORD of Armies
their God.'
6 In that day I will make the chieftains of
Judah like a pan of fire among wood, and
like a flaming torch among sheaves. They
will devour all the surrounding peoples
on the right hand and on the left; and
Jerusalem will yet again dwell in their
own place, even in Jerusalem.
7 The LORD also will save the tents of
Judah first, that the glory of David's house
and the glory of the inhabitants of
Jerusalem not be magnified above Judah.
8 In that day the LORD will defend the
inhabitants of Jerusalem. He who is feeble
among them at that day will be like David,
and David's house will be like God, like
the LORD's angel before them.
9 It will happen in that day, that I will
seek to destroy all the nations that come
against Jerusalem.
10 I will pour on David's house and on
the inhabitants of Jerusalem the spirit of

† **12:10** After "me", the Hebrew has the two letters "Aleph Tav" (the first and last letters of the Hebrew alphabet), not as a word, but as a grammatical marker.

grace and of supplication. They will look
to me† whom they have pierced; and they
shall mourn for him as one mourns for his
only son, and will grieve bitterly for him
as one grieves for his firstborn.
11 In that day there will be a great
mourning in Jerusalem, like the mourning
of Hadadrimmon in the valley of Megiddo.
12 The land will mourn, every family
apart; the family of David's house apart,
and their wives apart; the family of the
house of Nathan apart, and their wives
apart;
13 the family of the house of Levi apart,
and their wives apart; the family of the
Shimeites apart, and their wives apart;
14 all the families who remain, every
family apart, and their wives apart.

13

1 "In that day there will be a fountain
opened to David's house and to the
inhabitants of Jerusalem, for sin and for
uncleanness.
2 It will come to pass in that day, says
the LORD of Armies, that I will cut off the
names of the idols out of the land, and
they will be remembered no more. I will
also cause the prophets and the spirit of
impurity to pass out of the land.
3 It will happen that when anyone still
prophesies, then his father and his
mother who bore him will tell him, 'You
must die, because you speak lies in the
LORD's name;' and his father and his
mother who bore him will stab him when
he prophesies.
4 It will happen in that day that the
prophets will each be ashamed of his
vision when he prophesies; they won't
wear a hairy mantle to deceive,
5 but he will say, 'I am no prophet, I am a
tiller of the ground; for I have been made
a bondservant from my youth.'
6 One will say to him, 'What are these
wounds between your arms?' Then he
will answer, 'Those with which I was
wounded in the house of my friends.'

7 "Awake, sword, against my shepherd,
and against the man who is close to
me," says the LORD of Armies.
"Strike the shepherd, and the sheep will
be scattered;
and I will turn my hand against the
little ones.
8 It shall happen that in all the land," says
the LORD,
"two parts in it will be cut off and die;
but the third will be left in it.
9 I will bring the third part into the fire,
and will refine them as silver is
refined,
and will test them like gold is tested.
They will call on my name, and I will hear
them.
I will say, 'It is my people;'
and they will say, 'The LORD is my
God.' "

14

1 Behold, a day of the LORD comes,
when your plunder will be divided within
you.
2 For I will gather all nations against
Jerusalem to battle; and the city will be
taken, the houses rifled, and the women
ravished. Half of the city will go out into
captivity, and the rest of the people will
not be cut off from the city.
3 Then the LORD will go out and fight
against those nations, as when he fought
in the day of battle.
4 His feet will stand in that day on the
Mount of Olives, which is before
Jerusalem on the east; and the Mount of
Olives will be split in two from east to
west, making a very great valley. Half of
the mountain will move toward the north,
and half of it toward the south.
5 You shall flee by the valley of my
mountains, for the valley of the
mountains shall reach to Azel. Yes, you
shall flee, just like you fled from before
the earthquake in the days of Uzziah king
of Judah. The LORD my God will come,
and all the holy ones with you.†
6 It will happen in that day that there
will not be light, cold, or frost.
7 It will be a unique day which is known
to the LORD—not day, and not night; but it

† **14:5** Septuagint reads "him" instead of "you".

will come to pass that at evening time
there will be light.

8 It will happen in that day that living
waters will go out from Jerusalem, half of
them toward the eastern sea, and half of
them toward the western sea. It will be so
in summer and in winter.

9 The LORD will be King over all the
earth. In that day the LORD will be one,
and his name one.

10 All the land will be made like the
Arabah, from Geba to Rimmon south of
Jerusalem; and she will be lifted up and
will dwell in her place, from Benjamin's
gate to the place of the first gate, to the
corner gate, and from the tower of
Hananel to the king's wine presses.

11 Men will dwell therein, and there will
be no more curse; but Jerusalem will
dwell safely.

12 This will be the plague with which the
LORD will strike all the peoples who have
fought against Jerusalem: their flesh will
consume away while they stand on their
feet, and their eyes will consume away in
their sockets, and their tongue will
consume away in their mouth.

13 It will happen in that day that a great
panic from the LORD will be among them;
and they will each seize the hand of his
neighbor, and his hand will rise up
against the hand of his neighbor.

14 Judah also will fight at Jerusalem; and
the wealth of all the surrounding nations
will be gathered together: gold, silver, and
clothing, in great abundance.

15 A plague like this will fall on the
horse, on the mule, on the camel, on the
donkey, and on all the animals that will be
in those camps.

16 It will happen that everyone who is
left of all the nations that came against
Jerusalem will go up from year to year to
worship the King, the LORD of Armies,
and to keep the feast of booths.

17 It will be that whoever of all the
families of the earth doesn't go up to
Jerusalem to worship the King, the LORD
of Armies, on them there will be no rain.

18 If the family of Egypt doesn't go up
and doesn't come, neither will it rain on
them. This will be the plague with which
the LORD will strike the nations that don't
go up to keep the feast of booths.

19 This will be the punishment of Egypt
and the punishment of all the nations that
don't go up to keep the feast of booths.

20 In that day there will be inscribed on
the bells of the horses, "HOLY TO THE
LORD"; and the pots in the LORD's house
will be like the bowls before the altar.

21 Yes, every pot in Jerusalem and in
Judah will be holy to the LORD of Armies;
and all those who sacrifice will come and
take of them, and cook in them. In that
day there will no longer be a Canaanite‡ in
the house of the LORD of Armies.

‡ **14:21** or, merchant

The Book of Malachi

1 A revelation, the LORD's† word to
Israel by Malachi.
2 "I have loved you," says the LORD.
Yet you say, "How have you loved us?"
"Wasn't Esau Jacob's brother?" says the
LORD, "Yet I loved Jacob;
3 but Esau I hated, and made his
mountains a desolation, and gave his
heritage to the jackals of the wilderness."
4 Whereas Edom says, "We are beaten
down, but we will return and build the
waste places," the LORD of Armies says,
"They shall build, but I will throw down;
and men will call them 'The Wicked Land,'
even the people against whom the LORD
shows wrath forever."
5 Your eyes will see, and you will say,
"The LORD is great—even beyond the
border of Israel!"
6 "A son honors his father, and a servant
his master. If I am a father, then where is
my honor? And if I am a master, where is
the respect due me?" says the LORD of
Armies to you priests who despise my
name. "You say, 'How have we despised
your name?'
7 You offer polluted bread on my altar.
You say, 'How have we polluted you?' In
that you say, 'The LORD's table is
contemptible.'
8 When you offer the blind for sacrifice,
isn't that evil? And when you offer the
lame and sick, isn't that evil? Present it
now to your governor! Will he be pleased
with you? Or will he accept your person?"
says the LORD of Armies.
9 "Now, please entreat the favor of God,‡
that he may be gracious to us. With this,
will he accept any of you?" says the LORD
of Armies.
10 "Oh that there were one among you
who would shut the doors, that you might
not kindle fire on my altar in vain! I have
no pleasure in you," says the LORD of
Armies, "neither will I accept an offering
at your hand.
11 For from the rising of the sun even to
its going down, my name is great among
the nations, and in every place incense
will be offered to my name, and a pure
offering; for my name is great among the
nations," says the LORD of Armies.
12 "But you profane it when you say,
'The LORD's table is polluted, and its fruit,
even its food, is contemptible.'
13 You say also, 'Behold,§ what a
weariness it is!' And you have sniffed at
it", says the LORD of Armies; "and you
have brought that which was taken by
violence, the lame, and the sick; thus you
bring the offering. Should I accept this at
your hand?" says the LORD.
14 "But the deceiver is cursed who has in
his flock a male, and vows and sacrifices
to the Lord† a defective thing; for I am a
great King," says the LORD of Armies,
"and my name is awesome among the
nations."

2

1 "Now, you priests, this commandment
is for you.
2 If you will not listen, and if you will not
take it to heart, to give glory to my name,"
says the LORD of Armies, "then I will send
the curse on you, and I will curse your
blessings. Indeed, I have cursed them
already, because you do not take it to
heart.
3 Behold, I will rebuke your offspring,†
and will spread dung on your faces, even
the dung of your feasts; and you will be
taken away with it.
4 You will know that I have sent this
commandment to you, that my covenant
may be with Levi," says the LORD of
Armies.
5 "My covenant was with him of life and
peace; and I gave them to him that he
might be reverent toward me; and he was

† **1:1** When rendered in ALL CAPITAL LETTERS, "LORD" or "GOD" is the translation of God's Proper Name (Hebrew "יהוה", usually pronounced Yahweh). ‡ **1:9** The Hebrew word rendered "God" is "אֱלֹהִים" (Elohim). § **1:13** "Behold", from "הִנֵּה", means look at, take notice, observe, see, or gaze at. It is often used as an interjection. † **1:14** The word translated "Lord" is "Adonai." † **2:3** or, seed

reverent toward me, and stood in awe of my name.
6 The law of truth was in his mouth, and unrighteousness was not found in his lips. He walked with me in peace and uprightness, and turned many away from iniquity.
7 For the priest's lips should keep knowledge, and they should seek the law at his mouth; for he is the messenger of the LORD of Armies.
8 But you have turned away from the path. You have caused many to stumble in the law. You have corrupted the covenant of Levi," says the LORD of Armies.
9 "Therefore I have also made you contemptible and wicked before all the people, according to the way you have not kept my ways, but have had respect for persons in the law.
10 Don't we all have one father? Hasn't one God created us? Why do we deal treacherously every man against his brother, profaning the covenant of our fathers?
11 Judah has dealt treacherously, and an abomination is committed in Israel and in Jerusalem; for Judah has profaned the holiness of the LORD which he loves, and has married the daughter of a foreign god.
12 The LORD will cut off the man who does this, him who wakes and him who answers, out of the tents of Jacob and him who offers an offering to the LORD of Armies.
13 "This again you do: you cover the LORD's altar with tears, with weeping, and with sighing, because he doesn't regard the offering any more, neither receives it with good will at your hand.
14 Yet you say, 'Why?' Because the LORD has been witness between you and the wife of your youth, against whom you have dealt treacherously, though she is your companion and the wife of your covenant.
15 Did he not make you one, although he had the residue of the Spirit? Why one? He sought godly offspring. Therefore take heed to your spirit, and let no one deal treacherously against the wife of his youth.
16 One who hates and divorces", says the LORD, the God of Israel, "covers his garment with violence!" says the LORD of Armies. "Therefore pay attention to your spirit, that you don't be unfaithful.
17 You have wearied the LORD with your words. Yet you say, 'How have we wearied him?' In that you say, 'Everyone who does evil is good in the LORD's sight, and he delights in them;' or 'Where is the God of justice?'

3

1 "Behold, I send my messenger, and he will prepare the way before me! The Lord, whom you seek, will suddenly come to his temple. Behold, the messenger of the covenant, whom you desire, is coming!" says the LORD of Armies.
2 "But who can endure the day of his coming? And who will stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire, and like launderers' soap;
3 and he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the sons of Levi, and refine them as gold and silver; and they shall offer to the LORD offerings in righteousness.
4 Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasant to the LORD as in the days of old and as in ancient years.
5 I will come near to you to judgment. I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against the perjurers, and against those who oppress the hireling in his wages, the widow, and the fatherless, and who deprive the foreigner of justice, and don't fear me," says the LORD of Armies.
6 "For I, the LORD, don't change; therefore you, sons of Jacob, are not consumed.
7 From the days of your fathers you have turned away from my ordinances and have not kept them. Return to me, and I will return to you," says the LORD of Armies. "But you say, 'How shall we return?'
8 Will a man rob God? Yet you rob me! But you say, 'How have we robbed you?' In tithes and offerings.

9 You are cursed with the curse; for you
rob me, even this whole nation.
10 Bring the whole tithe into the
storehouse, that there may be food in my
house, and test me now in this," says the
LORD of Armies, "if I will not open you the
windows of heaven, and pour you out a
blessing, that there will not be enough
room for.
11 I will rebuke the devourer for your
sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits
of your ground; neither shall your vine
cast its fruit before its time in the field,"
says the LORD of Armies.
12 "All nations shall call you blessed, for
you will be a delightful land," says the
LORD of Armies.
13 "Your words have been harsh against
me," says the LORD. "Yet you say, 'What
have we spoken against you?'
14 You have said, 'It is vain to serve God,'
and 'What profit is it that we have
followed his instructions and that we
have walked mournfully before the LORD
of Armies?
15 Now we call the proud happy; yes,
those who work wickedness are built up;
yes, they tempt God, and escape.'
16 Then those who feared the LORD
spoke one with another; and the LORD
listened and heard, and a book of memory
was written before him for those who
feared the LORD and who honored his
name.
17 They shall be mine," says the LORD of
Armies, "my own possession in the day
that I make. I will spare them, as a man
spares his own son who serves him.
18 Then you shall return and discern
between the righteous and the wicked,
between him who serves God and him
who doesn't serve him.

4

1 "For behold, the day comes, burning
like a furnace, when all the proud and all
who work wickedness will be stubble. The
day that comes will burn them up," says
the LORD of Armies, "so that it will leave
them neither root nor branch.
2 But to you who fear my name shall the
sun of righteousness arise with healing in
its wings. You will go out and leap like
calves of the stall.
3 You shall tread down the wicked; for
they will be ashes under the soles of your
feet in the day that I make," says the LORD
of Armies.
4 "Remember the law of Moses my
servant, which I commanded to him in
Horeb for all Israel, even statutes and
ordinances.
5 Behold, I will send you Elijah the
prophet before the great and terrible day
of the LORD comes.
6 He will turn the hearts of the fathers to
the children and the hearts of the children
to their fathers, lest I come and strike the
earth with a curse."

The Good News According to Matthew

1 The book of the genealogy of Jesus
Christ,† the son of David, the son of
Abraham.
2 Abraham became the father of Isaac.
Isaac became the father of Jacob. Jacob
became the father of Judah and his
brothers.
3 Judah became the father of Perez and
Zerah by Tamar. Perez became the father
of Hezron. Hezron became the father of
Ram.
4 Ram became the father of
Amminadab. Amminadab became the
father of Nahshon. Nahshon became the
father of Salmon.
5 Salmon became the father of Boaz by
Rahab. Boaz became the father of Obed by
Ruth. Obed became the father of Jesse.
6 Jesse became the father of King David.
David the king‡ became the father of
Solomon by her who had been Uriah's
wife.
7 Solomon became the father of
Rehoboam. Rehoboam became the father
of Abijah. Abijah became the father of
Asa.
8 Asa became the father of Jehoshaphat.
Jehoshaphat became the father of Joram.
Joram became the father of Uzziah.
9 Uzziah became the father of Jotham.
Jotham became the father of Ahaz. Ahaz
became the father of Hezekiah.
10 Hezekiah became the father of
Manasseh. Manasseh became the father
of Amon. Amon became the father of
Josiah.
11 Josiah became the father of Jechoniah
and his brothers at the time of the exile to
Babylon.
12 After the exile to Babylon, Jechoniah
became the father of Shealtiel. Shealtiel
became the father of Zerubbabel.
13 Zerubbabel became the father of
Abiud. Abiud became the father of
Eliakim. Eliakim became the father of
Azor.
14 Azor became the father of Zadok.
Zadok became the father of Achim. Achim
became the father of Eliud.
15 Eliud became the father of Eleazar.
Eleazar became the father of Matthan.
Matthan became the father of Jacob.
16 Jacob became the father of Joseph, the
husband of Mary, from whom was born
Jesus,§ who is called Christ.
17 So all the generations from Abraham
to David are fourteen generations; from
David to the exile to Babylon fourteen
generations; and from the carrying away
to Babylon to the Christ, fourteen
generations.
18 Now the birth of Jesus Christ was like
this: After his mother, Mary, was engaged
to Joseph, before they came together, she
was found pregnant by the Holy Spirit.
19 Joseph, her husband, being a
righteous man, and not willing to make
her a public example, intended to put her
away secretly.
20 But when he thought about these
things, behold,† an angel of the Lord
appeared to him in a dream, saying,
"Joseph, son of David, don't be afraid to
take to yourself Mary as your wife, for
that which is conceived in her is of the
Holy Spirit.
21 She shall give birth to a son. You shall
name him Jesus,‡ for it is he who shall
save his people from their sins."
22 Now all this has happened that it
might be fulfilled which was spoken by
the Lord through the prophet, saying,
23 "Behold, the virgin shall be with child,
and shall give birth to a son.
They shall call his name Immanuel,"
which is, being interpreted, "God with
us."*
24 Joseph arose from his sleep, and did
as the angel of the Lord commanded him,
and took his wife to himself;
25 and didn't know her sexually until
she had given birth to her firstborn son.
He named him Jesus.

† **1:1** Messiah (Hebrew) and Christ (Greek) both mean "Anointed One" ‡ **1:6** NU omits "the king". § **1:16** "Jesus" means "Salvation". † **1:20** "Behold", from "ἰδοὺ", means look at, take notice, observe, see, or gaze at. It is often used as an interjection. ‡ **1:21** "Jesus" means "Salvation". * **1:23** Isaiah 7:14

2

1 Now when Jesus was born in
Bethlehem of Judea in the days of King
Herod, behold, wise men† from the east
came to Jerusalem, saying,
2 "Where is he who is born King of the
Jews? For we saw his star in the east, and
have come to worship him."
3 When King Herod heard it, he was
troubled, and all Jerusalem with him.
4 Gathering together all the chief priests
and scribes of the people, he asked them
where the Christ would be born.
5 They said to him, "In Bethlehem of
Judea, for this is written through the
prophet,
6 'You Bethlehem, land of Judah,
are in no way least among the princes
of Judah;
for out of you shall come a governor
who shall shepherd my people,
Israel.' "*
7 Then Herod secretly called the wise
men, and learned from them exactly what
time the star appeared.
8 He sent them to Bethlehem, and said,
"Go and search diligently for the young
child. When you have found him, bring
me word, so that I also may come and
worship him."
9 They, having heard the king, went
their way; and behold, the star, which
they saw in the east, went before them
until it came and stood over where the
young child was.
10 When they saw the star, they rejoiced
with exceedingly great joy.
11 They came into the house and saw the
young child with Mary, his mother, and
they fell down and worshiped him.
Opening their treasures, they offered to
him gifts: gold, frankincense, and myrrh.
12 Being warned in a dream not to
return to Herod, they went back to their
own country another way.
13 Now when they had departed,
behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to
Joseph in a dream, saying, "Arise and take
the young child and his mother, and flee
into Egypt, and stay there until I tell you,
for Herod will seek the young child to
destroy him."
14 He arose and took the young child
and his mother by night and departed into
Egypt,
15 and was there until the death of
Herod, that it might be fulfilled which was
spoken by the Lord through the prophet,
saying, "Out of Egypt I called my son."*
16 Then Herod, when he saw that he was
mocked by the wise men, was exceedingly
angry, and sent out and killed all the male
children who were in Bethlehem and in
all the surrounding countryside, from two
years old and under, according to the
exact time which he had learned from the
wise men.
17 Then that which was spoken by
Jeremiah the prophet was fulfilled, saying,
18 "A voice was heard in Ramah,
lamentation, weeping and great
mourning,
Rachel weeping for her children;
she wouldn't be comforted,
because they are no more."*
19 But when Herod was dead, behold, an
angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to
Joseph in Egypt, saying,
20 "Arise and take the young child and
his mother, and go into the land of Israel,
for those who sought the young child's life
are dead."
21 He arose and took the young child
and his mother, and came into the land of
Israel.
22 But when he heard that Archelaus
was reigning over Judea in the place of his
father, Herod, he was afraid to go there.
Being warned in a dream, he withdrew
into the region of Galilee,
23 and came and lived in a city called
Nazareth; that it might be fulfilled which
was spoken through the prophets that he
will be called a Nazarene.

† **2:1** The word for "wise men" (magoi) can also mean teachers, scientists, physicians, astrologers, seers, interpreters of dreams, or sorcerers. * **2:6** Micah 5:2 * **2:15** Hosea 11:1 * **2:18** Jeremiah 31:15

3

1 In those days, John the Baptizer came,
preaching in the wilderness of Judea,
saying,
2 "Repent, for the Kingdom of Heaven is
at hand!"
3 For this is he who was spoken of by
Isaiah the prophet, saying,

"The voice of one crying in the wilderness,
make the way of the Lord ready!
Make his paths straight!"*

4 Now John himself wore clothing made
of camel's hair with a leather belt around
his waist. His food was locusts and wild
honey.
5 Then people from Jerusalem, all of
Judea, and all the region around the
Jordan went out to him.
6 They were baptized by him in the
Jordan, confessing their sins.
7 But when he saw 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
wrath to come?
8 Therefore produce fruit worthy of
repentance!
9 Don't think to yourselves, 'We have
Abraham for our father,' for I tell you that
God is able to raise up children to
Abraham from these stones.
10 Even now the ax lies at the root of the
trees. Therefore every tree that doesn't
produce good fruit is cut down, and cast
into the fire.
11 "I indeed baptize you in water for
repentance, but he who comes after me is
mightier than I, whose sandals I am not
worthy to carry. He will baptize you in the
Holy Spirit.†
12 His winnowing fork is in his hand,
and he will thoroughly cleanse his
threshing floor. He will gather his wheat
into the barn, but the chaff he will burn
up with unquenchable fire."
13 Then Jesus came from Galilee to the
Jordan‡ to John, to be baptized by him.
14 But John would have hindered him,
saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and
you come to me?"
15 But Jesus, answering, said to him,
"Allow it now, for this is the fitting way for
us to fulfill all righteousness." Then he
allowed him.
16 Jesus, when he was baptized, went up
directly from the water: and behold, the
heavens were opened to him. He saw the
Spirit of God descending as a dove, and
coming on him.
17 Behold, a voice out of the heavens
said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom
I am well pleased."

4

1 Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into
the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.
2 When he had fasted forty days and
forty nights, he was hungry afterward.
3 The tempter came and said to him, "If
you are the Son of God, command that
these stones become bread."
4 But he answered, "It is written, 'Man
shall not live by bread alone, but by every
word that proceeds out of God's mouth.' "*
5 Then the devil took him into the holy
city. He set him on the pinnacle of the
temple,
6 and said to him, "If you are the Son of
God, throw yourself down, for it is
written,
'He will command his angels concerning
you,' and,
'On their hands they will bear you up,
so that you don't dash your foot
against a stone.' "*
7 Jesus said to him, "Again, it is written,
'You shall not test the Lord, your God.' "*
8 Again, the devil took him to an
exceedingly high mountain, and showed
him all the kingdoms of the world and
their glory.
9 He said to him, "I will give you all of
these things, if you will fall down and
worship me."

* **3:3** Isaiah 40:3 † **3:11** TR and NU add "and with fire" ‡ **3:13** i.e., the Jordan River * **4:4** Deuteronomy 8:3
* **4:6** Psalms 91:11-12 * **4:7** Deuteronomy 6:16 † **4:10** TR and NU read "Go away" instead of "Get behind me"
* **4:10** Deuteronomy 6:13

10 Then Jesus said to him, "Get behind
me,† Satan! For it is written, 'You shall
worship the Lord your God, and you shall
serve him only.' " *
11 Then the devil left him, and behold,
angels came and served him.
12 Now when Jesus heard that John was
delivered up, he withdrew into Galilee.
13 Leaving Nazareth, he came and lived
in Capernaum, which is by the sea, in the
region of Zebulun and Naphtali,
14 that it might be fulfilled which 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,
16 the people who sat in darkness saw a
great light;
to those who sat in the region and
shadow of death,
to them light has dawned."*
17 From that time, Jesus began to
preach, and to say, "Repent! For the
Kingdom of Heaven is at hand."
18 Walking by 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.
19 He said to them, "Come after me, and
I will make you fishers for men."
20 They immediately left their nets and
followed him.
21 Going 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.
He called them.
22 They immediately left the boat and
their father, and followed him.
23 Jesus went about in all Galilee,
teaching in their synagogues, preaching
the Good News of the Kingdom, and
healing every disease and every sickness
among the people.
24 The report about him went out into
all Syria. They brought to him all who
were sick, afflicted with various diseases
and torments, possessed with demons,
epileptics, and paralytics; and he healed
them.
25 Great multitudes from Galilee,
Decapolis, Jerusalem, Judea, and from
beyond the Jordan followed him.

5

1 Seeing the multitudes, he went up onto
the mountain. When he had sat down, his
disciples came to him.
2 He opened his mouth and taught them,
saying,
3 "Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.*
4 Blessed are those who mourn,
for they shall be comforted.*
5 Blessed are the gentle,
for they shall inherit the earth.†*
6 Blessed are those who hunger and thirst
for righteousness,
for they shall be filled.
7 Blessed are the merciful,
for they shall obtain mercy.
8 Blessed are the pure in heart,
for they shall see God.
9 Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they shall be called children of
God.
10 Blessed are those who have been
persecuted for righteousness' sake,
for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.
11 "Blessed are you when people
reproach you, persecute you, and say all
kinds of evil against you falsely, for my
sake.
12 Rejoice, and be exceedingly glad, for
great is your reward in heaven. For that is
how they persecuted the prophets who
were before you.
13 "You are the salt of the earth, but if
the salt has lost its flavor, with what will it
be salted? It is then good for nothing, but
to be cast out and trodden under the feet
of men.
14 "You are the light of the world. A city
located on a hill can't be hidden.

* **4:16** Isaiah 9:1-2 ‡ **4:18** TR reads "Jesus" instead of "he" * **5:3** Isaiah 57:15; 66:2 * **5:4** Isaiah 61:2; 66:10,13
† **5:5** or, land. * **5:5** Psalms 37:11

15 Neither do you light a lamp and put it
under a measuring basket, but on a stand;
and it shines to all who are in the house.
16 Even so, let your light shine before
men, that they may see your good works
and glorify your Father who is in heaven.
17 "Don't think that I came to destroy the
law or the prophets. I didn't come to
destroy, but to fulfill.
18 For most certainly, I tell you, until
heaven and earth pass away, not even one
smallest letter‡ or one tiny pen stroke§
shall in any way pass away from the law,
until all things are accomplished.
19 Therefore, whoever shall break one
of these least commandments and teach
others to do so, shall be called least in the
Kingdom of Heaven; but whoever shall do
and teach them shall be called great in the
Kingdom of Heaven.
20 For I tell you that unless your
righteousness exceeds that of the scribes
and Pharisees, there is no way you will
enter into the Kingdom of Heaven.
21 "You have heard that it was said to the
ancient ones, 'You shall not murder;'* and
'Whoever murders will be in danger of
the judgment.'
22 But I tell you that everyone who is
angry with his brother without a cause †
will be in danger of the judgment.
Whoever says to his brother, 'Raca!' ‡ will
be in danger of the council. Whoever says,
'You fool!' will be in danger of the fire of
Gehenna.§
23 "If therefore you are offering your
gift at the altar, and there remember that
your brother has anything against you,
24 leave your gift there before the altar,
and go your way. First be reconciled to
your brother, and then come and offer
your gift.
25 Agree with your adversary quickly
while you are with him on the way; lest
perhaps the prosecutor deliver you to the
judge, and the judge deliver you to the
officer, and you be cast into prison.
26 Most certainly I tell you, you shall by
no means get out of there until you have
paid the last penny.†
27 "You have heard that it was said, ‡
'You shall not commit adultery;'*
28 but I tell you that everyone who gazes
at a woman to lust after her has
committed adultery with her already in
his heart.
29 If your right eye causes you to
stumble, pluck it out and throw it away
from you. For it is more profitable for you
that one of your members should perish
than for your whole body to be cast into
Gehenna.§
30 If your right hand causes you to
stumble, cut it off, and throw it away from
you. For it is more profitable for you that
one of your members should perish, than
for your whole body to be cast into
Gehenna.†
31 "It was also said, 'Whoever shall put
away his wife, let him give her a writing
of divorce,'*
32 but I tell you that whoever puts away
his wife, except for the cause of sexual
immorality, makes her an adulteress; and
whoever marries her when she is put
away commits adultery.
33 "Again you have heard that it was
said to the ancient ones, 'You shall not
make false vows, but shall perform to the
Lord your vows,'*
34 but I tell you, don't swear at all:
neither by heaven, for it is the throne of
God;
35 nor by the earth, for it is the footstool
of his feet; nor by Jerusalem, for it is the
city of the great King.
36 Neither shall you swear by your head,
for you can't make one hair white or
black.

‡ **5:18** literally, iota § **5:18** or, serif * **5:21** Exodus 20:13 † **5:22** NU omits "without a cause". ‡ **5:22** "Raca" is an Aramaic insult, related to the word for "empty" and conveying the idea of empty-headedness. § **5:22** or, Hell † **5:26** literally, kodrantes. A kodrantes was a small copper coin worth about 2 lepta (widow's mites)—not enough to buy very much of anything. ‡ **5:27** TR adds "to the ancients". * **5:27** Exodus 20:14 § **5:29** or, Hell † **5:30** or, Hell * **5:31** Deuteronomy 24:1 * **5:33** Numbers 30:2; Deuteronomy 23:21; Ecclesiastes 5:4

37 But let your ‘Yes’ be ‘Yes’ and your ‘No’
be ‘No.’ Whatever is more than these is of
the evil one.
38 “You have heard that it was said, ‘An
eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth.’*
39 But I tell you, don’t resist him who is
evil; but whoever strikes you on your
right cheek, turn to him the other also.
40 If anyone sues you to take away your
coat, let him have your cloak also.
41 Whoever compels you to go one mile,
go with him two.
42 Give to him who asks you, and don’t
turn away him who desires to borrow
from you.
43 “You have heard that it was said, ‘You
shall love your neighbor * and hate your
enemy.’‡
44 But I tell you, love your enemies, bless
those who curse you, do good to those
who hate you, and pray for those who
mistreat you and persecute you,
45 that you may be children of your
Father who is in heaven. For he makes his
sun to rise on the evil and the good, and
sends rain on the just and the unjust.
46 For if you love those who love you,
what reward do you have? Don’t even the
tax collectors do the same?
47 If you only greet your friends, what
more do you do than others? Don’t even
the tax collectors§ do the same?
48 Therefore you shall be perfect, just as
your Father in heaven is perfect.

6

1 “Be careful that you don’t do your
charitable giving† before men, to be seen
by them, or else you have no reward from
your Father who is in heaven.
2 Therefore, when you do merciful
deeds, don’t sound a trumpet before
yourself, as the hypocrites do in the
synagogues and in the streets, that they
may get glory from men. Most certainly I
tell you, they have received their reward.
3 But when you do merciful deeds, don’t
let your left hand know what your right
hand does,
4 so that your merciful deeds may be in
secret, then your Father who sees in
secret will reward you openly.
5 “When you pray, you shall not be as
the hypocrites, for they love to stand and
pray in the synagogues and in the corners
of the streets, that they may be seen by
men. Most certainly, I tell you, they have
received their reward.
6 But you, when you pray, enter into
your inner room, and having shut your
door, pray to your Father who is in secret;
and your Father who sees in secret will
reward you openly.
7 In praying, don’t use vain repetitions
as the Gentiles do; for they think that they
will be heard for their much speaking.
8 Therefore don’t be like them, for your
Father knows what things you need
before you ask him.
9 Pray like this:
“ ‘Our Father in heaven, may your name
be kept holy.
10 Let your Kingdom come.
Let your will be done on earth as it is
in heaven.
11 Give us today our daily bread.
12 Forgive us our debts,
as we also forgive our debtors.
13 Bring us not into temptation,
but deliver us from the evil one.
For yours is the Kingdom, the power, and
the glory forever. Amen.’‡
14 “For if you forgive men their
trespasses, your heavenly Father will also
forgive you.
15 But if you don’t forgive men their
trespasses, neither will your Father
forgive your trespasses.
16 “Moreover when you fast, don’t be
like the hypocrites, with sad faces. For
they disfigure their faces that they may be
seen by men to be fasting. Most certainly I
tell you, they have received their reward.

* **5:38** Exodus 21:24; Leviticus 24:20; Deuteronomy 19:21 * **5:43** Leviticus 19:18 ‡ **5:43** not in the Bible, but see Qumran Manual of Discipline Ix, 21-26 § **5:47** NU reads “Gentiles” instead of “tax collectors”. † **6:1** NU reads “acts of righteousness” instead of “charitable giving” ‡ **6:13** NU omits “For yours is the Kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.”

17 But you, when you fast, anoint your
head and wash your face,
18 so that you are not seen by men to be
fasting, but by your Father who is in
secret; and your Father, who sees in
secret, will reward you.
19 "Don't lay up treasures for yourselves
on the earth, where moth and rust
consume, and where thieves break
through and steal;
20 but lay up for yourselves treasures in
heaven, where neither moth nor rust
consume, and where thieves don't break
through and steal;
21 for where your treasure is, there your
heart will be also.
22 "The lamp of the body is the eye. If
therefore your eye is sound, your whole
body will be full of light.
23 But if your eye is evil, your whole
body will be full of darkness. If therefore
the light that is in you is darkness, how
great is the darkness!
24 "No one can serve two masters, for
either he will hate the one and love the
other, or else he will be devoted to one
and despise the other. You can't serve
both God and Mammon.
25 Therefore I tell you, don't be anxious
for your life: what you will eat, or what
you will drink; nor yet for your body,
what you will wear. Isn't life more than
food, and the body more than clothing?
26 See the birds of the sky, that they
don't sow, neither do they reap, nor
gather into barns. Your heavenly Father
feeds them. Aren't you of much more
value than they?
27 "Which of you by being anxious, can
add one moment§ to his lifespan?
28 Why are you anxious about clothing?
Consider the lilies of the field, how they
grow. They don't toil, neither do they spin,
29 yet I tell you that even Solomon in all
his glory was not dressed like one of these.
30 But if God so clothes the grass of the
field, which today exists and tomorrow is
thrown into the oven, won't he much
more clothe you, you of little faith?
31 "Therefore don't be anxious, saying,
'What will we eat?', 'What will we drink?'
or, 'With what will we be clothed?'
32 For the Gentiles seek after all these
things; for your heavenly Father knows
that you need all these things.
33 But seek first God's Kingdom and his
righteousness; and all these things will be
given to you as well.
34 Therefore don't be anxious for
tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious
for itself. Each day's own evil is sufficient.

7

1 "Don't judge, so that you won't be
judged.
2 For with whatever judgment you
judge, you will be judged; and with
whatever measure you measure, it will be
measured to you.
3 Why do you see the speck that is in
your brother's eye, but don't consider the
beam that is in your own eye?
4 Or how will you tell your brother, 'Let
me remove the speck from your eye,' and
behold, the beam is in your own eye?
5 You hypocrite! First remove the beam
out of your own eye, and then you can see
clearly to remove the speck out of your
brother's eye.
6 "Don't give that which is holy to the
dogs, neither throw your pearls before
the pigs, lest perhaps they trample them
under their feet, and turn and tear you to
pieces.
7 "Ask, and it will be given you. Seek,
and you will find. Knock, and it will be
opened for you.
8 For everyone who asks receives. He
who seeks finds. To him who knocks it
will be opened.
9 Or who is there among you who, if his
son asks him for bread, will give him a
stone?
10 Or if he asks for a fish, who will give
him a serpent?
11 If you then, being evil, know how to
give good gifts to your children, how
much more will your Father who is in

§ **6:27** literally, cubit

heaven give good things to those who ask him!
12 Therefore, whatever you desire for men to do to you, you shall also do to them; for this is the law and the prophets.
13 "Enter in by the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the way is broad that leads to destruction, and there are many who enter in by it.
14 How† narrow is the gate and the way is restricted that leads to life! There are few who find it.
15 "Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly are ravening wolves.
16 By their fruits you will know them. Do you gather grapes from thorns or figs from thistles?
17 Even so, every good tree produces good fruit, but the corrupt tree produces evil fruit.
18 A good tree can't produce evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree produce good fruit.
19 Every tree that doesn't grow good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.
20 Therefore by their fruits you will know them.
21 "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter into the Kingdom of Heaven, but he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.
22 Many will tell me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, didn't we prophesy in your name, in your name cast out demons, and in your name do many mighty works?'
23 Then I will tell them, 'I never knew you. Depart from me, you who work iniquity.'
24 "Everyone therefore who hears these words of mine and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock.
25 The rain came down, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it didn't fall, for it was founded on the rock.
26 Everyone who hears these words of mine and doesn't do them will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand.
27 The rain came down, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell—and its fall was great."
28 When Jesus had finished saying these things, the multitudes were astonished at his teaching,
29 for he taught them with authority, and not like the scribes.

8

1 When he came down from the mountain, great multitudes followed him.
2 Behold, a leper came to him and worshiped him, saying, "Lord, if you want to, you can make me clean."
3 Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him, saying, "I want to. Be made clean." Immediately his leprosy was cleansed.
4 Jesus said to him, "See that you tell nobody; but go, show yourself to the priest, and offer the gift that Moses commanded, as a testimony to them."
5 When he came into Capernaum, a centurion came to him, asking him for help,
6 saying, "Lord, my servant lies in the house paralyzed, grievously tormented."
7 Jesus said to him, "I will come and heal him."
8 The centurion answered, "Lord, I'm not worthy for you to come under my roof. Just say the word, and my servant will be healed.
9 For I am also a man under authority, having under myself soldiers. I tell this one, 'Go,' and he goes; and tell another, 'Come,' and he comes; and tell my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it."
10 When Jesus heard it, he marveled and said to those who followed, "Most certainly I tell you, I haven't found so great a faith, not even in Israel.
11 I tell you that many will come from the east and the west, and will sit down with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the Kingdom of Heaven,
12 but the children of the Kingdom will be thrown out into the outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

† **7:14** TR reads "Because" instead of "How"

13 Jesus said to the centurion, "Go your
way. Let it be done for you as you have
believed." His servant was healed in that
hour.
14 When Jesus came into Peter's house,
he saw his wife's mother lying sick with a
fever.
15 He touched her hand, and the fever
left her. So she got up and served him.†
16 When evening came, they brought to
him many possessed with demons. He
cast out the spirits with a word, and
healed all who were sick,
17 that it might be fulfilled which was
spoken through Isaiah the prophet,
saying, "He took our infirmities and bore
our diseases."*
18 Now when Jesus saw great multitudes
around him, he gave the order to depart
to the other side.
19 A scribe came and said to him,
"Teacher, I will follow you wherever you
go."
20 Jesus said to him, "The foxes have
holes and the birds of the sky have nests,
but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his
head."
21 Another of his disciples said to him,
"Lord, allow me first to go and bury my
father."
22 But Jesus said to him, "Follow me, and
leave the dead to bury their own dead."
23 When he got into a boat, his disciples
followed him.
24 Behold, a violent storm came up on
the sea, so much that the boat was covered
with the waves; but he was asleep.
25 The disciples came to him and woke
him up, saying, "Save us, Lord! We are
dying!"
26 He said to them, "Why are you
fearful, O you of little faith?" Then he got
up, rebuked the wind and the sea, and
there was a great calm.
27 The men marveled, saying, "What
kind of man is this, that even the wind
and the sea obey him?"
28 When he came to the other side, into
the country of the Gergesenes,‡ two
people possessed by demons met him
there, coming out of the tombs,
exceedingly fierce, so that nobody could
pass that way.
29 Behold, they cried out, saying, "What
do we have to do with you, Jesus, Son of
God? Have you come here to torment us
before the time?"
30 Now there was a herd of many pigs
feeding far away from them.
31 The demons begged him, saying, "If
you cast us out, permit us to go away into
the herd of pigs."
32 He said to them, "Go!"
They came out and went into the herd
of pigs; and behold, the whole herd of pigs
rushed down the cliff into the sea and
died in the water.
33 Those who fed them fled and went
away into the city and told everything,
including what happened to those who
were possessed with demons.
34 Behold, all the city came out to meet
Jesus. When they saw him, they begged
that he would depart from their borders.

9

1 He entered into a boat and crossed
over, and came into his own city.
2 Behold, they brought to him a man
who was paralyzed, lying on a bed. Jesus,
seeing their faith, said to the paralytic,
"Son, cheer up! Your sins are forgiven
you."
3 Behold, some of the scribes said to
themselves, "This man blasphemes."
4 Jesus, knowing their thoughts, said,
"Why do you think evil in your hearts?
5 For which is easier, to say, 'Your sins
are forgiven;' or to say, 'Get up, and walk'?
6 But that you may know that the Son of
Man has authority on earth to forgive
sins—" (then he said to the paralytic), "Get
up, and take up your mat, and go to your
house."
7 He arose and departed to his house.
8 But when the multitudes saw it, they
marveled and glorified God, who had
given such authority to men.

† **8:15** TR reads "them" instead of "him" * **8:17** Isaiah 53:4 ‡ **8:28** NU reads "Gadarenes"

9 As Jesus passed by from there, he saw
a man called Matthew sitting at the tax
collection office. He said to him, "Follow
me." He got up and followed him.
10 As he sat in the house, behold, many
tax collectors and sinners came and sat
down with Jesus and his disciples.
11 When the Pharisees saw it, they said
to his disciples, "Why does your teacher
eat with tax collectors and sinners?"
12 When Jesus heard it, he said to them,
"Those who are healthy have no need for
a physician, but those who are sick do.
13 But you go and learn what this
means: 'I desire mercy, and not
sacrifice,'* for I came not to call the
righteous, but sinners to repentance."†
14 Then John's disciples came to him,
saying, "Why do we and the Pharisees fast
often, but your disciples don't fast?"
15 Jesus said to them, "Can the friends of
the bridegroom mourn as long as the
bridegroom is with them? But the days
will come when the bridegroom will be
taken away from them, and then they will
fast.
16 No one puts a piece of unshrunk cloth
on an old garment; for the patch would
tear away from the garment, and a worse
hole is made.
17 Neither do people put new wine into
old wineskins, or else the skins would
burst, and the wine be spilled, and the
skins ruined. No, they put new wine into
fresh wineskins, and both are preserved."
18 While he told these things to them,
behold, a ruler came and worshiped him,
saying, "My daughter has just died, but
come and lay your hand on her, and she
will live."
19 Jesus got up and followed him, as did
his disciples.
20 Behold, a woman who had a
discharge of blood for twelve years came
behind him, and touched the fringe‡ of his
garment;
21 for she said within herself, "If I just
touch his garment, I will be made well."
22 But Jesus, turning around and seeing
her, said, "Daughter, cheer up! Your faith
has made you well." And the woman was
made well from that hour.
23 When Jesus came into the ruler's
house and saw the flute players and the
crowd in noisy disorder,
24 he said to them, "Make room, because
the girl isn't dead, but sleeping."
They were ridiculing him.
25 But when the crowd was sent out, he
entered in, took her by the hand, and the
girl arose.
26 The report of this went out into all
that land.
27 As Jesus passed by from there, two
blind men followed him, calling out and
saying, "Have mercy on us, son of David!"
28 When he had come into the house, the
blind men came to him. Jesus said to
them, "Do you believe that I am able to do
this?"
They told him, "Yes, Lord."
29 Then he touched their eyes, saying,
"According to your faith be it done to you."
30 Then their eyes were opened. Jesus
strictly commanded them, saying, "See
that no one knows about this."
31 But they went out and spread abroad
his fame in all that land.
32 As they went out, behold, a mute man
who was demon possessed was brought to
him.
33 When the demon was cast out, the
mute man spoke. The multitudes
marveled, saying, "Nothing like this has
ever been seen in Israel!"
34 But the Pharisees said, "By the prince
of the demons, he casts out demons."
35 Jesus went about all the cities and the
villages, teaching in their synagogues and
preaching the Good News of the Kingdom,
and healing every disease and every
sickness among the people.
36 But when he saw the multitudes, he
was moved with compassion for them
because they were harassed§ and
scattered, like sheep without a shepherd.

* **9:13** Hosea 6:6 † **9:13** NU omits "to repentance". ‡ **9:20** or, tassel § **9:36** TR reads "weary" instead of "harassed"

37 Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest indeed is plentiful, but the laborers are few.
38 Pray therefore that the Lord of the harvest will send out laborers into his harvest."

10

1 He called to himself his twelve disciples, and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal every disease and every sickness.
2 Now the names of the twelve apostles are these. The first, Simon, who is called Peter; Andrew, his brother; James the son of Zebedee; John, his brother;
3 Philip; Bartholomew; Thomas; Matthew the tax collector; James the son of Alphaeus; Lebbaeus, who was also called† Thaddaeus;
4 Simon the Zealot; and Judas Iscariot, who also betrayed him.
5 Jesus sent these twelve out and commanded them, saying, "Don't go among the Gentiles, and don't enter into any city of the Samaritans.
6 Rather, go to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.
7 As you go, preach, saying, 'The Kingdom of Heaven is at hand!'
8 Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers,‡ and cast out demons. Freely you received, so freely give.
9 Don't take any gold, silver, or brass in your money belts.
10 Take no bag for your journey, neither two coats, nor sandals, nor staff: for the laborer is worthy of his food.
11 Into whatever city or village you enter, find out who in it is worthy, and stay there until you go on.
12 As you enter into the household, greet it.
13 If the household is worthy, let your peace come on it, but if it isn't worthy, let your peace return to you.
14 Whoever doesn't receive you or hear your words, as you go out of that house or that city, shake the dust off your feet.
15 Most certainly I tell 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 among wolves. Therefore be wise as serpents and harmless as doves.
17 But beware of men, for they will deliver you up to councils, and in their synagogues they will scourge you.
18 Yes, and you will be brought before governors and kings for my sake, for a testimony to them and to the nations.
19 But when they deliver you up, don't be anxious how or what you will say, for it will be given you in that hour what you will say.
20 For it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father who speaks in you.
21 "Brother will deliver up brother to death, and the father his child. Children will rise up against parents and cause them to be put to death.
22 You will be hated by all men for my name's sake, but he who endures to the end will be saved.
23 But when they persecute you in this city, flee into the next, for most certainly I tell you, you will not have gone through the cities of Israel until the Son of Man has come.
24 "A disciple is not above his teacher, nor a servant above his lord.
25 It is enough for the disciple that he be like his teacher, and the servant like his lord. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul,§ how much more those of his household!
26 Therefore don't be afraid of them, for there is nothing covered that will not be revealed, or hidden that will not be known.
27 What I tell you in the darkness, speak in the light; and what you hear whispered in the ear, proclaim on the housetops.
28 Don't be afraid of those who kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul. Rather, fear him who is able to destroy both soul and body in Gehenna.†

† **10:3** NU omits "Lebbaeus, who was also called" ‡ **10:8** TR adds "raise the dead," § **10:25** Literally, Lord of the Flies, or the devil † **10:28** or, Hell.

29 “Aren’t two sparrows sold for an
assarion coin?‡ Not one of them falls to
the ground apart from your Father’s will.
30 But the very hairs of your head are all
numbered.
31 Therefore don’t be afraid. You are of
more value than many sparrows.
32 Everyone therefore who confesses
me before men, I will also confess him
before my Father who is in heaven.
33 But whoever denies me before men, I
will also deny him before my Father who
is in heaven.
34 “Don’t think that I came to send peace
on the earth. I didn’t come to send peace,
but a sword.
35 For I came to set a man at odds
against his father, and a daughter against
her mother, and a daughter-in-law
against her mother-in-law.
36 A man’s foes will be those of his own
household.*
37 He who loves father or mother more
than me is not worthy of me; and he who
loves son or daughter more than me isn’t
worthy of me.
38 He who doesn’t take his cross and
follow after me isn’t worthy of me.
39 He who seeks his life will lose it; and
he who loses his life for my sake will find
it.
40 “He who receives you receives me,
and he who receives me receives him who
sent me.
41 He who receives a prophet in the
name of a prophet will receive a prophet’s
reward. He who receives a righteous man
in the name of a righteous man will
receive a righteous man’s reward.
42 Whoever gives one of these little ones
just a cup of cold water to drink in the
name of a disciple, most certainly I tell
you, he will in no way lose his reward.”

11

1 When Jesus had finished directing his
twelve disciples, he departed from there
to teach and preach in their cities.
2 Now when John heard in the prison
the works of Christ, he sent two of his
disciples
3 and said to him, “Are you he who
comes, or should we look for another?”
4 Jesus answered them, “Go and tell
John the things which you hear and see:
5 the blind receive their sight, the lame
walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf
hear,* the dead are raised up, and the
poor have good news preached to them.*
6 Blessed is he who finds no occasion for
stumbling in me.”
7 As these went their way, Jesus began
to say to the multitudes concerning John,
“What did you go out into the wilderness
to see? A reed shaken by the wind?
8 But what did you go out to see? A man
in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear
soft clothing are in kings’ houses.
9 But why did you go out? To see a
prophet? Yes, I tell you, and much more
than a prophet.
10 For this is he, of whom it is written,
‘Behold, I send my messenger before your
face, who will prepare your way before
you.’*
11 Most certainly I tell you, among those
who are born of women there has not
arisen anyone greater than John the
Baptizer; yet he who is least in the
Kingdom of Heaven is greater than he.
12 From the days of John the Baptizer
until now, the Kingdom of Heaven suffers
violence, and the violent take it by force.†
13 For all the prophets and the law
prophesied until John.
14 If you are willing to receive it, this is
Elijah, who is to come.
15 He who has ears to hear, let him hear.
16 “But to what shall I compare this
generation? It is like children sitting in
the marketplaces, who call to their
companions
17 and say, ‘We played the flute for you,
and you didn’t dance. We mourned for
you, and you didn’t lament.’

‡ **10:29** An assarion is a small coin worth one tenth of a drachma or a sixteenth of a denarius. An assarion is approximately the wages of one half hour of agricultural labor. * **10:36** Micah 7:6 * **11:5** Isaiah 35:5 * **11:5** Isaiah 61:1-4 * **11:10** Malachi 3:1 † **11:12** or, plunder it.

18 For John came neither eating nor
drinking, and they say, 'He has a demon.'
19 The Son of Man came eating and
drinking, and they say, 'Behold, a
gluttonous man and a drunkard, a friend
of tax collectors and sinners!' But wisdom
is justified by her children."‡

20 Then he began to denounce the cities
in which most of his mighty works had
been done, because they didn't repent.
21 "Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you,
Bethsaida! For if the mighty works had
been done in Tyre and Sidon which were
done in you, they would have repented
long ago in sackcloth and ashes.
22 But I tell you, it will be more tolerable
for Tyre and Sidon on the day of judgment
than for you.
23 You, Capernaum, who are exalted to
heaven, you will go down to Hades. § For
if the mighty works had been done in
Sodom which were done in you, it would
have remained until today.
24 But I tell you that it will be more
tolerable for the land of Sodom on the day
of judgment, than for you."

25 At that time, Jesus answered, "I thank
you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth,
that you hid these things from the wise
and understanding, and revealed them to
infants.
26 Yes, Father, for so it was well-pleasing
in your sight.
27 All things have been delivered to me
by my Father. No one knows the Son,
except the Father; neither does anyone
know the Father, except the Son and he to
whom the Son desires to reveal him.

28 "Come to me, all you who labor and
are heavily burdened, and I will give you
rest.
29 Take my yoke upon you and learn
from me, for I am gentle and humble in
heart; and you will find rest for your
souls.
30 For my yoke is easy, and my burden is
light."

12

1 At that time, Jesus went on the Sabbath
day through the grain fields. His disciples
were hungry and began to pluck heads of
grain and to eat.
2 But the Pharisees, when they saw it,
said to him, "Behold, your disciples do
what is not lawful to do on the Sabbath."
3 But he said to them, "Haven't you read
what David did when he was hungry, and
those who were with him:
4 how he entered into God's house and
ate the show bread, which was not lawful
for him to eat, nor for those who were
with him, but only for the priests?*
5 Or have you not read in the law that on
the Sabbath day the priests in the temple
profane the Sabbath and are guiltless?
6 But I tell you that one greater than the
temple is here.
7 But if you had known what this means,
'I desire mercy, and not sacrifice,'* you
wouldn't have condemned the guiltless.
8 For the Son of Man is Lord of the
Sabbath."
9 He departed from there and went into
their synagogue.
10 And behold, there was a man with a
withered hand. They asked him, "Is it
lawful to heal on the Sabbath day?" so
that they might accuse him.
11 He said to them, "What man is there
among you who has one sheep, and if this
one falls into a pit on the Sabbath day,
won't he grab on to it and lift it out?
12 Of how much more value then is a
man than a sheep! Therefore it is lawful
to do good on the Sabbath day."
13 Then he told the man, "Stretch out
your hand." He stretched it out; and it was
restored whole, just like the other.
14 But the Pharisees went out and
conspired against him, how they might
destroy him.
15 Jesus, perceiving that, withdrew from
there. Great multitudes followed him; and
he healed them all,
16 and commanded them that they
should not make him known,

‡ **11:19** NU reads "actions" instead of "children" § **11:23** or, Hell * **12:4** 1 Samuel 21:3-6 * **12:7** Hosea 6:6

17 that it might be fulfilled which was
spoken through Isaiah the prophet,
saying,
18 “Behold, my servant whom I have
chosen,
my beloved in whom my soul is well
pleased.
I will put my Spirit on him.
He will proclaim justice to the
nations.
19 He will not strive, nor shout,
neither will anyone hear his voice in
the streets.
20 He won’t break a bruised reed.
He won’t quench a smoking flax,
until he leads justice to victory.
21 In his name, the nations will
hope.”*
22 Then one possessed by a demon,
blind and mute, was brought to him; and
he healed him, so that the blind and mute
man both spoke and saw.
23 All the multitudes were amazed, and
said, “Can this be the son of David?”
24 But when the Pharisees heard it, they
said, “This man does not cast out demons
except by Beelzebul, the prince of the
demons.”
25 Knowing their thoughts, Jesus said to
them, “Every kingdom divided against
itself is brought to desolation, and every
city or house divided against itself will not
stand.
26 If Satan casts out Satan, he is divided
against himself. How then will his
kingdom stand?
27 If I by Beelzebul cast out demons, by
whom do your children cast them out?
Therefore they will be your judges.
28 But if I by the Spirit of God cast out
demons, then God’s Kingdom has come
upon you.
29 Or how can one enter into the house
of the strong man and plunder his goods,
unless he first bind the strong man? Then
he will plunder his house.
30 “He who is not with me is against me,
and he who doesn’t gather with me,
scatters.
31 Therefore I tell you, every sin and
blasphemy will be forgiven men, but the
blasphemy against the Spirit will not be
forgiven men.
32 Whoever speaks a word against the
Son of Man, it will be forgiven him; but
whoever speaks against the Holy Spirit, it
will not be forgiven him, either in this age,
or in that which is to come.
33 “Either make the tree good and its
fruit good, or make the tree corrupt and
its fruit corrupt; for the tree is known by
its fruit.
34 You offspring of vipers, how can you,
being evil, speak good things? For out of
the abundance of the heart, the mouth
speaks.
35 The good man out of his good
treasure† brings out good things, and the
evil man out of his evil treasure brings out
evil things.
36 I tell you that every idle word that
men speak, they will give account of it in
the day of judgment.
37 For by your words you will be
justified, and by your words you will be
condemned.”
38 Then certain of the scribes and
Pharisees answered, “Teacher, we want to
see a sign from you.”
39 But he answered them, “An evil and
adulterous generation seeks after a sign,
but no sign will be given to it but the sign
of Jonah the prophet.
40 For as Jonah was three days and three
nights in the belly of the huge fish, so will
the Son of Man be three days and three
nights in the heart of the earth.
41 The men of Nineveh will stand up in
the judgment with this generation and
will condemn it, for they repented at the
preaching of Jonah; and behold, someone
greater than Jonah is here.
42 The Queen of the South will rise up in
the judgment with this generation and
will condemn it, for she came from the
ends of the earth to hear the wisdom of
Solomon; and behold, someone greater
than Solomon is here.
43 “When an unclean spirit has gone out
of a man, he passes through waterless
places seeking rest, and doesn’t find it.

* **12:21** Isaiah 42:1-4 † **12:35** TR adds “of the heart”

44 Then he says, ‘I will return into my
house from which I came;’ and when he
has come back, he finds it empty, swept,
and put in order.
45 Then he goes and takes with himself
seven other spirits more evil than he is,
and they enter in and dwell there. The last
state of that man becomes worse than the
first. Even so will it be also to this evil
generation.”
46 While he was yet speaking to the
multitudes, behold, his mother and his
brothers stood outside, seeking to speak
to him.
47 One said to him, “Behold, your
mother and your brothers stand outside,
seeking to speak to you.”
48 But he answered him who spoke to
him, “Who is my mother? Who are my
brothers?”
49 He stretched out his hand toward his
disciples, and said, “Behold, my mother
and my brothers!
50 For whoever does the will of my
Father who is in heaven, he is my brother,
and sister, and mother.”

13

1 On that day Jesus went out of the
house and sat by the seaside.
2 Great multitudes gathered to him, so
that he entered into a boat and sat; and all
the multitude stood on the beach.
3 He spoke to them many things in
parables, saying, “Behold, a farmer went
out to sow.
4 As he sowed, some seeds fell by the
roadside, and the birds came and
devoured them.
5 Others fell on rocky ground, where
they didn’t have much soil, and
immediately they sprang up, because they
had no depth of earth.
6 When the sun had risen, they were
scorched. Because they had no root, they
withered away.
7 Others fell among thorns. The thorns
grew up and choked them.
8 Others fell on good soil and yielded
fruit: some one hundred times as much,
some sixty, and some thirty.
9 He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”
10 The disciples came, and said to him,
“Why do you speak to them in parables?”
11 He answered them, “To you it is given
to know the mysteries of the Kingdom of
Heaven, but it is not given to them.
12 For whoever has, to him will be given,
and he will have abundance; but whoever
doesn’t have, from him will be taken away
even that which he has.
13 Therefore I speak to them in parables,
because seeing they don’t see, and
hearing, they don’t hear, neither do they
understand.
14 In them the prophecy of Isaiah is
fulfilled, which says,
‘By hearing you will hear,
and will in no way understand;
Seeing you will see,
and will in no way perceive;
15 for this people’s heart has grown
callous,
their ears are dull of hearing,
and they have closed their eyes;
or else perhaps they might perceive with
their eyes,
hear with their ears,
understand with their heart,
and would turn again,
and I would heal them.’*
16 “But blessed are your eyes, for they
see; and your ears, for they hear.
17 For most certainly I tell you that many
prophets and righteous men desired to
see the things which you see, and didn’t
see them; and to hear the things which
you hear, and didn’t hear them.
18 “Hear, then, the parable of the farmer.

19 When anyone hears the word of the
Kingdom and doesn’t understand it, the
evil one comes and snatches away that
which has been sown in his heart. This is
what was sown by the roadside.
20 What was sown on the rocky places,
this is he who hears the word and
immediately with joy receives it;
21 yet he has no root in himself, but
endures for a while. When oppression or
persecution arises because of the word,
immediately he stumbles.

* **13:15** Isaiah 6:9-10

22 What was sown among the thorns,
this is he who hears the word, but the
cares of this age and the deceitfulness of
riches choke the word, and he becomes
unfruitful.
23 What was sown on the good ground,
this is he who hears the word and
understands it, who most certainly bears
fruit and produces, some one hundred
times as much, some sixty, and some
thirty."
24 He set another parable before them,
saying, "The Kingdom of Heaven is like a
man who sowed good seed in his field,
25 but while people slept, his enemy
came and sowed darnel weeds† also
among the wheat, and went away.
26 But when the blade sprang up and
produced grain, then the darnel weeds
appeared also.
27 The servants of the householder came
and said to him, 'Sir, didn't you sow good
seed in your field? Where did these
darnel weeds come from?'
28 "He said to them, 'An enemy has done
this.'
"The servants asked him, 'Do you want
us to go and gather them up?'
29 "But he said, 'No, lest perhaps while
you gather up the darnel weeds, you root
up the wheat with them.
30 Let both grow together until the
harvest, and in the harvest time I will tell
the reapers, "First, gather up the darnel
weeds, and bind them in bundles to burn
them; but gather the wheat into my
barn." ' "
31 He set another parable before them,
saying, "The Kingdom of Heaven is like a
grain of mustard seed which a man took,
and sowed in his field,
32 which indeed is smaller than all
seeds. But when it is grown, it is greater
than the herbs and becomes a tree, so that
the birds of the air come and lodge in its
branches."
33 He spoke another parable to them.
"The Kingdom of Heaven is like yeast
which a woman took and hid in three
measures‡ of meal, until it was all
leavened."
34 Jesus spoke all these things in
parables to the multitudes; and without a
parable, he didn't speak to them,
35 that it might be fulfilled which was
spoken through the prophet, saying,

"I will open my mouth in parables;
I will utter things hidden from the
foundation of the world."*

36 Then Jesus sent the multitudes away,
and went into the house. His disciples
came to him, saying, "Explain to us the
parable of the darnel weeds of the field."
37 He answered them, "He who sows the
good seed is the Son of Man,
38 the field is the world, the good seeds
are the children of the Kingdom, and the
darnel weeds are the children of the evil
one.
39 The enemy who sowed them is the
devil. The harvest is the end of the age,
and the reapers are angels.
40 As therefore the darnel weeds are
gathered up and burned with fire; so will
it be at the end of this age.
41 The Son of Man will send out his
angels, and they will gather out of his
Kingdom all things that cause stumbling
and those who do iniquity,
42 and will cast them into the furnace of
fire. There will be weeping and gnashing
of teeth.
43 Then the righteous will shine like the
sun in the Kingdom of their Father. He
who has ears to hear, let him hear.
44 "Again, the Kingdom of Heaven is like
treasure hidden in the field, which a man
found and hid. In his joy, he goes and sells
all that he has and buys that field.
45 "Again, the Kingdom of Heaven is like
a man who is a merchant seeking fine
pearls,
46 who having found one pearl of great
price, he went and sold all that he had and
bought it.

† **13:25** darnel is a weed grass (probably bearded darnel or lolium temulentum) that looks very much like wheat until it is mature, when the difference becomes very apparent. ‡ **13:33** literally, three sata. Three sata is about 39 liters or a bit more than a bushel * **13:35** Psalms 78:2

47 “Again, the Kingdom of Heaven is like
a dragnet that was cast into the sea and
gathered some fish of every kind,
48 which, when it was filled, fishermen
drew up on the beach. They sat down and
gathered the good into containers, but the
bad they threw away.
49 So it will be in the end of the world.§
The angels will come and separate the
wicked from among the righteous,
50 and will cast them into the furnace of
fire. There will be weeping and gnashing
of teeth.”
51 Jesus said to them, “Have you
understood all these things?”
They answered him, “Yes, Lord.”
52 He said to them, “Therefore every
scribe who has been made a disciple in
the Kingdom of Heaven is like a man who
is a householder, who brings out of his
treasure new and old things.”
53 When Jesus had finished these
parables, he departed from there.
54 Coming into his own country, he
taught them in their synagogue, so that
they were astonished and said, “Where
did this man get this wisdom and these
mighty works?
55 Isn’t this the carpenter’s son? Isn’t his
mother called Mary, and his brothers
James, Joses, Simon, and Judas?†
56 Aren’t all of his sisters with us?
Where then did this man get all of these
things?”
57 They were offended by him.
But Jesus said to them, “A prophet is not
without honor, except in his own country
and in his own house.”
58 He didn’t do many mighty works
there because of their unbelief.

14

1 At that time, Herod the tetrarch heard
the report concerning Jesus,
2 and said to his servants, “This is John
the Baptizer. He is risen from the dead.
That is why these powers work in him.”
3 For Herod had arrested John, bound
him, and put him in prison for the sake of
Herodias, his brother Philip’s wife.
4 For John said to him, “It is not lawful
for you to have her.”
5 When he would have put him to death,
he feared the multitude, because they
counted him as a prophet.
6 But when Herod’s birthday came, the
daughter of Herodias danced among them
and pleased Herod.
7 Therefore he promised with an oath to
give her whatever she should ask.
8 She, being prompted by her mother,
said, “Give me here on a platter the head
of John the Baptizer.”
9 The king was grieved, but for the sake
of his oaths and of those who sat at the
table with him, he commanded it to be
given,
10 and he sent and beheaded John in the
prison.
11 His head was brought on a platter and
given to the young lady; and she brought
it to her mother.
12 His disciples came, took the body, and
buried it. Then they went and told Jesus.
13 Now when Jesus heard this, he
withdrew from there in a boat to a
deserted place apart. When the
multitudes heard it, they followed him on
foot from the cities.
14 Jesus went out, and he saw a great
multitude. He had compassion on them
and healed their sick.
15 When evening had come, his disciples
came to him, saying, “This place is
deserted, and the hour is already late.
Send the multitudes away, that they may
go into the villages, and buy themselves
food.”
16 But Jesus said to them, “They don’t
need to go away. You give them
something to eat.”
17 They told him, “We only have here
five loaves and two fish.”
18 He said, “Bring them here to me.”
19 He commanded the multitudes to sit
down on the grass; and he took the five
loaves and the two fish, and looking up to
heaven, he blessed, broke and gave the
loaves to the disciples; and the disciples
gave to the multitudes.

§ **13:49** or, end of the age. † **13:55** or, Judah

20 They all ate and were filled. They took
up twelve baskets full of that which
remained left over from the broken
pieces.
21 Those who ate were about five
thousand men, in addition to women and
children.
22 Immediately Jesus made the disciples
get into the boat and go ahead of him to
the other side, while he sent the
multitudes away.
23 After he had sent the multitudes
away, he went up into the mountain by
himself to pray. When evening had come,
he was there alone.
24 But the boat was now in the middle of
the sea, distressed by the waves, for the
wind was contrary.
25 In the fourth watch of the night,†
Jesus came to them, walking on the sea.*
26 When the disciples saw him walking
on the sea, they were troubled, saying,
"It's a ghost!" and they cried out for fear.
27 But immediately Jesus spoke to them,
saying, "Cheer up! It is I! ‡ Don't be afraid."
28 Peter answered him and said, "Lord,
if it is you, command me to come to you
on the waters."
29 He said, "Come!"

Peter stepped down from the boat and
walked on the waters to come to Jesus.
30 But when he saw that the wind was
strong, he was afraid, and beginning to
sink, he cried out, saying, "Lord, save me!"
31 Immediately Jesus stretched out his
hand, took hold of him, and said to him,
"You of little faith, why did you doubt?"
32 When they got up into the boat, the
wind ceased.
33 Those who were in the boat came and
worshiped him, saying, "You are truly the
Son of God!"
34 When they had crossed over, they
came to the land of Gennesaret.
35 When the people of that place
recognized him, they sent into all that
surrounding region and brought to him
all who were sick;
36 and they begged him that they might
just touch the fringe§ of his garment. As
many as touched it were made whole.

15

1 Then Pharisees and scribes came to
Jesus from Jerusalem, saying,
2 "Why do your disciples disobey the
tradition of the elders? For they don't
wash their hands when they eat bread."
3 He answered them, "Why do you also
disobey the commandment of God
because of your tradition?
4 For God commanded, 'Honor your
father and your mother,'* and, 'He who
speaks evil of father or mother, let him be
put to death.'*
5 But you say, 'Whoever may tell his
father or his mother, "Whatever help you
might otherwise have gotten from me is a
gift devoted to God,"
6 he shall not honor his father or
mother.' You have made the
commandment of God void because of
your tradition.
7 You hypocrites! Well did Isaiah
prophesy of you, saying,
8 'These people draw near to me with their
mouth,
and honor me with their lips;
but their heart is far from me.
9 And they worship me in vain,
teaching as doctrine rules made by
men.' "*
10 He summoned the multitude, and
said to them, "Hear, and understand.
11 That which enters into the mouth
doesn't defile the man; but that which
proceeds out of the mouth, this defiles the
man."
12 Then the disciples came and said to
him, "Do you know that the Pharisees
were offended when they heard this
saying?"
13 But he answered, "Every plant which
my heavenly Father didn't plant will be
uprooted.

† **14:25** The night was equally divided into four watches, so the fourth watch is approximately 3:00 a.m. to sunrise.
* **14:25** See Job 9:8 ‡ **14:27** or, I AM! § **14:36** or, tassel * **15:4** Exodus 20:12; Deuteronomy 5:16 * **15:4** Exodus 21:17; Leviticus 20:9 * **15:9** Isaiah 29:13

14 Leave them alone. They are blind guides of the blind. If the blind guide the blind, both will fall into a pit."
15 Peter answered him, "Explain the parable to us."
16 So Jesus said, "Do you also still not understand?
17 Don't you understand that whatever goes into the mouth passes into the belly and then out of the body?
18 But the things which proceed out of the mouth come out of the heart, and they defile the man.
19 For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, sexual sins, thefts, false testimony, and blasphemies.
20 These are the things which defile the man; but to eat with unwashed hands doesn't defile the man."
21 Jesus went out from there and withdrew into the region of Tyre and Sidon.
22 Behold, a Canaanite woman came out from those borders and cried, saying, "Have mercy on me, Lord, you son of David! My daughter is severely possessed by a demon!"
23 But he answered her not a word.
His disciples came and begged him, saying, "Send her away; for she cries after us."
24 But he answered, "I wasn't sent to anyone but the lost sheep of the house of Israel."
25 But she came and worshiped him, saying, "Lord, help me."
26 But he answered, "It is not appropriate to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs."
27 But she said, "Yes, Lord, but even the dogs eat the crumbs which fall from their masters' table."
28 Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Be it done to you even as you desire." And her daughter was healed from that hour.
29 Jesus departed from there and came near to the sea of Galilee; and he went up on the mountain and sat there.
30 Great multitudes came to him, having with them the lame, blind, mute, maimed, and many others, and they put them down at his feet. He healed them,
31 so that the multitude wondered when they saw the mute speaking, the injured healed, the lame walking, and the blind seeing—and they glorified the God of Israel.
32 Jesus summoned his disciples and said, "I have compassion on the multitude, because they have continued with me now three days and have nothing to eat. I don't want to send them away fasting, or they might faint on the way."
33 The disciples said to him, "Where could we get so many loaves in a deserted place as to satisfy so great a multitude?"
34 Jesus said to them, "How many loaves do you have?"
They said, "Seven, and a few small fish."
35 He commanded the multitude to sit down on the ground;
36 and he took the seven loaves and the fish. He gave thanks and broke them, and gave to the disciples, and the disciples to the multitudes.
37 They all ate and were filled. They took up seven baskets full of the broken pieces that were left over.
38 Those who ate were four thousand men, in addition to women and children.
39 Then he sent away the multitudes, got into the boat, and came into the borders of Magdala.

16

1 The Pharisees and Sadducees came, and testing him, asked him to show them a sign from heaven.
2 But he answered them, "When it is evening, you say, 'It will be fair weather, for the sky is red.'
3 In the morning, 'It will be foul weather today, for the sky is red and threatening.' Hypocrites! You know how to discern the appearance of the sky, but you can't discern the signs of the times!
4 An evil and adulterous generation seeks after a sign, and there will be no sign given to it, except the sign of the prophet Jonah."
He left them and departed.

5 The disciples came to the other side
and had forgotten to take bread.
6 Jesus said to them, "Take heed and
beware of the yeast of the Pharisees and
Sadducees."
7 They reasoned among themselves,
saying, "We brought no bread."
8 Jesus, perceiving it, said, "Why do you
reason among yourselves, you of little
faith, because you have brought no
bread?
9 Don't you yet perceive or remember
the five loaves for the five thousand, and
how many baskets you took up,
10 or the seven loaves for the four
thousand, and how many baskets you
took up?
11 How is it that you don't perceive that I
didn't speak to you concerning bread? But
beware of the yeast of the Pharisees and
Sadducees."
12 Then they understood that he didn't
tell them to beware of the yeast of bread,
but of the teaching of the Pharisees and
Sadducees.
13 Now when Jesus came into the parts
of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his
disciples, saying, "Who do men say that I,
the Son of Man, am?"
14 They said, "Some say John the
Baptizer, some, Elijah, and others,
Jeremiah or one of the prophets."
15 He said to them, "But who do you say
that I am?"
16 Simon Peter answered, "You are the
Christ, the Son of the living God."
17 Jesus answered him, "Blessed are
you, Simon Bar Jonah, for flesh and blood
has not revealed this to you, but my
Father who is in heaven.
18 I also tell you that you are Peter,† and
on this rock ‡ I will build my assembly,
and the gates of Hades§ will not prevail
against it.
19 I will give to you the keys of the
Kingdom of Heaven, and whatever you
bind on earth will have been bound in
heaven; and whatever you release on
earth will have been released in heaven."
20 Then he commanded the disciples
that they should tell no one that he was
Jesus the Christ.
21 From that time, Jesus began to show
his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem
and suffer many things from the elders,
chief priests, and scribes, and be killed,
and the third day be raised up.
22 Peter took him aside and began to
rebuke him, saying, "Far be it from you,
Lord! This will never be done to you."
23 But he turned and said to Peter, "Get
behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling
block to me, for you are not setting your
mind on the things of God, but on the
things of men."
24 Then Jesus said to his disciples, "If
anyone desires to come after me, let him
deny himself, take up his cross, and follow
me.
25 For whoever desires to save his life
will lose it, and whoever will lose his life
for my sake will find it.
26 For what will it profit a man if he
gains the whole world and forfeits his
life? Or what will a man give in exchange
for his life?
27 For the Son of Man will come in the
glory of his Father with his angels, and
then he will give to everyone according to
his deeds.
28 Most certainly I tell you, there are
some standing here who will in no way
taste of death until they see the Son of
Man coming in his Kingdom."

17

1 After six days, Jesus took with him
Peter, James, and John his brother, and
brought them up into a high mountain by
themselves.
2 He was changed† before them. His face
shone like the sun, and his garments
became as white as the light.
3 Behold, Moses and Elijah appeared to
them talking with him.
4 Peter answered and said to Jesus,
"Lord, it is good for us to be here. If you
want, let's make three tents here: one for
you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah."

† **16:18** Peter's name, Petros in Greek, is the word for a specific rock or stone. ‡ **16:18** Greek, petra, a rock mass or bedrock. § **16:18** or, Hell † **17:2** or, transfigured

5 While he was still speaking, behold, a
bright cloud overshadowed them. Behold,
a voice came out of the cloud, saying,
"This is my beloved Son, in whom I am
well pleased. Listen to him."
6 When the disciples heard it, they fell
on their faces, and were very afraid.
7 Jesus came and touched them and
said, "Get up, and don't be afraid."
8 Lifting up their eyes, they saw no one,
except Jesus alone.
9 As they were coming down from the
mountain, Jesus commanded them,
saying, "Don't tell anyone what you saw,
until the Son of Man has risen from the
dead."
10 His disciples asked him, saying, "Then
why do the scribes say that Elijah must
come first?"
11 Jesus answered them, "Elijah indeed
comes first, and will restore all things;
12 but I tell you that Elijah has come
already, and they didn't recognize him,
but did to him whatever they wanted to.
Even so the Son of Man will also suffer by
them."
13 Then the disciples understood that he
spoke to them of John the Baptizer.
14 When they came to the multitude, a
man came to him, kneeling down to him
and saying,
15 "Lord, have mercy on my son, for he
is epileptic and suffers grievously; for he
often falls into the fire, and often into the
water.
16 So I brought him to your disciples,
and they could not cure him."
17 Jesus answered, "Faithless and
perverse generation! How long will I be
with you? How long will I bear with you?
Bring him here to me."
18 Jesus rebuked the demon, and it went
out of him, and the boy was cured from
that hour.
19 Then the disciples came to Jesus
privately, and said, "Why weren't we able
to cast it out?"
20 He said to them, "Because of your
unbelief. For most certainly I tell you, if
you have faith as a grain of mustard seed,
you will tell this mountain, 'Move from
here to there,' and it will move; and
nothing will be impossible for you.
21 But this kind doesn't go out except by
prayer and fasting." ‡
22 While they were staying in Galilee,
Jesus said to them, "The Son of Man is
about to be delivered up into the hands of
men,
23 and they will kill him, and the third
day he will be raised up."
They were exceedingly sorry.
24 When they had come to Capernaum,
those who collected the didrachma coins§
came to Peter, and said, "Doesn't your
teacher pay the didrachma?"
25 He said, "Yes."
When he came into the house, Jesus
anticipated him, saying, "What do you
think, Simon? From whom do the kings of
the earth receive toll or tribute? From
their children, or from strangers?"
26 Peter said to him, "From strangers."
Jesus said to him, "Therefore the
children are exempt.
27 But, lest we cause them to stumble, go
to the sea, cast a hook, and take up the
first fish that comes up. When you have
opened its mouth, you will find a stater
coin.† Take that, and give it to them for me
and you."

18

1 In that hour the disciples came to
Jesus, saying, "Who then is greatest in the
Kingdom of Heaven?"
2 Jesus called a little child to himself,
and set him in the middle of them
3 and said, "Most certainly I tell you,
unless you turn and become as little

‡ **17:21** NU omits verse 21. § **17:24** A didrachma is a Greek silver coin worth 2 drachmas, about as much as 2 Roman denarii, or about 2 days' wages. It was commonly used to pay the half-shekel temple tax, because 2 drachmas were worth one half shekel of silver. A shekel is about 10 grams or about 0.35 ounces. † **17:27** A stater is a silver coin equivalent to four Attic or two Alexandrian drachmas, or a Jewish shekel: just exactly enough to cover the half-shekel temple tax for two people. A shekel is about 10 grams or about 0.35 ounces, usually in the form of a silver coin.

children, you will in no way enter into the Kingdom of Heaven.
4 Whoever therefore humbles himself as this little child is the greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven.
5 Whoever receives one such little child in my name receives me,
6 but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to stumble, it would be better for him if a huge millstone were hung around his neck and that he were sunk in the depths of the sea.
7 "Woe to the world because of occasions of stumbling! For it must be that the occasions come, but woe to that person through whom the occasion comes!
8 If your hand or your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off and cast it from you. It is better for you to enter into life maimed or crippled, rather than having two hands or two feet to be cast into the eternal fire.
9 If your eye causes you to stumble, pluck it out and cast it from you. It is better for you to enter into life with one eye, rather than having two eyes to be cast into the Gehenna† of fire.
10 See that you don't despise one of these little ones, for I tell you that in heaven their angels always see the face of my Father who is in heaven.
11 For the Son of Man came to save that which was lost.‡
12 "What do you think? If a man has one hundred sheep, and one of them goes astray, doesn't he leave the ninety-nine, go to the mountains, and seek that which has gone astray?
13 If he finds it, most certainly I tell you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine which have not gone astray.
14 Even so it is not the will of your Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish.
15 "If your brother sins against you, go, show him his fault between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained back your brother.
16 But if he doesn't listen, take one or two more with you, that at the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established.*
17 If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the assembly. If he refuses to hear the assembly also, let him be to you as a Gentile or a tax collector.
18 Most certainly I tell you, whatever things you bind on earth will have been bound in heaven, and whatever things you release on earth will have been released in heaven.
19 Again, assuredly I tell you, that if two of you will agree on earth concerning anything that they will ask, it will be done for them by my Father who is in heaven.
20 For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there I am in the middle of them."
21 Then Peter came and said to him, "Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? Until seven times?"
22 Jesus said to him, "I don't tell you until seven times, but, until seventy times seven.
23 Therefore the Kingdom of Heaven is like a certain king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants.
24 When he had begun to settle, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents.§
25 But because he couldn't pay, his lord commanded him to be sold, with his wife, his children, and all that he had, and payment to be made.
26 The servant therefore fell down and knelt before him, saying, 'Lord, have patience with me, and I will repay you all!'
27 The lord of that servant, being moved with compassion, released him and forgave him the debt.
28 "But that servant went out and found one of his fellow servants who owed him one hundred denarii,† and he grabbed him and took him by the throat, saying, 'Pay me what you owe!'

† **18:9** or, Hell ‡ **18:11** NU omits verse 11. * **18:16** Deuteronomy 19:15 § **18:24** Ten thousand talents (about 300 metric tons of silver) represents an extremely large sum of money, equivalent to about 60,000,000 denarii, where one denarius was typical of one day's wages for agricultural labor. † **18:28** 100 denarii was about one sixtieth of a talent, or about 500 grams (1.1 pounds) of silver.

29 "So his fellow servant fell down at his
feet and begged him, saying, 'Have
patience with me, and I will repay you!'
30 He would not, but went and cast him
into prison until he should pay back that
which was due.
31 So when his fellow servants saw what
was done, they were exceedingly sorry,
and came and told their lord all that was
done.
32 Then his lord called him in and said to
him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you
all that debt because you begged me.
33 Shouldn't you also have had mercy on
your fellow servant, even as I had mercy
on you?'
34 His lord was angry, and delivered
him to the tormentors until he should pay
all that was due to him.
35 So my heavenly Father will also do to
you, if you don't each forgive your brother
from your hearts for his misdeeds."

19

1 When Jesus had finished these words,
he departed from Galilee and came into
the borders of Judea beyond the Jordan.
2 Great multitudes followed him, and he
healed them there.
3 Pharisees came to him, testing him
and saying, "Is it lawful for a man to
divorce his wife for any reason?"
4 He answered, "Haven't you read that
he who made them from the beginning
made them male and female,*
5 and said, 'For this cause a man shall
leave his father and mother, and shall be
joined to his wife; and the two shall
become one flesh'?*
6 So that they are no more two, but one
flesh. What therefore God has joined
together, don't let man tear apart."
7 They asked him, "Why then did Moses
command us to give her a certificate of
divorce and divorce her?"
8 He said to them, "Moses, because of
the hardness of your hearts, allowed you
to divorce your wives, but from the
beginning it has not been so.
9 I tell you that whoever divorces his
wife, except for sexual immorality, and
marries another, commits adultery; and
he who marries her when she is divorced
commits adultery."
10 His disciples said to him, "If this is the
case of the man with his wife, it is not
expedient to marry."
11 But he said to them, "Not all men can
receive this saying, but those to whom it is
given.
12 For there are eunuchs who were born
that way 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
Kingdom of Heaven's sake. He who is able
to receive it, let him receive it."
13 Then little children were brought to
him that he should lay his hands on them
and pray; and the disciples rebuked them.
14 But Jesus said, "Allow the little
children, and don't forbid them to come to
me; for the Kingdom of Heaven belongs to
ones like these."
15 He laid his hands on them, and
departed from there.
16 Behold, one came to him and said,
"Good teacher, what good thing shall I do,
that I may have eternal life?"
17 He said to him, "Why do you call me
good?† No one is good but one, that is,
God. But if you want to enter into life,
keep the commandments."
18 He said to him, "Which ones?"
Jesus said, " 'You shall not murder.' 'You
shall not commit adultery.' 'You shall not
steal.' 'You shall not offer false testimony.'
19 'Honor your father and your
mother.'* And, 'You shall love your
neighbor as yourself.' "*
20 The young man said to him, "All these
things I have observed from my youth.
What do I still lack?"
21 Jesus said to him, "If you want to be
perfect, go, sell what you have, and give to
the poor, and you will have treasure in
heaven; and come, follow me."

* **19:4** Genesis 1:27 * **19:5** Genesis 2:24 † **19:17** So MT and TR. NU reads "Why do you ask me about what is good?" * **19:19** Exodus 20:12-16; Deuteronomy 5:16-20 * **19:19** Leviticus 19:18

22 But when the young man heard this,
he went away sad, for he was one who
had great possessions.
23 Jesus said to his disciples, "Most
certainly I say to you, a rich man will
enter into the Kingdom of Heaven with
difficulty.
24 Again I tell you, it is easier for a camel
to go through a needle's eye than for a
rich man to enter into God's Kingdom."
25 When the disciples heard it, they
were exceedingly astonished, saying,
"Who then can be saved?"
26 Looking at them, Jesus said, "With
men this is impossible, but with God all
things are possible."
27 Then Peter answered, "Behold, we
have left everything and followed you.
What then will we have?"
28 Jesus said to them, "Most certainly I
tell you that you who have followed me, in
the regeneration when the Son of Man
will sit on the throne of his glory, you also
will sit on twelve thrones, judging the
twelve tribes of Israel.
29 Everyone who has left houses, or
brothers, or sisters, or father, or mother,
or wife, or children, or lands, for my
name's sake, will receive one hundred
times, and will inherit eternal life.
30 But many will be last who are first,
and first who are last.

20

1 "For the Kingdom of Heaven is like a
man who was the master of a household,
who went out early in the morning to hire
laborers for his vineyard.
2 When he had agreed with the laborers
for a denarius† a day, he sent them into
his vineyard.
3 He went out about the third hour,‡ and
saw others standing idle in the
marketplace.
4 He said to them, 'You also go into the
vineyard, and whatever is right I will give
you.' So they went their way.
5 Again he went out about the sixth and
the ninth hour,§ and did likewise.
6 About the eleventh hour† he went out
and found others standing idle. He said to
them, 'Why do you stand here all day
idle?'
7 "They said to him, 'Because no one has
hired us.'
"He said to them, 'You also go into the
vineyard, and you will receive whatever
is right.'
8 "When evening had come, the lord of
the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the
laborers and pay them their wages,
beginning from the last to the first.'
9 "When those who were hired at about
the eleventh hour came, they each
received a denarius.
10 When the first came, they supposed
that they would receive more; and they
likewise each received a denarius.
11 When they received it, they
murmured against the master of the
household,
12 saying, 'These last have spent one
hour, and you have made them equal to
us who have borne the burden of the day
and the scorching heat!'
13 "But he answered one of them,
'Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Didn't
you agree with me for a denarius?
14 Take that which is yours, and go your
way. It is my desire to give to this last just
as much as to you.
15 Isn't it lawful for me to do what I want
to with what I own? Or is your eye evil,
because I am good?'
16 So the last will be first, and the first
last. For many are called, but few are
chosen."
17 As Jesus was going up to Jerusalem,
he took the twelve disciples aside, 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,

† **20:2** A denarius is a silver Roman coin worth 1/25th of a Roman aureus. This was a common wage for a day of farm labor. ‡ **20:3** Time was measured from sunrise to sunset, so the third hour would be about 9:00 a.m. § **20:5** noon and 3:00 p.m. † **20:6** 5:00 p.m.

19 and will hand him over to the Gentiles to mock, to scourge, and to crucify; and the third day he will be raised up."

20 Then the mother of the sons of Zebedee came to him with her sons, kneeling and asking a certain thing of him.

21 He said to her, "What do you want?"

She said to him, "Command that these, my two sons, may sit, one on your right hand and one on your left hand, in your Kingdom."

22 But Jesus answered, "You don't know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I am about to drink, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?"

They said to him, "We are able."

23 He said to them, "You will indeed drink my cup, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with; but to sit on my right hand and on my left hand is not mine to give, but it is for whom it has been prepared by my Father."

24 When the ten heard it, they were indignant with the two brothers.

25 But Jesus summoned them, and said, "You know that the rulers of the nations lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them.

26 It shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you shall be‡ your servant.

27 Whoever desires to be first among you shall be your bondservant,

28 even as the Son of Man came not to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

29 As they went out from Jericho, a great multitude followed him.

30 Behold, two blind men sitting by the road, when they heard that Jesus was passing by, cried out, "Lord, have mercy on us, you son of David!"

31 The multitude rebuked them, telling them that they should be quiet, but they cried out even more, "Lord, have mercy on us, you son of David!"

32 Jesus stood still and called them, and asked, "What do you want me to do for you?"

33 They told him, "Lord, that our eyes may be opened."

34 Jesus, being moved with compassion, touched their eyes; and immediately their eyes received their sight, and they followed him.

21

1 When they came near to Jerusalem and came to Bethsphage,† to the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples,

2 saying to them, "Go into the village that is opposite you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her. Untie them and bring them to me.

3 If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, 'The Lord needs them,' and immediately he will send them."

4 All this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken through the prophet, saying,

5 "Tell the daughter of Zion,
behold, your King comes to you,
humble, and riding on a donkey,
on a colt, the foal of a donkey."*

6 The disciples went and did just as Jesus commanded them,

7 and brought the donkey and the colt and laid their clothes on them; and he sat on them.

8 A very great multitude spread their clothes on the road. Others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road.

9 The multitudes who went in front of him, and those who followed, kept shouting, "Hosanna‡ to the son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!" *

10 When he had come into Jerusalem, all the city was stirred up, saying, "Who is this?"

11 The multitudes said, "This is the prophet, Jesus, from Nazareth of Galilee."

12 Jesus entered into the temple of God and drove out all of those who sold and

‡ **20:26** TR reads "let him be" instead of "shall be" † **21:1** TR & NU read "Bethphage" instead of "Bethsphage"
* **21:5** Zechariah 9:9 ‡ **21:9** "Hosanna" means "save us" or "help us, we pray". * **21:9** Psalms 118:26

bought in the temple, and overthrew the money changers' tables and the seats of those who sold the doves.
13 He said to them, "It is written, 'My house shall be called a house of prayer,'* but you have made it a den of robbers!"*
14 The lame and the blind came to him in the temple, and he healed them.
15 But when the chief priests and the scribes saw the wonderful things that he did, and the children who were crying in the temple and saying, "Hosanna to the son of David!" they were indignant,
16 and said to him, "Do you hear what these are saying?"
Jesus said to them, "Yes. Did you never read, 'Out of the mouth of children and nursing babies, you have perfected praise'?"*
17 He left them and went out of the city to Bethany, and camped there.
18 Now in the morning, as he returned to the city, he was hungry.
19 Seeing a fig tree by the road, he came to it and found nothing on it but leaves. He said to it, "Let there be no fruit from you forever!"
Immediately the fig tree withered away.
20 When the disciples saw it, they marveled, saying, "How did the fig tree immediately wither away?"
21 Jesus answered them, "Most certainly I tell you, if you have faith and don't doubt, you will not only do what was done to the fig tree, but even if you told this mountain, 'Be taken up and cast into the sea,' it would be done.
22 All things, whatever you ask in prayer, believing, you will receive."
23 When he had come into the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority do you do these things? Who gave you this authority?"
24 Jesus answered them, "I also will ask you one question, which if you tell me, I likewise will tell you by what authority I do these things.
25 The baptism of John, where was it from? From heaven or from men?"
They reasoned with themselves, saying, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will ask us, 'Why then did you not believe him?'
26 But if we say, 'From men,' we fear the multitude, for all hold John as a prophet."
27 They answered Jesus, and said, "We don't know."
He also said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things.
28 But what do you think? A man had two sons, and he came to the first, and said, 'Son, go work today in my vineyard.'
29 He answered, 'I will not,' but afterward he changed his mind, and went.
30 He came to the second, and said the same thing. He answered, 'I'm going, sir,' but he didn't go.
31 Which of the two did the will of his father?"
They said to him, "The first."
Jesus said to them, "Most certainly I tell you that the tax collectors and the prostitutes are entering into God's Kingdom before you.
32 For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you didn't believe him; but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him. When you saw it, you didn't even repent afterward, that you might believe him.
33 "Hear another parable. There was a man who was a master of a household who planted a vineyard, set a hedge about it, dug a wine press in it, built a tower, leased it out to farmers, and went into another country.
34 When the season for the fruit came near, he sent his servants to the farmers to receive his fruit.
35 The farmers took his servants, beat one, killed another, and stoned another.
36 Again, he sent other servants more than the first; and they treated them the same way.
37 But afterward he sent to them his son, saying, 'They will respect my son.'
38 But the farmers, when they saw the son, said among themselves, 'This is the

* **21:13** Isaiah 56:7 * **21:13** Jeremiah 7:11 * **21:16** Psalms 8:2

heir. Come, let's kill him and seize his inheritance.'
39 So they took him and threw him out of the vineyard, then killed him.
40 When therefore the lord of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those farmers?"
41 They told him, "He will miserably destroy those miserable men, and will lease out the vineyard to other farmers who will give him the fruit in its season."
42 Jesus said to them, "Did you never read in the Scriptures,
'The stone which the builders rejected
was made the head of the corner.
This was from the Lord.
It is marvelous in our eyes'?*
43 "Therefore I tell you, God's Kingdom will be taken away from you and will be given to a nation producing its fruit.
44 He who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces, but on whomever it will fall, it will scatter him as dust."
45 When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they perceived that he spoke about them.
46 When they sought to seize him, they feared the multitudes, because they considered him to be a prophet.

22

1 Jesus answered and spoke to them again in parables, saying,
2 "The Kingdom of Heaven is like a certain king, who made a wedding feast for his son,
3 and sent out his servants to call those who were invited to the wedding feast, but they would not come.
4 Again he sent out other servants, saying, 'Tell those who are invited, "Behold, I have prepared my dinner. My cattle and my fatlings are killed, and all things are ready. Come to the wedding feast!" '
5 But they made light of it, and went their ways, one to his own farm, another to his merchandise;
6 and the rest grabbed his servants, treated them shamefully, and killed them.
7 When the king heard that, he was angry, and sent his armies, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city.
8 "Then he said to his servants, 'The wedding is ready, but those who were invited weren't worthy.
9 Go therefore to the intersections of the highways, and as many as you may find, invite to the wedding feast.'
10 Those servants went out into the highways and gathered together as many as they found, both bad and good. The wedding was filled with guests.
11 "But when the king came in to see the guests, he saw there a man who didn't have on wedding clothing,
12 and he said to him, 'Friend, how did you come in here not wearing wedding clothing?' He was speechless.
13 Then the king said to the servants, 'Bind him hand and foot, take him away, and throw him into the outer darkness. That is where the weeping and grinding of teeth will be.'
14 For many are called, but few chosen."
15 Then the Pharisees went and took counsel how they might entrap him in his talk.
16 They sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are honest, and teach the way of God in truth, no matter whom you teach; for you aren't partial to anyone.
17 Tell us therefore, what do you think? Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?"
18 But Jesus perceived their wickedness, and said, "Why do you test me, you hypocrites?
19 Show me the tax money."
They brought to him a denarius.
20 He asked them, "Whose is this image and inscription?"
21 They said to him, "Caesar's."
Then he said to them, "Give therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's."
22 When they heard it, they marveled, and left him and went away.

* **21:42** Psalms 118:22-23

23 On that day Sadducees (those who say
that there is no resurrection) came to him.
They asked him,
24 saying, "Teacher, Moses said, 'If a
man dies, having no children, his brother
shall marry his wife and raise up
offspring† for his brother.'
25 Now there were with us seven
brothers. The first married and died, and
having no offspring left his wife to his
brother.
26 In the same way, the second also, and
the third, to the seventh.
27 After them all, the woman died.
28 In the resurrection therefore, whose
wife will she be of the seven? For they all
had her."
29 But Jesus answered them, "You are
mistaken, not knowing the Scriptures, nor
the power of God.
30 For in the resurrection they neither
marry nor are given in marriage, but are
like God's angels in heaven.
31 But concerning the resurrection of
the dead, haven't you read that which was
spoken to you by God, saying,
32 'I am the God of Abraham, and the
God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob'?* God
is not the God of the dead, but of the
living."
33 When the multitudes heard it, they
were astonished at his teaching.
34 But the Pharisees, when they heard
that he had silenced the Sadducees,
gathered themselves together.
35 One of them, a lawyer, asked him a
question, testing him.
36 "Teacher, which is the greatest
commandment in the law?"
37 Jesus said to him, " 'You shall love the
Lord your God with all your heart, with all
your soul, and with all your mind.'*
38 This is the first and great
commandment.
39 A second likewise is this, 'You shall
love your neighbor as yourself.'*
40 The whole law and the prophets
depend on these two commandments."
41 Now while the Pharisees were
gathered together, Jesus asked them a
question,
42 saying, "What do you think of the
Christ? Whose son is he?"
They said to him, "Of David."
43 He said to them, "How then does
David in the Spirit call him Lord, saying,
44 'The Lord said to my Lord,
sit on my right hand,
until I make your enemies a footstool
for your feet'?*
45 "If then David calls him Lord, how is
he his son?"
46 No one was able to answer him a
word, neither did any man dare ask him
any more questions from that day
forward.

23

1 Then Jesus spoke to the multitudes and
to his disciples,
2 saying, "The scribes and the Pharisees
sit on Moses' seat.
3 All things therefore whatever they tell
you to observe, observe and do, but don't
do their works; for they say, and don't do.
4 For they bind heavy burdens that are
grievous to be borne, and lay them on
men's shoulders; but they themselves will
not lift a finger to help them.
5 But they do all their works to be seen
by men. They make their phylacteries†
broad and enlarge the fringes‡ of their
garments,
6 and love the place of honor at feasts,
the best seats in the synagogues,
7 the salutations in the marketplaces,
and to be called 'Rabbi, Rabbi'§ by men.
8 But you are not to be called 'Rabbi', for
one is your teacher, the Christ, and all of
you are brothers.
9 Call no man on the earth your father,
for one is your Father, he who is in
heaven.

† **22:24** or, seed * **22:32** Exodus 3:6 * **22:37** Deuteronomy 6:5 * **22:39** Leviticus 19:18 * **22:44** Psalms 110:1
† **23:5** phylacteries (tefillin in Hebrew) are small leather pouches that some Jewish men wear on their forehead and arm in prayer. They are used to carry a small scroll with some Scripture in it. See Deuteronomy 6:8. ‡ **23:5** or, tassels § **23:7** NU omits the second "Rabbi".

10 Neither be called masters, for one is
your master, the Christ.
11 But he who is greatest among you will
be your servant.
12 Whoever exalts himself will be
humbled, and whoever humbles himself
will be exalted.
13 "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees,
hypocrites! For you devour widows'
houses, and as a pretense you make long
prayers. Therefore you will receive
greater condemnation.
14 "But woe to you, scribes and
Pharisees, hypocrites! Because you shut
up the Kingdom of Heaven against men;
for you don't enter in yourselves, neither
do you allow those who are entering in to
enter.†
15 Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees,
hypocrites! For you travel around by sea
and land to make one proselyte; and when
he becomes one, you make him twice as
much a son of Gehenna‡ as yourselves.
16 "Woe to you, you blind guides, who
say, 'Whoever swears by the temple, it is
nothing; but whoever swears by the gold
of the temple, he is obligated.'
17 You blind fools! For which is greater,
the gold or the temple that sanctifies the
gold?
18 And, 'Whoever swears by the altar, it
is nothing; but whoever swears by the gift
that is on it, he is obligated.'
19 You blind fools! For which is greater,
the gift, or the altar that sanctifies the gift?
20 He therefore who swears by the altar,
swears by it and by everything on it.
21 He who swears by the temple, swears
by it and by him who has been living§ in
it.
22 He who swears by heaven, swears by
the throne of God and by him who sits on
it.
23 "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees,
hypocrites! For you tithe mint, dill, and
cumin,† and have left undone the
weightier matters of the law: justice,
mercy, and faith. But you ought to have
done these, and not to have left the other
undone.
24 You blind guides, who strain out a
gnat, and swallow a camel!
25 "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees,
hypocrites! For you clean the outside of
the cup and of the platter, but within they
are full of extortion and unrighteousness.‡
26 You blind Pharisee, first clean the
inside of the cup and of the platter, that its
outside may become clean also.
27 "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees,
hypocrites! For you are like whitened
tombs, which outwardly appear beautiful,
but inwardly are full of dead men's bones
and of all uncleanness.
28 Even so you also outwardly appear
righteous to men, but inwardly you are
full of hypocrisy and iniquity.
29 "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees,
hypocrites! For you build the tombs of the
prophets and decorate the tombs of the
righteous,
30 and say, 'If we had lived in the days of
our fathers, we wouldn't have been
partakers with them in the blood of the
prophets.'
31 Therefore you testify to yourselves
that you are children of those who killed
the prophets.
32 Fill up, then, the measure of your
fathers.
33 You serpents, you offspring of vipers,
how will you escape the judgment of
Gehenna?§
34 Therefore, behold, I send to you
prophets, wise men, and scribes. Some of
them you will kill and crucify; and some of
them you will scourge in your synagogues
and persecute from city to city,
35 that on you may come all the
righteous blood shed on the earth, from
the blood of righteous Abel to the blood of
Zachariah son of Barachiah, whom you

† **23:14** Some Greek texts reverse the order of verses 13 and 14, and some omit verse 13, numbering verse 14 as 13. NU omits verse 14. ‡ **23:15** or, Hell § **23:21** NU reads "lives" † **23:23** cumin is an aromatic seed from Cuminum cyminum, resembling caraway in flavor and appearance. It is used as a spice. ‡ **23:25** TR reads "self-indulgence" instead of "unrighteousness" § **23:33** or, Hell

killed between the sanctuary and the
altar.
36 Most certainly I tell you, all these
things will come upon this generation.
37 “Jerusalem, Jerusalem, who kills the
prophets and stones those who are sent to
her! How often I would have gathered
your children together, even as a hen
gathers her chicks under her wings, and
you would not!
38 Behold, your house is left to you
desolate.
39 For I tell you, you will not see me
from now on, until you say, ‘Blessed is he
who comes in the name of the Lord!’ ”*

24

1 Jesus went out from the temple, and
was going on his way. His disciples came
to him to show him the buildings of the
temple.
2 But he answered them, “You see all of
these things, don’t you? Most certainly I
tell you, there will not be left here one
stone on another, that will not be thrown
down.”
3 As he sat on the Mount of Olives, the
disciples came to him privately, saying,
“Tell us, when will these things be? What
is the sign of your coming, and of the end
of the age?”
4 Jesus answered them, “Be careful that
no one leads you astray.
5 For many will come in my name,
saying, ‘I am the Christ,’ and will lead
many astray.
6 You will hear of wars and rumors of
wars. See that you aren’t troubled, for all
this must happen, but the end is not yet.
7 For nation will rise against nation, and
kingdom against kingdom; and there will
be famines, plagues, and earthquakes in
various places.
8 But all these things are the beginning
of birth pains.
9 “Then they will deliver you up to
oppression and will kill you. You will be
hated by all of the nations for my name’s
sake.
10 Then many will stumble, and will
deliver up one another, and will hate one
another.
11 Many false prophets will arise and
will lead many astray.
12 Because iniquity will be multiplied,
the love of many will grow cold.
13 But he who endures to the end will be
saved.
14 This Good News of the Kingdom will
be preached in the whole world for a
testimony to all the nations, and then the
end will come.
15 “When, therefore, you see the
abomination of desolation,* which was
spoken of through Daniel the prophet,
standing in the holy place (let the reader
understand),
16 then let those who are in Judea flee to
the mountains.
17 Let him who is on the housetop not go
down to take out the things that are in his
house.
18 Let him who is in the field not return
back to get his clothes.
19 But woe to those who are with child
and to nursing mothers in those days!
20 Pray that your flight will not be in the
winter nor on a Sabbath,
21 for then there will be great suffering,†
such as has not been from the beginning
of the world until now, no, nor ever will
be.
22 Unless those days had been
shortened, no flesh would have been
saved. But for the sake of the chosen ones,
those days will be shortened.
23 “Then if any man tells you, ‘Behold,
here is the Christ!’ or, ‘There!’ don’t
believe it.
24 For false christs and false prophets
will arise, and they will show great signs
and wonders, so as to lead astray, if
possible, even the chosen ones.
25 “Behold, I have told you beforehand.
26 “If therefore they tell you, ‘Behold, he
is in the wilderness,’ don’t go out; or
‘Behold, he is in the inner rooms,’ don’t
believe it.

* **23:39** Psalms 118:26 * **24:15** Daniel 9:27; 11:31; 12:11 † **24:21** or, oppression ‡ **24:28** or, eagles

27 For as the lightning flashes from the
east, and is seen even to the west, so will
the coming of the Son of Man be.
28 For wherever the carcass is, that is
where the vultures‡ gather together.

29 "But immediately after the suffering§
of those days, the sun will be darkened,
the moon will not give its light, the stars
will fall from the sky, and the powers of
the heavens will be shaken;*
30 and then the sign of the Son of Man
will appear in the sky. Then all the tribes
of the earth will mourn, and they will see
the Son of Man coming on the clouds of
the sky with power and great glory.
31 He will send out his angels with a
great sound of a trumpet, and they will
gather together his chosen ones from the
four winds, from one end of the sky to the
other.

32 "Now from the fig tree learn this
parable: When its branch has now
become tender and produces its leaves,
you know that the summer is near.
33 Even so you also, when you see all
these things, know that he is near, even at
the doors.
34 Most certainly I tell you, this
generation† will not pass away until all
these things are accomplished.
35 Heaven and earth will pass away, but
my words will not pass away.

36 "But no one knows of that day and
hour, not even the angels of heaven,‡ but
my Father only.
37 As the days of Noah were, so will the
coming of the Son of Man be.
38 For as in those days which were
before the flood they were eating and
drinking, marrying and giving in
marriage, until the day that Noah entered
into the ship,
39 and they didn't know until the flood
came and took them all away, so will the
coming of the Son of Man be.
40 Then two men will be in the field: one
will be taken and one will be left.
41 Two women will be grinding at the
mill: one will be taken and one will be left.

42 Watch therefore, for you don't know
in what hour your Lord comes.
43 But know this, that if the master of
the house had known in what watch of
the night the thief was coming, he would
have watched, and would not have
allowed his house to be broken into.
44 Therefore also be ready, for in an
hour that you don't expect, the Son of Man
will come.

45 "Who then is the faithful and wise
servant, whom his lord has set over his
household, to give them their food in due
season?
46 Blessed is that servant whom his lord
finds doing so when he comes.
47 Most certainly I tell you that he will
set him over all that he has.
48 But if that evil servant should say in
his heart, 'My lord is delaying his coming,'
49 and begins to beat his fellow servants,
and eat and drink with the drunkards,
50 the lord of that servant will come in a
day when he doesn't expect it and in an
hour when he doesn't know it,
51 and will cut him in pieces and
appoint his portion with the hypocrites.
That is where the weeping and grinding of
teeth will be.

25

1 "Then the Kingdom of Heaven will be
like ten virgins who took their lamps and
went out to meet the bridegroom.
2 Five of them were foolish, and five
were wise.
3 Those who were foolish, when they
took their lamps, took no oil with them,
4 but the wise took oil in their vessels
with their lamps.
5 Now while the bridegroom delayed,
they all slumbered and slept.

§ **24:29** or, oppression * **24:29** Isaiah 13:10; 34:4 ‡ **24:36** NU adds "nor the son" † **24:34** The word for "generation" (genea) can also be translated as "race." † **25:7** The end of the wick of an oil lamp needs to be cut off periodically to avoid having it become clogged with carbon deposits. The wick height is also adjusted so that the flame burns evenly and gives good light without producing a lot of smoke.

6 But at midnight there was a cry,
'Behold! The bridegroom is coming! Come
out to meet him!'
7 Then all those virgins arose, and
trimmed their lamps.†
8 The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us
some of your oil, for our lamps are going
out.'
9 But the wise answered, saying, 'What
if there isn't enough for us and you? You
go rather to those who sell, and buy for
yourselves.'
10 While they went away to buy, the
bridegroom came, and those who were
ready went in with him to the wedding
feast, and the door was shut.
11 Afterward the other virgins also
came, saying, 'Lord, Lord, open to us.'
12 But he answered, 'Most certainly I tell
you, I don't know you.'
13 Watch therefore, for you don't know
the day nor the hour in which the Son of
Man is coming.

14 "For it is like a man going into
another country, who called his own
servants and entrusted his goods to them.
15 To one he gave five talents,‡ to
another two, to another one, to each
according to his own ability. Then he
went on his journey.
16 Immediately he who received the five
talents went and traded with them, and
made another five talents.
17 In the same way, he also who got the
two gained another two.
18 But he who received the one talent
went away and dug in the earth and hid
his lord's money.

19 "Now after a long time the lord of
those servants came, and settled accounts
with them.
20 He who received the five talents came
and brought another five talents, saying,
'Lord, you delivered to me five talents.
Behold, I have gained another five talents
in addition to them.'

21 "His lord said to him, 'Well done, good
and faithful servant. You have been
faithful over a few things, I will set you
over many things. Enter into the joy of
your lord.'
22 "He also who got the two talents came
and said, 'Lord, you delivered to me two
talents. Behold, I have gained another two
talents in addition to them.'
23 "His lord said to him, 'Well done, good
and faithful servant. You have been
faithful over a few things. I will set you
over many things. Enter into the joy of
your lord.'
24 "He also who had received the one
talent came and said, 'Lord, I knew you
that you are a hard man, reaping where
you didn't sow, and gathering where you
didn't scatter.
25 I was afraid, and went away and hid
your talent in the earth. Behold, you have
what is yours.'
26 "But his lord answered him, 'You
wicked and slothful servant. You knew
that I reap where I didn't sow, and gather
where I didn't scatter.
27 You ought therefore to have
deposited my money with the bankers,
and at my coming I should have received
back my own with interest.
28 Take away therefore the talent from
him and give it to him who has the ten
talents.
29 For to everyone who has will be
given, and he will have abundance, but
from him who doesn't have, even that
which he has will be taken away.
30 Throw out the unprofitable servant
into the outer darkness, where there will
be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'
31 "But when the Son of Man comes in
his glory, and all the holy angels with him,
then he will sit on the throne of his glory.
32 Before him all the nations will be
gathered, and he will separate them one
from another, as a shepherd separates the
sheep from the goats.
33 He will set the sheep on his right
hand, but the goats on the left.
34 Then the King will tell those on his
right hand, 'Come, blessed of my Father,
inherit the Kingdom prepared for you
from the foundation of the world;

‡ **25:15** A talent is about 30 kilograms or 66 pounds (usually used to weigh silver unless otherwise specified)

35 for I was hungry and you gave me
food to eat. I was thirsty and you gave me
drink. I was a stranger and you took me
in,
36 I was naked and you clothed me. I
was sick and you visited me. I was in
prison and you came to me.'
37 "Then the righteous will answer him,
saying, 'Lord, when did we see you
hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give
you a drink?
38 When did we see you as a stranger
and take you in, or naked and clothe you?
39 When did we see you sick or in prison
and come to you?'
40 "The King will answer them, 'Most
certainly I tell you, because you did it to
one of the least of these my brothers,§ you
did it to me.'
41 Then he will say also to those on the
left hand, 'Depart from me, you cursed,
into the eternal fire which is prepared for
the devil and his angels;
42 for I was hungry, and you didn't give
me food to eat; I was thirsty, and you gave
me no drink;
43 I was a stranger, and you didn't take
me in; naked, and you didn't clothe me;
sick, and in prison, and you didn't visit
me.'
44 "Then 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 didn't help you?'
45 "Then he will answer them, saying,
'Most certainly I tell you, because you
didn't do it to one of the least of these, you
didn't do it to me.'
46 These will go away into eternal
punishment, but the righteous into
eternal life."

26

1 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
will be delivered up to be crucified."
3 Then the chief priests, the scribes, and
the elders of the people were gathered
together in the court of the high priest,
who was called Caiaphas.
4 They took counsel together that they
might take Jesus by deceit and kill him.
5 But they said, "Not during the feast,
lest a riot occur among the people."
6 Now when Jesus was in Bethany, in the
house of Simon the leper,
7 a woman came to him having an
alabaster jar of very expensive ointment,
and she poured it on his head as he sat at
the table.
8 But when his disciples saw this, they
were indignant, saying, "Why this waste?
9 For this ointment might have been
sold for much and given to the poor."
10 However, knowing this, Jesus said to
them, "Why do you trouble the woman?
She has done a good work for me.
11 For you always have the poor with
you, but you don't always have me.
12 For in pouring this ointment on my
body, she did it to prepare me for burial.
13 Most certainly I tell you, wherever
this Good News is preached in the whole
world, what this woman has done will
also be spoken of as a memorial of her."
14 Then one of the twelve, who was
called Judas Iscariot, went to the chief
priests
15 and said, "What are you willing to
give me if I deliver him to you?" So they
weighed out for him thirty pieces of silver.
16 From that time he sought opportunity
to betray him.
17 Now on the first day of unleavened
bread, the disciples came to Jesus, saying
to him, "Where do you want us to prepare
for you to eat the Passover?"
18 He said, "Go into the city to a certain
person, and tell him, 'The Teacher says,
"My time is at hand. I will keep the
Passover at your house with my
disciples." ' "
19 The disciples did as Jesus commanded
them, and they prepared the Passover.
20 Now when evening had come, he was
reclining at the table with the twelve
disciples.

§ **25:40** The word for "brothers" here may be also correctly translated "brothers and sisters" or "siblings."

21 As they were eating, he said, “Most certainly I tell you that one of you will betray me.”
22 They were exceedingly sorrowful, and each began to ask him, “It isn’t me, is it, Lord?”
23 He answered, “He who dipped his hand with me in the dish will betray me.
24 The Son of Man goes even as it is written of him, but woe to that man through whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would be better for that man if he had not been born.”
25 Judas, who betrayed him, answered, “It isn’t me, is it, Rabbi?”
He said to him, “You said it.”
26 As they were eating, Jesus took bread, gave thanks for† it, and broke it. He gave to the disciples and said, “Take, eat; this is my body.”
27 He took the cup, gave thanks, and gave to them, saying, “All of you drink it,
28 for this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for many for the remission of sins.
29 But I tell you that I will not drink of this fruit of the vine from now on, until that day when I drink it anew with you in my Father’s Kingdom.”
30 When they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.
31 Then Jesus said to them, “All of you will be made to stumble because of me tonight, for it is written, ‘I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.’*
32 But after I am raised up, I will go before you into Galilee.”
33 But Peter answered him, “Even if all will be made to stumble because of you, I will never be made to stumble.”
34 Jesus said to him, “Most certainly I tell you that tonight, before the rooster crows, you will deny me three times.”
35 Peter said to him, “Even if I must die with you, I will not deny you.” All of the disciples also said likewise.
36 Then Jesus came with them to a place called Gethsemane, and said to his disciples, “Sit here, while I go there and pray.”
37 He took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be sorrowful and severely troubled.
38 Then Jesus said to them, “My soul is exceedingly sorrowful, even to death. Stay here and watch with me.”
39 He went forward a little, fell on his face, and prayed, saying, “My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass away from me; nevertheless, not what I desire, but what you desire.”
40 He came to the disciples and found them sleeping, and said to Peter, “What, couldn’t you watch with me for one hour?
41 Watch and pray, that you don’t enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.”
42 Again, a second time he went away and prayed, saying, “My Father, if this cup can’t pass away from me unless I drink it, your desire be done.”
43 He came again and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy.
44 He left them again, went away, and prayed a third time, saying the same words.
45 Then he came to his disciples and said to them, “Are you still sleeping and resting? Behold, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners.
46 Arise, let’s be going. Behold, he who betrays me is at hand.”
47 While he was still speaking, behold, Judas, one of the twelve, came, and with him a great multitude with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and elders of the people.
48 Now he who betrayed him had given them a sign, saying, “Whoever I kiss, he is the one. Seize him.”
49 Immediately he came to Jesus, and said, “Greetings, Rabbi!” and kissed him.
50 Jesus said to him, “Friend, why are you here?”
Then they came and laid hands on Jesus, and took him.

† **26:26** TR reads “blessed” instead of “gave thanks for”
* **26:31** Zechariah 13:7

51 Behold, one of those who were with
Jesus stretched out his hand and drew his
sword, and struck the servant of the high
priest, and cut off his ear.
52 Then Jesus said to him, "Put your
sword back into its place, for all those
who take the sword will die by the sword.
53 Or do you think that I couldn't ask my
Father, and he would even now send me
more than twelve legions of angels?
54 How then would the Scriptures be
fulfilled that it must be so?"
55 In that hour Jesus said to the
multitudes, "Have you come out as
against a robber with swords and clubs to
seize me? I sat daily in the temple
teaching, and you didn't arrest me.
56 But all this has happened that the
Scriptures of the prophets might be
fulfilled."
Then all the disciples left him and fled.
57 Those who had taken Jesus led him
away to Caiaphas the high priest, where
the scribes and the elders were gathered
together.
58 But Peter followed him from a
distance to the court of the high priest,
and entered in and sat with the officers, to
see the end.
59 Now the chief priests, the elders, and
the whole council sought false testimony
against Jesus, that they might put him to
death,
60 and they found none. Even though
many false witnesses came forward, they
found none. But at last two false
witnesses came forward
61 and said, "This man said, 'I am able to
destroy the temple of God, and to build it
in three days.' "
62 The high priest stood up and said to
him, "Have you no answer? What is this
that these testify against you?"
63 But Jesus stayed silent. The high
priest answered him, "I adjure you by the
living God that you tell us whether you
are the Christ, the Son of God."
64 Jesus said to him, "You have said so.
Nevertheless, I tell you, after this you will
see the Son of Man sitting at the right
hand of Power, and coming on the clouds
of the sky."
65 Then the high priest tore his clothing,
saying, "He has spoken blasphemy! Why
do we need any more witnesses? Behold,
now you have heard his blasphemy.
66 What do you think?"
They answered, "He is worthy of death!"
67 Then they spat in his face and beat
him with their fists, and some slapped
him,
68 saying, "Prophesy to us, you Christ!
Who hit you?"
69 Now Peter was sitting outside in the
court, and a maid came to him, saying,
"You were also with Jesus, the Galilean!"
70 But he denied it before them all,
saying, "I don't know what you are talking
about."
71 When he had gone out onto the porch,
someone else saw him and said to those
who were there, "This man also was with
Jesus of Nazareth."
72 Again he denied it with an oath, "I
don't know the man."
73 After a little while those who stood by
came and said to Peter, "Surely you are
also one of them, for your speech makes
you known."
74 Then he began to curse and to swear,
"I don't know the man!"
Immediately the rooster crowed.
75 Peter remembered the word which
Jesus had said to him, "Before the rooster
crows, you will deny me three times."
Then he went out and wept bitterly.

27

1 Now when morning had come, all the
chief priests and the elders of the people
took counsel against Jesus to put him to
death.
2 They bound him, led him away, and
delivered him up to Pontius Pilate, the
governor.
3 Then Judas, who betrayed him, when
he saw that Jesus was condemned, felt
remorse, and brought back the thirty
pieces of silver to the chief priests and
elders,
4 saying, "I have sinned in that I
betrayed innocent blood."
But they said, "What is that to us? You
see to it."

5 He threw down the pieces of silver in
the sanctuary and departed. Then he
went away and hanged himself.
6 The chief priests took the pieces of
silver and said, “It’s not lawful to put them
into the treasury, since it is the price of
blood.”
7 They took counsel, and bought the
potter’s field with them to bury strangers
in.
8 Therefore that field has been called
“The Field of Blood” to this day.
9 Then that which was spoken through
Jeremiah† the prophet was fulfilled,
saying,
“They took the thirty pieces of silver,
the price of him upon whom a price
had been set,
whom some of the children of Israel
priced,
10 and they gave them for the potter’s field,
as the Lord commanded me.”*
11 Now Jesus stood before the governor;
and the governor asked him, saying, “Are
you the King of the Jews?”
Jesus said to him, “So you say.”
12 When he was accused by the chief
priests and elders, he answered nothing.
13 Then Pilate said to him, “Don’t you
hear how many things they testify against
you?”
14 He gave him no answer, not even one
word, so that the governor marveled
greatly.
15 Now at the feast the governor was
accustomed to release to the multitude
one prisoner whom they desired.
16 They had then a notable prisoner
called Barabbas.
17 When therefore they were gathered
together, Pilate said to them, “Whom do
you want me to release to you? Barabbas,
or Jesus who is called Christ?”
18 For he knew that because of envy
they had delivered him up.
19 While he was sitting on the judgment
seat, his wife sent to him, saying, “Have
nothing to do with that righteous man, for
I have suffered many things today in a
dream because of him.”
20 Now the chief priests and the elders
persuaded the multitudes to ask for
Barabbas and destroy Jesus.
21 But the governor answered them,
“Which of the two do you want me to
release to you?”
They said, “Barabbas!”
22 Pilate said to them, “What then shall I
do to Jesus who is called Christ?”
They all said to him, “Let him be
crucified!”
23 But the governor said, “Why? What
evil has he done?”
But they cried out exceedingly, saying,
“Let him be crucified!”
24 So when Pilate saw that nothing was
being gained, but rather that a
disturbance was starting, he took water
and washed his hands before the
multitude, saying, “I am innocent of the
blood of this righteous person. You see to
it.”
25 All the people answered, “May his
blood be on us and on our children!”
26 Then he released Barabbas to them,
but Jesus he flogged and delivered to be
crucified.
27 Then the governor’s soldiers took
Jesus into the Praetorium, and gathered
the whole garrison together against him.
28 They stripped him and put a scarlet
robe on him.
29 They braided a crown of thorns and
put it on his head, and a reed in his right
hand; and they kneeled down before him
and mocked him, saying, “Hail, King of the
Jews!”
30 They spat on him, and took the reed
and struck him on the head.
31 When they had mocked him, they
took the robe off him, and put his clothes
on him, and led him away to crucify him.
32 As they came out, they found a man of
Cyrene, Simon by name, and they
compelled him to go with them, that he
might carry his cross.
33 When they came to a place called
“Golgotha”, that is to say, “The place of a
skull,”

† **27:9** some manuscripts omit “Jeremiah” * **27:10** Zechariah 11:12-13; Jeremiah 19:1-13; 32:6-9

34 they gave him sour wine‡ to drink
mixed with gall.§ When he had tasted it,
he would not drink.
35 When they had crucified him, they
divided his clothing among them, casting
lots,†
36 and they sat and watched him there.
37 They set up over his head the
accusation against him written, “THIS IS
JESUS, THE KING OF THE JEWS.”
38 Then there were two robbers
crucified with him, one on his right hand
and one on the left.
39 Those who passed by blasphemed
him, wagging their heads
40 and saying, “You who destroy the
temple and build it in three days, save
yourself! If you are the Son of God, come
down from the cross!”
41 Likewise the chief priests also
mocking with the scribes, the Pharisees,‡
and the elders, said,
42 “He saved others, but he can’t save
himself. If he is the King of Israel, let him
come down from the cross now, and we
will believe in him.
43 He trusts in God. Let God deliver him
now, if he wants him; for he said, ‘I am the
Son of God.’ ”
44 The robbers also who were crucified
with him cast on him the same reproach.
45 Now from the sixth hour§ there was
darkness over all the land until the ninth
hour.†
46 About the ninth hour Jesus cried with
a loud voice, saying, “Eli, Eli, lima‡
sabachthani?” That is, “My God, my God,
why have you forsaken me?”*
47 Some of them who stood there, when
they heard it, said, “This man is calling
Elijah.”
48 Immediately one of them ran and
took a sponge, filled it with vinegar, put it
on a reed, and gave him a drink.
49 The rest said, “Let him be. Let’s see
whether Elijah comes to save him.”
50 Jesus cried again with a loud voice,
and yielded up his spirit.
51 Behold, the veil of the temple was
torn in two from the top to the bottom.
The earth quaked and the rocks were split.
52 The tombs were opened, and many
bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep
were raised;
53 and coming out of the tombs after his
resurrection, they entered into the holy
city and appeared to many.
54 Now the centurion and those who
were with him watching Jesus, when they
saw the earthquake and the things that
were done, were terrified, saying, “Truly
this was the Son of God!”
55 Many women were there watching
from afar, who had followed Jesus from
Galilee, serving him.
56 Among them were Mary Magdalene,
Mary the mother of James and Joses, and
the mother of the sons of Zebedee.
57 When evening had come, a rich man
from Arimathaea named Joseph, who
himself was also Jesus’ disciple, came.
58 This man went to Pilate and asked for
Jesus’ body. Then Pilate commanded the
body to be given up.
59 Joseph took the body and wrapped it
in a clean linen cloth
60 and laid it in his own new tomb,
which he had cut out in the rock. Then he
rolled a large stone against the door of the
tomb, and departed.
61 Mary Magdalene was there, and the
other Mary, sitting opposite the tomb.
62 Now on the next day, which was the
day after the Preparation Day, the chief
priests and the Pharisees were gathered
together to Pilate,
63 saying, “Sir, we remember what that
deceiver said while he was still alive:
‘After three days I will rise again.’
64 Command therefore that the tomb be
made secure until the third day, lest
perhaps his disciples come at night and
steal him away, and tell the people, ‘He is
risen from the dead;’ and the last
deception will be worse than the first.”

‡ **27:34** or, vinegar § **27:34** Gall is a bitter-tasting, dark green oil from a wormwood plant that is alcoholic in its effect. † **27:35** TR adds “that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet: ‘They divided my garments among them, and for my clothing they cast lots;’ ” [see Psalms 22:18 and John 19:24] ‡ **27:41** TR omits “the Pharisees” § **27:45** noon † **27:45** 3:00 p.m. ‡ **27:46** TR reads “lama” instead of “lima” * **27:46** Psalms 22:1

65 Pilate said to them, “You have a
guard. Go, make it as secure as you can.”
66 So they went with the guard and
made the tomb secure, sealing the stone.

28

1 Now after the Sabbath, as it began to
dawn on the first day of the week, Mary
Magdalene and the other Mary came to
see the tomb.
2 Behold, there was a great earthquake,
for an angel of the Lord descended from
the sky and came and rolled away the
stone from the door and sat on it.
3 His appearance was like lightning, and
his clothing white as snow.
4 For fear of him, the guards shook, and
became like dead men.
5 The angel answered the women,
“Don’t be afraid, for I know that you seek
Jesus, who has been crucified.
6 He is not here, for he has risen, just
like he said. Come, see the place where
the Lord was lying.
7 Go quickly and tell his disciples, ‘He
has risen from the dead, and behold, he
goes before you into Galilee; there you
will see him.’ Behold, I have told you.”
8 They departed quickly from the tomb
with fear and great joy, and ran to bring
his disciples word.
9 As they went to tell his disciples,
behold, Jesus met them, saying, “Rejoice!”
They came and took hold of his feet, and
worshiped him.
10 Then Jesus said to them, “Don’t be
afraid. Go tell my brothers † that they
should go into Galilee, and there they will
see me.”
11 Now while they were going, behold,
some of the guards came into the city and
told the chief priests all the things that
had happened.
12 When they were assembled with the
elders and had taken counsel, they gave a
large amount of silver to the soldiers,
13 saying, “Say that his disciples came by
night and stole him away while we slept.
14 If this comes to the governor’s ears,
we will persuade him and make you free
of worry.”
15 So they took the money and did as
they were told. This saying was spread
abroad among the Jews, and continues
until today.
16 But the eleven disciples went into
Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had
sent them.
17 When they saw him, they bowed
down to him; but some doubted.
18 Jesus came to them and spoke to
them, saying, “All authority has been
given to me in heaven and on earth.
19 Go‡ and make disciples of all nations,
baptizing them in the name of the Father
and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,
20 teaching them to observe all things
that I commanded you. Behold, I am with
you always, even to the end of the age.”
Amen.

† **28:10** The word for “brothers” here may be also correctly translated “brothers and sisters” or “siblings.” ‡ **28:19** TR and NU add “therefore”

The Good News According to Mark

1 The beginning of the Good News of
Jesus Christ, the Son of God.
2 As it is written in the prophets,
"Behold,† I send my messenger before
your face,
who will prepare your way before
you:*
3 the voice of one crying in the wilderness,
'Make ready the way of the Lord!
Make his paths straight!' "*
4 John came baptizing‡ in the
wilderness and preaching the baptism of
repentance for forgiveness of sins.
5 All the country of Judea and all those
of Jerusalem went out to him. They were
baptized by him in the Jordan river,
confessing their sins.
6 John was clothed with camel's hair
and a leather belt around his waist. He ate
locusts and wild honey.
7 He preached, saying, "After me comes
he who is mightier than I, the strap of
whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop
down and loosen.
8 I baptized you in§ water, but he will
baptize you in the Holy Spirit."
9 In those days, Jesus came from
Nazareth of Galilee, and was baptized by
John in the Jordan.
10 Immediately coming up from the
water, he saw the heavens parting and the
Spirit descending on him like a dove.
11 A voice came out of the sky, "You are
my beloved Son, in whom I am well
pleased."
12 Immediately the Spirit drove him out
into the wilderness.
13 He was there in the wilderness forty
days, tempted by Satan. He was with the
wild animals; and the angels were serving
him.
14 Now after John was taken into
custody, Jesus came into Galilee,
preaching the Good News of God's
Kingdom,
15 and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and
God's Kingdom is at hand! Repent, and
believe in the Good News."
16 Passing along by the sea of Galilee, he
saw Simon and Andrew, the brother of
Simon, casting a net into the sea, for they
were fishermen.
17 Jesus said to them, "Come after me,
and I will make you into fishers for men."
18 Immediately they left their nets, and
followed him.
19 Going on a little further from there,
he saw James the son of Zebedee, and
John his brother, who were also in the
boat mending the nets.
20 Immediately he called them, and they
left their father, Zebedee, in the boat with
the hired servants, and went after him.
21 They went into Capernaum, and
immediately on the Sabbath day he
entered into the synagogue and taught.
22 They were astonished at his teaching,
for he taught them as having authority,
and not as the scribes.
23 Immediately there was in their
synagogue a man with an unclean spirit,
and he cried out,
24 saying, "Ha! What do we have to do
with you, Jesus, you Nazarene? Have you
come to destroy us? I know who you are:
the Holy One of God!"
25 Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be quiet,
and come out of him!"
26 The unclean spirit, convulsing him
and crying with a loud voice, came out of
him.
27 They were all amazed, so that they
questioned among themselves, saying,
"What is this? What can this new doctrine
be? For with authority he commands even
the unclean spirits, and they obey him!"
28 The report of him went out
immediately into all the region of Galilee
and its surrounding area.

† **1:2** "Behold", from "ἰδοὺ", means look at, take notice, observe, see, or gaze at. It is often used as an interjection.
* **1:2** Malachi 3:1 * **1:3** Isaiah 40:3 ‡ **1:4** or, immersing § **1:8** The Greek word (en) translated here as "in" could also be translated as "with" in some contexts.

29 Immediately, when they had come
out of the synagogue, they came into the
house of Simon and Andrew, with James
and John.
30 Now Simon's wife's mother lay sick
with a fever, and immediately they told
him about her.
31 He came and took her by the hand
and raised her up. The fever left her
immediately,† and she served them.
32 At evening, when the sun had set,
they brought to him all who were sick and
those who were possessed by demons.
33 All the city was gathered together at
the door.
34 He healed many who were sick with
various diseases and cast out many
demons. He didn't allow the demons to
speak, because they knew him.
35 Early in the morning, while it was still
dark, he rose up and went out, and
departed into a deserted place, and
prayed there.
36 Simon and those who were with him
searched for him.
37 They found him and told him,
"Everyone is looking for you."
38 He said to them, "Let's go elsewhere
into the next towns, that I may preach
there also, because I came out for this
reason."
39 He went into their synagogues
throughout all Galilee, preaching and
casting out demons.
40 A leper came to him, begging him,
kneeling down to him, and saying to him,
"If you want to, you can make me clean."
41 Being moved with compassion, he
stretched out his hand, and touched him,
and said to him, "I want to. Be made
clean."
42 When he had said this, immediately
the leprosy departed from him and he
was made clean.
43 He strictly warned him and
immediately sent him out,
44 and said to him, "See that you say
nothing to anybody, but go show yourself
to the priest and offer for your cleansing
the things which Moses commanded, for a
testimony to them."
45 But he went out, and began to
proclaim it much, and to spread about the
matter, so that Jesus could no more
openly enter into a city, but was outside in
desert places. People came to him from
everywhere.

2

1 When he entered again into
Capernaum after some days, it was heard
that he was at home.
2 Immediately many were gathered
together, so that there was no more room,
not even around the door; and he spoke
the word to them.
3 Four people came, carrying a paralytic
to him.
4 When they could not come near to him
for the crowd, they removed the roof
where he was. When they had broken it
up, they let down the mat that the
paralytic was lying on.
5 Jesus, seeing their faith, said to the
paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven
you."
6 But there were some of the scribes
sitting there and reasoning in their hearts,
7 "Why does this man speak
blasphemies like that? Who can forgive
sins but God alone?"
8 Immediately Jesus, perceiving in his
spirit that they so reasoned within
themselves, said to them, "Why do you
reason these things in your hearts?
9 Which is easier, to tell the paralytic,
'Your sins are forgiven;' or to say, 'Arise,
and take up your bed, and walk'?
10 But that you may know that the Son of
Man has authority on earth to forgive
sins"—he said to the paralytic—
11 "I tell you, arise, take up your mat,
and go to your house."
12 He arose, and immediately took up
the mat and went out in front of them all,
so that they were all amazed and glorified
God, saying, "We never saw anything like
this!"
13 He went out again by the seaside. All
the multitude came to him, and he taught
them.

† **1:31** NU omits "immediately".

14 As he passed by, he saw Levi the son
of Alphaeus sitting at the tax office. He
said to him, "Follow me." And he arose
and followed him.
15 He was reclining at the table in his
house, and many tax collectors and
sinners sat down with Jesus and his
disciples, for there were many, and they
followed him.
16 The scribes and the Pharisees, when
they saw that he was eating with the
sinners and tax collectors, said to his
disciples, "Why is it that he eats and
drinks with tax collectors and sinners?"
17 When Jesus heard it, he said to them,
"Those who are healthy have no need for
a physician, but those who are sick. I
came not to call the righteous, but sinners
to repentance."
18 John's disciples and the Pharisees
were fasting, and they came and asked
him, "Why do John's disciples and the
disciples of the Pharisees fast, but your
disciples don't fast?"
19 Jesus said to them, "Can the
groomsmen fast while the bridegroom is
with them? As long as they have the
bridegroom with them, they can't fast.
20 But the days will come when the
bridegroom will be taken away from
them, and then they will fast in that day.
21 No one sews a piece of unshrunk
cloth on an old garment, or else the patch
shrinks and the new tears away from the
old, and a worse hole is made.
22 No one puts new wine into old
wineskins; or else the new wine will burst
the skins, and the wine pours out, and the
skins will be destroyed; but they put new
wine into fresh wineskins."
23 He was going on the Sabbath day
through the grain fields; and his disciples
began, as they went, to pluck the ears of
grain.
24 The Pharisees said to him, "Behold,
why do they do that which is not lawful on
the Sabbath day?"
25 He said to them, "Did you never read
what David did when he had need and
was hungry—he, and those who were with
him?
26 How he entered into God's house at
the time of Abiathar the high priest, and
ate the show bread, which is not lawful to
eat except for the priests, and gave also to
those who were with him?"
27 He said to them, "The Sabbath was
made for man, not man for the Sabbath.
28 Therefore the Son of Man is lord even
of the Sabbath."

3

1 He entered again into the synagogue,
and there was a man there whose hand
was withered.
2 They watched him, whether he would
heal him on the Sabbath day, that they
might accuse him.
3 He said to the man whose hand was
withered, "Stand up."
4 He said to them, "Is it lawful on the
Sabbath day to do good or to do harm? To
save a life or to kill?" But they were silent.
5 When he had looked around at them
with anger, being grieved at the
hardening of their hearts, he said to the
man, "Stretch out your hand." He
stretched it out, and his hand was
restored as healthy as the other.
6 The Pharisees went out, and
immediately conspired with the
Herodians against him, how they might
destroy him.
7 Jesus withdrew to the sea with his
disciples; and a great multitude followed
him from Galilee, from Judea,
8 from Jerusalem, from Idumaea,
beyond the Jordan, and those from
around Tyre and Sidon. A great
multitude, hearing what great things he
did, came to him.
9 He spoke to his disciples that a little
boat should stay near him because of the
crowd, so that they wouldn't press on him.
10 For he had healed many, so that as
many as had diseases pressed on him that
they might touch him.
11 The unclean spirits, whenever they
saw him, fell down before him and cried,
"You are the Son of God!"
12 He sternly warned them that they
should not make him known.

13 He went up into the mountain and
called to himself those whom he wanted,
and they went to him.
14 He appointed twelve, that they might
be with him, and that he might send them
out to preach
15 and to have authority to heal
sicknesses and to cast out demons:
16 Simon (to whom he gave the name
Peter);
17 James the son of Zebedee; and John,
the brother of James, (whom he called
Boanerges, which means, Sons of
Thunder);
18 Andrew; Philip; Bartholomew;
Matthew; Thomas; James, the son of
Alphaeus; Thaddaeus; Simon the Zealot;
19 and Judas Iscariot, who also betrayed
him.
Then he came into a house.
20 The multitude came together again,
so that they could not so much as eat
bread.
21 When his friends heard it, they went
out to seize him; for they said, "He is
insane."
22 The scribes who came down from
Jerusalem said, "He has Beelzebul," and,
"By the prince of the demons he casts out
the demons."
23 He summoned them and said to them
in parables, "How can Satan cast out
Satan?
24 If a kingdom is divided against itself,
that kingdom cannot stand.
25 If a house is divided against itself,
that house cannot stand.
26 If Satan has risen up against himself,
and is divided, he can't stand, but has an
end.
27 But no one can enter into the house of
the strong man to plunder unless he first
binds the strong man; then he will
plunder his house.
28 "Most certainly I tell you, all sins of
the descendants of man will be forgiven,
including their blasphemies with which
they may blaspheme;
29 but whoever may blaspheme against
the Holy Spirit never has forgiveness, but
is subject to eternal condemnation."†
30 —because they said, "He has an
unclean spirit."
31 His mother and his brothers came,
and standing outside, they sent to him,
calling him.
32 A multitude was sitting around him,
and they told him, "Behold, your mother,
your brothers, and your sisters‡ are
outside looking for you."
33 He answered them, "Who are my
mother and my brothers?"
34 Looking around at those who sat
around him, he said, "Behold, my mother
and my brothers!
35 For whoever does the will of God is
my brother, my sister, and mother."

4

1 Again he began to teach by the seaside.
A great multitude was gathered to him, so
that he entered into a boat in the sea and
sat down. All the multitude were on the
land by the sea.
2 He taught them many things in
parables, and told them in his teaching,
3 "Listen! Behold, the farmer went out
to sow.
4 As he sowed, some seed fell by the
road, and the birds† came and devoured
it.
5 Others fell on the rocky ground, where
it had little soil, and immediately it sprang
up, because it had no depth of soil.
6 When the sun had risen, it was
scorched; and because it had no root, it
withered away.
7 Others fell among the thorns, and the
thorns grew up and choked it, and it
yielded no fruit.
8 Others fell into the good ground and
yielded fruit, growing up and increasing.
Some produced thirty times, some sixty
times, and some one hundred times as
much."
9 He said, "Whoever has ears to hear, let
him hear."
10 When he was alone, those who were
around him with the twelve asked him
about the parables.
11 He said to them, "To you is given the
mystery of God's Kingdom, but to those

† **3:29** NU reads, guilty of an eternal sin. ‡ **3:32** TR omits "your sisters" † **4:4** TR adds "of the air"

who are outside, all things are done in parables,
12 that ‘seeing they may see and not perceive, and hearing they may hear and not understand, lest perhaps they should turn again, and their sins should be forgiven them.’ ”*
13 He said to them, “Don’t you understand this parable? How will you understand all of the parables?
14 The farmer sows the word.
15 The ones by the road are the ones where the word is sown; and when they have heard, immediately Satan comes and takes away the word which has been sown in them.
16 These in the same way are those who are sown on the rocky places, who, when they have heard the word, immediately receive it with joy.
17 They have no root in themselves, but are short-lived. When oppression or persecution arises because of the word, immediately they stumble.
18 Others are those who are sown among the thorns. These are those who have heard the word,
19 and the cares of this age, and the deceitfulness of riches, and the lusts of other things entering in choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful.
20 Those which were sown on the good ground are those who hear the word, accept it, and bear fruit, some thirty times, some sixty times, and some one hundred times.”
21 He said to them, “Is a lamp brought to be put under a basket ‡ or under a bed? Isn’t it put on a stand?
22 For there is nothing hidden except that it should be made known, neither was anything made secret but that it should come to light.
23 If any man has ears to hear, let him hear.”
24 He said to them, “Take heed what you hear. With whatever measure you measure, it will be measured to you; and more will be given to you who hear.
25 For whoever has, to him more will be given; and he who doesn’t have, even that which he has will be taken away from him.”
26 He said, “God’s Kingdom is as if a man should cast seed on the earth,
27 and should sleep and rise night and day, and the seed should spring up and grow, though he doesn’t know how.
28 For the earth bears fruit by itself: first the blade, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear.
29 But when the fruit is ripe, immediately he puts in the sickle, because the harvest has come.”
30 He said, “How will we liken God’s Kingdom? Or with what parable will we illustrate it?
31 It’s like a grain of mustard seed, which, when it is sown in the earth, though it is less than all the seeds that are on the earth,
32 yet when it is sown, grows up and becomes greater than all the herbs, and puts out great branches, so that the birds of the sky can lodge under its shadow.”
33 With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it.
34 Without a parable he didn’t speak to them; but privately to his own disciples he explained everything.
35 On that day, when evening had come, he said to them, “Let’s go over to the other side.”
36 Leaving the multitude, they took him with them, even as he was, in the boat. Other small boats were also with him.
37 A big wind storm arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so much that the boat was already filled.
38 He himself was in the stern, asleep on the cushion; and they woke him up and asked him, “Teacher, don’t you care that we are dying?”
39 He awoke and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, “Peace! Be still!” The wind ceased and there was a great calm.
40 He said to them, “Why are you so afraid? How is it that you have no faith?”

* **4:12** Isaiah 6:9-10 ‡ **4:21** literally, a modion, a dry measuring basket containing about a peck (about 9 liters)

41 They were greatly afraid and said to
one another, “Who then is this, that even
the wind and the sea obey him?”

5

1 They came to the other side of the sea,
into the country of the Gadarenes.
2 When he had come out of the boat,
immediately a man with an unclean spirit
met him out of the tombs.
3 He lived in the tombs. Nobody could
bind him any more, not even with chains,
4 because he had been often bound with
fetters and chains, and the chains had
been torn apart by him, and the fetters
broken in pieces. Nobody had the
strength to tame him.
5 Always, night and day, in the tombs
and in the mountains, he was crying out,
and cutting himself with stones.
6 When he saw Jesus from afar, he ran
and bowed down to him,
7 and crying out with a loud voice, he
said, “What have I to do with you, Jesus,
you Son of the Most High God? I adjure
you by God, don’t torment me.”
8 For he said to him, “Come out of the
man, you unclean spirit!”
9 He asked him, “What is your name?”
He said to him, “My name is Legion, for
we are many.”
10 He begged him much that he would
not send them away out of the country.
11 Now on the mountainside there was a
great herd of pigs feeding.
12 All the demons begged him, saying,
“Send us into the pigs, that we may enter
into them.”
13 At once Jesus gave them permission.
The unclean spirits came out and entered
into the pigs. The herd of about two
thousand rushed down the steep bank
into the sea, and they were drowned in
the sea.
14 Those who fed the pigs fled, and told
it in the city and in the country.
The people came to see what it was that
had happened.
15 They came to Jesus, and saw him who
had been possessed by demons sitting,
clothed, and in his right mind, even him
who had the legion; and they were afraid.
16 Those who saw it declared to them
what happened to him who was
possessed by demons, and about the pigs.
17 They began to beg him to depart from
their region.
18 As he was entering into the boat, he
who had been possessed by demons
begged him that he might be with him.
19 He didn’t allow him, but said to him,
“Go to your house, to your friends, and tell
them what great things the Lord has done
for you and how he had mercy on you.”
20 He went his way, and began to
proclaim in Decapolis how Jesus had done
great things for him, and everyone
marveled.
21 When Jesus had crossed back over in
the boat to the other side, a great
multitude was gathered to him; and he
was by the sea.
22 Behold, one of the rulers of the
synagogue, Jairus by name, came; and
seeing him, he fell at his feet
23 and begged him much, saying, “My
little daughter is at the point of death.
Please come and lay your hands on her,
that she may be made healthy, and live.”
24 He went with him, and a great
multitude followed him, and they pressed
upon him on all sides.
25 A certain woman who had a
discharge of blood for twelve years,
26 and had suffered many things by
many physicians, and had spent all that
she had, and was no better, but rather
grew worse,
27 having heard the things concerning
Jesus, came up behind him in the crowd
and touched his clothes.
28 For she said, “If I just touch his
clothes, I will be made well.”
29 Immediately the flow of her blood
was dried up, and she felt in her body that
she was healed of her affliction.
30 Immediately Jesus, perceiving in
himself that the power had gone out from
him, turned around in the crowd and
asked, “Who touched my clothes?”
31 His disciples said to him, “You see the
multitude pressing against you, and you
say, ‘Who touched me?’ ”

32 He looked around to see her who had
done this thing.
33 But the woman, fearing and
trembling, knowing what had been done
to her, came and fell down before him,
and told him all the truth.
34 He said to her, "Daughter, your faith
has made you well. Go in peace, and be
cured of your disease."
35 While he was still speaking, people
came from the synagogue ruler's house,
saying, "Your daughter is dead. Why
bother the Teacher any more?"
36 But Jesus, when he heard the message
spoken, immediately said to the ruler of
the synagogue, "Don't be afraid, only
believe."
37 He allowed no one to follow him
except Peter, James, and John the brother
of James.
38 He came to the synagogue ruler's
house, and he saw an uproar, weeping,
and great wailing.
39 When he had entered in, he said to
them, "Why do you make an uproar and
weep? The child is not dead, but is asleep."
40 They ridiculed him. But he, having
put them all out, took the father of the
child, her mother, and those who were
with him, and went in where the child
was lying.
41 Taking the child by the hand, he said
to her, "Talitha cumi!" which means,
being interpreted, "Girl, I tell you, get up!"
42 Immediately the girl rose up and
walked, for she was twelve years old.
They were amazed with great
amazement.
43 He strictly ordered them that no one
should know this, and commanded that
something should be given to her to eat.

6

1 He went out from there. He came into
his own country, and his disciples
followed him.
2 When the Sabbath had come, he began
to teach in the synagogue, and many
hearing him were astonished, saying,
"Where did this man get these things?"
and, "What is the wisdom that is given to
this man, that such mighty works come
about by his hands?
3 Isn't this the carpenter, the son of
Mary and brother of James, Joses, Judah,
and Simon? Aren't his sisters here with
us?" So they were offended at him.
4 Jesus said to them, "A prophet is not
without honor, except in his own country,
and among his own relatives, and in his
own house."
5 He could do no mighty work there,
except that he laid his hands on a few sick
people and healed them.
6 He marveled because of their unbelief.
He went around the villages teaching.
7 He called to himself the twelve, and
began to send them out two by two; and
he gave them authority over the unclean
spirits.
8 He commanded them that they should
take nothing for their journey, except a
staff only: no bread, no wallet, no money
in their purse,
9 but to wear sandals, and not put on
two tunics.
10 He said to them, "Wherever you enter
into a house, stay there until you depart
from there.
11 Whoever will not receive you nor
hear you, as you depart from there, shake
off the dust that is under your feet for a
testimony against them. Assuredly, I tell
you, it will be more tolerable for Sodom
and Gomorrah in the day of judgment
than for that city!"
12 They went out and preached that
people should repent.
13 They cast out many demons, and
anointed many with oil who were sick
and healed them.
14 King Herod heard this, for his name
had become known, and he said, "John
the Baptizer has risen from the dead, and
therefore these powers are at work in
him."
15 But others said, "He is Elijah." Others
said, "He is a prophet, or like one of the
prophets."
16 But Herod, when he heard this, said,
"This is John, whom I beheaded. He has
risen from the dead."

17 For Herod himself had sent out and
arrested John and bound him in prison
for the sake of Herodias, his brother
Philip's wife, for he had married her.
18 For John had said to Herod, "It is not
lawful for you to have your brother's
wife."
19 Herodias set herself against him and
desired to kill him, but she couldn't,
20 for Herod feared John, knowing that
he was a righteous and holy man, and
kept him safe. When he heard him, he did
many things, and he heard him gladly.
21 Then a convenient day came when
Herod on his birthday made a supper for
his nobles, the high officers, and the chief
men of Galilee.
22 When the daughter of Herodias
herself came in and danced, she pleased
Herod and those sitting with him. The
king said to the young lady, "Ask me
whatever you want, and I will give it to
you."
23 He swore to her, "Whatever you ask
of me, I will give you, up to half of my
kingdom."
24 She went out and said to her mother,
"What shall I ask?"
She said, "The head of John the
Baptizer."
25 She came in immediately with haste
to the king and requested, "I want you to
give me right now the head of John the
Baptizer on a platter."
26 The king was exceedingly sorry, but
for the sake of his oaths and of his dinner
guests, he didn't wish to refuse her.
27 Immediately the king sent out a
soldier of his guard and commanded to
bring John's head; and he went and
beheaded him in the prison,
28 and brought his head on a platter,
and gave it to the young lady; and the
young lady gave it to her mother.
29 When his disciples heard this, they
came and took up his corpse and laid it in
a tomb.
30 The apostles gathered themselves
together to Jesus, and they told him all
things, whatever they had done, and
whatever they had taught.
31 He said to them, "Come away into a
deserted place, and rest awhile." For
there were many coming and going, and
they had no leisure so much as to eat.
32 They went away in the boat to a
deserted place by themselves.
33 They† saw them going, and many
recognized him and ran there on foot
from all the cities. They arrived before
them and came together to him.
34 Jesus came out, saw a great multitude,
and he had compassion on them because
they were like sheep without a shepherd;
and he began to teach them many things.
35 When it was late in the day, his
disciples came to him and said, "This
place is deserted, and it is late in the day.
36 Send them away, that they may go
into the surrounding country and villages
and buy themselves bread, for they have
nothing to eat."
37 But he answered them, "You give
them something to eat."
They asked him, "Shall we go and buy
two hundred denarii‡ worth of bread and
give them something to eat?"
38 He said to them, "How many loaves
do you have? Go see."
When they knew, they said, "Five, and
two fish."
39 He commanded them that everyone
should sit down in groups on the green
grass.
40 They sat down in ranks, by hundreds
and by fifties.
41 He took the five loaves and the two
fish; and looking up to heaven, he blessed
and broke the loaves, and he gave to his
disciples to set before them, and he
divided the two fish among them all.
42 They all ate and were filled.
43 They took up twelve baskets full of
broken pieces and also of the fish.
44 Those who ate the loaves were§ five
thousand men.
45 Immediately he made his disciples get
into the boat and go ahead to the other

† **6:33** TR reads "The multitudes" instead of "They"

‡ **6:37** 200 denarii was about 7 or 8 months wages for an agricultural laborer.

§ **6:44** TR adds "about"

side, to Bethsaida, while he himself sent the multitude away.
46 After he had taken leave of them, he went up the mountain to pray.
47 When evening had come, the boat was in the middle of the sea, and he was alone on the land.
48 Seeing them distressed in rowing, for the wind was contrary to them, about the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea;* and he would have passed by them,
49 but they, when they saw him walking on the sea, supposed that it was a ghost, and cried out;
50 for they all saw him and were troubled. But he immediately spoke with them and said to them, "Cheer up! It is I!† Don't be afraid."
51 He got into the boat with them; and the wind ceased, and they were very amazed among themselves, and marveled;
52 for they hadn't understood about the loaves, but their hearts were hardened.
53 When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret and moored to the shore.
54 When they had come out of the boat, immediately the people recognized him,
55 and ran around that whole region, and began to bring those who were sick on their mats to where they heard he was.
56 Wherever he entered—into villages, or into cities, or into the country—they laid the sick in the marketplaces and begged him that they might just touch the fringe‡ of his garment; and as many as touched him were made well.

7

1 Then the Pharisees and some of the scribes gathered together to him, having come from Jerusalem.
2 Now when they saw some of his disciples eating bread with defiled, that is unwashed, hands, they found fault.
3 (For the Pharisees and all the Jews don't eat unless they wash their hands and forearms, holding to the tradition of the elders.
4 They don't eat when they come from the marketplace unless they bathe themselves, and there are many other things which they have received to hold to: washings of cups, pitchers, bronze vessels, and couches.)
5 The Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why don't your disciples walk according to the tradition of the elders, but eat their bread with unwashed hands?"
6 He answered them, "Well did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written,

'This people honors me with their lips,
but their heart is far from me.
7 They worship me in vain,
teaching as doctrines the
commandments of men.'*

8 "For you set aside the commandment of God, and hold tightly to the tradition of men—the washing of pitchers and cups, and you do many other such things."
9 He said to them, "Full well do you reject the commandment of God, that you may keep your tradition.
10 For Moses said, 'Honor your father and your mother;'* and, 'He who speaks evil of father or mother, let him be put to death.'*
11 But you say, 'If a man tells his father or his mother, "Whatever profit you might have received from me is Corban," ' "† that is to say, given to God,
12 "then you no longer allow him to do anything for his father or his mother,
13 making void the word of God by your tradition which you have handed down. You do many things like this."
14 He called all the multitude to himself and said to them, "Hear me, all of you, and understand.
15 There is nothing from outside of the man that going into him can defile him; but the things which proceed out of the man are those that defile the man.

* **6:48** See Job 9:8 † **6:50** or, "I AM!" ‡ **6:56** or, tassel * **7:7** Isaiah 29:13 * **7:10** Exodus 20:12; Deuteronomy 5:16 * **7:10** Exodus 21:17; Leviticus 20:9 † **7:11** Corban is a Hebrew word for an offering devoted to God. ‡ **7:16** NU omits verse 16.

16 If anyone has ears to hear, let him hear!”‡
17 When he had entered into a house away from the multitude, his disciples asked him about the parable.
18 He said to them, “Are you also without understanding? Don’t you perceive that whatever goes into the man from outside can’t defile him,
19 because it doesn’t go into his heart, but into his stomach, then into the latrine, making all foods clean?”§
20 He said, “That which proceeds out of the man, that defiles the man.
21 For from within, out of the hearts of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, sexual sins, murders, thefts,
22 covetings, wickedness, deceit, lustful desires, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, and foolishness.
23 All these evil things come from within and defile the man.”
24 From there he arose and went away into the borders of Tyre and Sidon. He entered into a house and didn’t want anyone to know it, but he couldn’t escape notice.
25 For a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit, having heard of him, came and fell down at his feet.
26 Now the woman was a Greek, a Syrophoenician by race. She begged him that he would cast the demon out of her daughter.
27 But Jesus said to her, “Let the children be filled first, for it is not appropriate to take the children’s bread and throw it to the dogs.”
28 But she answered him, “Yes, Lord. Yet even the dogs under the table eat the children’s crumbs.”
29 He said to her, “For this saying, go your way. The demon has gone out of your daughter.”
30 She went away to her house, and found the child having been laid on the bed, with the demon gone out.
31 Again he departed from the borders of Tyre and Sidon, and came to the sea of Galilee through the middle of the region of Decapolis.
32 They brought to him one who was deaf and had an impediment in his speech. They begged him to lay his hand on him.
33 He took him aside from the multitude privately and put his fingers into his ears; and he spat and touched his tongue.
34 Looking up to heaven, he sighed, and said to him, “Ephphatha!” that is, “Be opened!”
35 Immediately his ears were opened, and the impediment of his tongue was released, and he spoke clearly.
36 He commanded them that they should tell no one, but the more he commanded them, so much the more widely they proclaimed it.
37 They were astonished beyond measure, saying, “He has done all things well. He makes even the deaf hear and the mute speak!”

8

1 In those days, when there was a very great multitude, and they had nothing to eat, Jesus called his disciples to himself and said to them,
2 “I have compassion on the multitude, because they have stayed with me now three days and have nothing to eat.
3 If I send them away fasting to their home, they will faint on the way, for some of them have come a long way.”
4 His disciples answered him, “From where could one satisfy these people with bread here in a deserted place?”
5 He asked them, “How many loaves do you have?”
They said, “Seven.”
6 He commanded the multitude to sit down on the ground, and he took the seven loaves. Having given thanks, he broke them and gave them to his disciples to serve, and they served the multitude.
7 They also had a few small fish. Having blessed them, he said to serve these also.

§ **7:19** NU ends Jesus’ direct quote and question after “latrine”, ending the verse with “Thus he declared all foods clean.

8 They ate and were filled. They took up
seven baskets of broken pieces that were
left over.
9 Those who had eaten were about four
thousand. Then he sent them away.
10 Immediately he entered into the boat
with his disciples and came into the
region of Dalmanutha.
11 The Pharisees came out and began to
question him, seeking from him a sign
from heaven and testing him.
12 He sighed deeply in his spirit and
said, "Why does this generation† seek a
sign? Most certainly I tell you, no sign will
be given to this generation."
13 He left them, and again entering into
the boat, departed to the other side.
14 They forgot to take bread; and they
didn't have more than one loaf in the boat
with them.
15 He warned them, saying, "Take heed:
beware of the yeast of the Pharisees and
the yeast of Herod."
16 They reasoned with one another,
saying, "It's because we have no bread."
17 Jesus, perceiving it, said to them,
"Why do you reason that it's because you
have no bread? Don't you perceive yet or
understand? Is your heart still hardened?
18 Having eyes, don't you see? Having
ears, don't you hear? Don't you
remember?
19 When I broke the five loaves among
the five thousand, how many baskets full
of broken pieces did you take up?"
They told him, "Twelve."
20 "When the seven loaves fed the four
thousand, how many baskets full of
broken pieces did you take up?"
They told him, "Seven."
21 He asked them, "Don't you
understand yet?"
22 He came to Bethsaida. They brought a
blind man to him and begged him to touch
him.
23 He took hold of the blind man by the
hand, and brought him out of the village.
When he had spat on his eyes, and laid his
hands on him, he asked him if he saw
anything.
24 He looked up, and said, "I see men,
but I see them like walking trees."
25 Then again he laid his hands on his
eyes. He looked intently, and was
restored, and saw everyone clearly.
26 He sent him away to his house,
saying, "Don't enter into the village, nor
tell anyone in the village."
27 Jesus went out, with his disciples, into
the villages of Caesarea Philippi. On the
way he asked his disciples, "Who do men
say that I am?"
28 They told him, "John the Baptizer, and
others say Elijah, but others, one of the
prophets."
29 He said to them, "But who do you say
that I am?"
Peter answered, "You are the Christ."
30 He commanded them that they
should tell no one about him.
31 He began to teach them that the Son
of Man must suffer many things, and be
rejected by the elders, the chief priests,
and the scribes, and be killed, and after
three days rise again.
32 He spoke to them openly. Peter took
him and began to rebuke him.
33 But he, turning around and seeing his
disciples, rebuked Peter, and said, "Get
behind me, Satan! For you have in mind
not the things of God, but the things of
men."
34 He called the multitude to himself
with his disciples and said to them,
"Whoever wants to come after me, let him
deny himself, and take up his cross, and
follow me.
35 For whoever wants to save his life
will lose it; and whoever will lose his life
for my sake and the sake of the Good
News will save it.
36 For what does it profit a man to gain
the whole world and forfeit his life?
37 For what will a man give in exchange
for his life?
38 For whoever will be ashamed of me
and of my words in this adulterous and
sinful generation, the Son of Man also will
be ashamed of him when he comes in his
Father's glory with the holy angels."

† **8:12** The word translated "generation" here (genea) could also be translated "people", "race", or "family".

9

1 He said to them, "Most certainly I tell you, there are some standing here who will in no way taste death until they see God's Kingdom come with power."

2 After six days Jesus took with him Peter, James, and John, and brought them up onto a high mountain privately by themselves, and he was changed into another form in front of them.
3 His clothing became glistening, exceedingly white, like snow, such as no launderer on earth can whiten them.
4 Elijah and Moses appeared to them, and they were talking with Jesus.

5 Peter answered Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here. Let's make three tents: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah."
6 For he didn't know what to say, for they were very afraid.

7 A cloud came, overshadowing them, and a voice came out of the cloud, "This is my beloved Son. Listen to him."

8 Suddenly looking around, they saw no one with them any more, except Jesus only.

9 As they were coming down from the mountain, he commanded them that they should tell no one what things they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.
10 They kept this saying to themselves, questioning what the "rising from the dead" meant.

11 They asked him, saying, "Why do the scribes say that Elijah must come first?"

12 He said to them, "Elijah indeed comes first, and restores all things. How is it written about the Son of Man, that he should suffer many things and be despised?
13 But I tell you that Elijah has come, and they have also done to him whatever they wanted to, even as it is written about him."

14 Coming to the disciples, he saw a great multitude around them, and scribes questioning them.
15 Immediately all the multitude, when they saw him, were greatly amazed, and running to him, greeted him.
16 He asked the scribes, "What are you asking them?"
17 One of the multitude answered, "Teacher, I brought to you my son, who has a mute spirit;
18 and wherever it seizes him, it throws him down; and he foams at the mouth, grinds his teeth, and becomes rigid. I asked your disciples to cast it out, and they weren't able."
19 He answered him, "Unbelieving generation, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I bear with you? Bring him to me."
20 They brought him to him, and when he saw him, immediately the spirit convulsed him and he fell on the ground, wallowing and foaming at the mouth.
21 He asked his father, "How long has it been since this has been happening to him?"
He said, "From childhood.
22 Often it has cast him both into the fire and into the water to destroy him. But if you can do anything, have compassion on us and help us."
23 Jesus said to him, "If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes."
24 Immediately the father of the child cried out with tears, "I believe. Help my unbelief!"
25 When Jesus saw that a multitude came running together, he rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to him, "You mute and deaf spirit, I command you, come out of him, and never enter him again!"
26 After crying out and convulsing him greatly, it came out of him. The boy became like one dead, so much that most of them said, "He is dead."
27 But Jesus took him by the hand and raised him up; and he arose.
28 When he had come into the house, his disciples asked him privately, "Why couldn't we cast it out?"
29 He said to them, "This kind can come out by nothing but by prayer and fasting."

30 They went out from there and passed
through Galilee. He didn't want anyone to
know it,
31 for he was teaching his disciples, and
said to them, "The Son of Man is being
handed over to the hands of men, and
they will kill him; and when he is killed,
on the third day he will rise again."
32 But they didn't understand the
saying, and were afraid to ask him.
33 He came to Capernaum, and when he
was in the house he asked them, "What
were you arguing among yourselves on
the way?"
34 But they were silent, for they had
disputed with one another on the way
about who was the greatest.
35 He sat down and called the twelve;
and he said to them, "If any man wants to
be first, he shall be last of all, and servant
of all."
36 He took a little child and set him in
the middle of them. Taking him in his
arms, he said to them,
37 "Whoever receives one such little
child in my name receives me; and
whoever receives me, doesn't receive me,
but him who sent me."
38 John said to him, "Teacher, we saw
someone who doesn't follow us casting
out demons in your name; and we forbade
him, because he doesn't follow us."
39 But Jesus said, "Don't forbid him, for
there is no one who will do a mighty work
in my name and be able quickly to speak
evil of me.
40 For whoever is not against us is on
our side.
41 For whoever will give you a cup of
water to drink in my name because you
are Christ's, most certainly I tell you, he
will in no way lose his reward.
42 "Whoever will cause one of these
little ones who believe in me to stumble, it
would be better for him if he were thrown
into the sea with a millstone hung around
his neck.
43 If your hand causes you to stumble,
cut it off. It is better for you to enter into
life maimed, rather than having your two
hands to go into Gehenna, † into the
unquenchable fire,
44 'where their worm doesn't die, and
the fire is not quenched.' *‡
45 If your foot causes you to stumble, cut
it off. It is better for you to enter into life
lame, rather than having your two feet to
be cast into Gehenna, § into the fire that
will never be quenched—
46 'where their worm doesn't die, and
the fire is not quenched.' †
47 If your eye causes you to stumble,
throw it out. It is better for you to enter
into God's Kingdom with one eye, rather
than having two eyes to be cast into the
Gehenna‡ of fire,
48 'where their worm doesn't die, and
the fire is not quenched.' *
49 For everyone will be salted with fire,
and every sacrifice will be seasoned with
salt.
50 Salt is good, but if the salt has lost its
saltiness, with what will you season it?
Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace
with one another."

10

1 He arose from there and came into the
borders of Judea and beyond the Jordan.
Multitudes came together to him again. As
he usually did, he was again teaching
them.
2 Pharisees came to him testing him,
and asked him, "Is it lawful for a man to
divorce his wife?"
3 He answered, "What did Moses
command you?"
4 They said, "Moses allowed a certificate
of divorce to be written, and to divorce
her."
5 But Jesus said to them, "For your
hardness of heart, he wrote you this
commandment.
6 But from the beginning of the creation,
God made them male and female.*
7 For this cause a man will leave his
father and mother, and will join to his
wife,
8 and the two will become one flesh,* so
that they are no longer two, but one flesh.

† **9:43** or, Hell * **9:44** Isaiah 66:24 ‡ **9:44** NU omits verse 44. § **9:45** or, Hell † **9:46** NU omits verse 46.
‡ **9:47** or, Hell * **9:48** Isaiah 66:24 * **10:6** Genesis 1:27 * **10:8** Genesis 2:24

9 What therefore God has joined
together, let no man separate."
10 In the house, his disciples asked him
again about the same matter.
11 He said to them, "Whoever divorces
his wife and marries another commits
adultery against her.
12 If a woman herself divorces her
husband and marries another, she
commits adultery."
13 They were bringing to him little
children, that he should touch them, but
the disciples rebuked those who were
bringing them.
14 But when Jesus saw it, he was moved
with indignation and said to them, "Allow
the little children to come to me! Don't
forbid them, for God's Kingdom belongs
to such as these.
15 Most certainly I tell you, whoever will
not receive God's Kingdom like a little
child, he will in no way enter into it."
16 He took them in his arms and blessed
them, laying his hands on them.
17 As he was going out into the way, one
ran to him, knelt before him, and asked
him, "Good Teacher, what shall I do that I
may inherit eternal life?"
18 Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me
good? No one is good except one—God.
19 You know the commandments: 'Do
not murder,' 'Do not commit adultery,' 'Do
not steal,' 'Do not give false testimony,' 'Do
not defraud,' 'Honor your father and
mother.' "*
20 He said to him, "Teacher, I have
observed all these things from my youth."
21 Jesus looking at him loved him, and
said to him, "One thing you lack. Go, sell
whatever you have and give to the poor,
and you will have treasure in heaven; and
come, follow me, taking up the cross."
22 But his face fell at that saying, and he
went away sorrowful, for he was one who
had great possessions.
23 Jesus looked around and said to his
disciples, "How difficult it is for those who
have riches to enter into God's Kingdom!"
24 The disciples were amazed at his
words. But Jesus answered again,
"Children, how hard it is for those who
trust in riches to enter into God's
Kingdom!
25 It is easier for a camel to go through a
needle's eye than for a rich man to enter
into God's Kingdom."
26 They were exceedingly astonished,
saying to him, "Then who can be saved?"
27 Jesus, looking at them, said, "With
men it is impossible, but not with God, for
all things are possible with God."
28 Peter began to tell him, "Behold, we
have left all and have followed you."
29 Jesus said, "Most certainly I tell you,
there is no one who has left house, or
brothers, or sisters, or father, or mother,
or wife, or children, or land, for my sake,
and for the sake of the Good News,
30 but he will receive one hundred times
more now in this time: houses, brothers,
sisters, mothers, children, and land, with
persecutions; and in the age to come
eternal life.
31 But many who are first will be last,
and the last first."
32 They were on the way, going up to
Jerusalem; and Jesus was going in front of
them, and they were amazed; and those
who followed were afraid. He again took
the twelve, and began to tell them the
things that were going to happen to him.
33 "Behold, we are going up to
Jerusalem. The Son of Man will be
delivered to the chief priests and the
scribes. They will condemn him to death,
and will deliver him to the Gentiles.
34 They will mock him, spit on him,
scourge him, and kill him. On the third
day he will rise again."
35 James and John, the sons of Zebedee,
came near to him, saying, "Teacher, we
want you to do for us whatever we will
ask."
36 He said to them, "What do you want
me to do for you?"
37 They said to him, "Grant to us that we
may sit, one at your right hand and one at
your left hand, in your glory."
38 But Jesus said to them, "You don't
know what you are asking. Are you able

* **10:19** Exodus 20:12-16; Deuteronomy 5:16-20

to drink the cup that I drink, and to be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?"

39 They said to him, "We are able."

Jesus said to them, "You shall indeed drink the cup that I drink, and you shall be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with;

40 but to sit at my right hand and at my left hand is not mine to give, but for whom it has been prepared."

41 When the ten heard it, they began to be indignant toward James and John.

42 Jesus summoned them and said to them, "You know that they who are recognized as rulers over the nations lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them.

43 But it shall not be so among you, but whoever wants to become great among you shall be your servant.

44 Whoever of you wants to become first among you shall be bondservant of all.

45 For the Son of Man also came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

46 They came to Jericho. As he went out from Jericho with his disciples and a great multitude, the son of Timaeus, Bartimaeus, a blind beggar, was sitting by the road.

47 When he heard that it was Jesus the Nazarene, he began to cry out and say, "Jesus, you son of David, have mercy on me!"

48 Many rebuked him, that he should be quiet, but he cried out much more, "You son of David, have mercy on me!"

49 Jesus stood still and said, "Call him."

They called the blind man, saying to him, "Cheer up! Get up. He is calling you!"

50 He, casting away his cloak, sprang up, and came to Jesus.

51 Jesus asked him, "What do you want me to do for you?"

The blind man said to him, "Rabboni,† that I may see again."

52 Jesus said to him, "Go your way. Your faith has made you well." Immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus on the way.

11

1 When they came near to Jerusalem, to Bethsphage† and Bethany, at the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples

2 and said to them, "Go your way into the village that is opposite you. Immediately as you enter into it, you will find a young donkey tied, on which no one has sat. Untie him and bring him.

3 If anyone asks you, 'Why are you doing this?' say, 'The Lord needs him;' and immediately he will send him back here."

4 They went away, and found a young donkey tied at the door outside in the open street, and they untied him.

5 Some of those who stood there asked them, "What are you doing, untying the young donkey?"

6 They said to them just as Jesus had said, and they let them go.

7 They brought the young donkey to Jesus and threw their garments on it, and Jesus sat on it.

8 Many spread their garments on the way, and others were cutting down branches from the trees and spreading them on the road.

9 Those who went in front and those who followed cried out, "Hosanna!‡ Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!*

10 Blessed is the kingdom of our father David that is coming in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!"

11 Jesus entered into the temple in Jerusalem. When he had looked around at everything, it being now evening, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

12 The next day, when they had come out from Bethany, he was hungry.

13 Seeing a fig tree afar off having leaves, he came to see if perhaps he might find anything on it. When he came to it, he

† **10:51** Rabboni is a transliteration of the Aramaic word for "great teacher." † **11:1** TR & NU read "Bethphage" instead of "Bethsphage" ‡ **11:9** "Hosanna" means "save us" or "help us, we pray". * **11:9** Psalms 118:25-26

found nothing but leaves, for it was not
the season for figs.
14 Jesus told it, "May no one ever eat
fruit from you again!" and his disciples
heard it.
15 They came to Jerusalem, and Jesus
entered into the temple and began to
throw out those who sold and those who
bought in the temple, and overthrew the
money changers' tables and the seats of
those who sold the doves.
16 He would not allow anyone to carry a
container through the temple.
17 He taught, saying to them, "Isn't it
written, 'My house will be called a house
of prayer for all the nations'?* But you
have made it a den of robbers!"*
18 The chief priests and the scribes
heard it, and sought how they might
destroy him. For they feared him, because
all the multitude was astonished at his
teaching.
19 When evening came, he went out of
the city.
20 As they passed by in the morning,
they saw the fig tree withered away from
the roots.
21 Peter, remembering, said to him,
"Rabbi, look! The fig tree which you
cursed has withered away."
22 Jesus answered them, "Have faith in
God.
23 For most certainly I tell you, whoever
may tell this mountain, 'Be taken up and
cast into the sea,' and doesn't doubt in his
heart, but believes that what he says is
happening, he shall have whatever he
says.
24 Therefore I tell you, all things
whatever you pray and ask for, believe
that you have received them, and you
shall have them.
25 Whenever you stand praying, forgive,
if you have anything against anyone; so
that your Father, who is in heaven, may
also forgive you your transgressions.
26 But if you do not forgive, neither will
your Father in heaven forgive your
transgressions."§
27 They came again to Jerusalem, and as
he was walking in the temple, the chief
priests, the scribes, and the elders came to
him,
28 and they began saying to him, "By
what authority do you do these things? Or
who gave you this authority to do these
things?"
29 Jesus said to them, "I will ask you one
question. Answer me, and I will tell you
by what authority I do these things.
30 The baptism of John—was it from
heaven, or from men? Answer me."
31 They reasoned with themselves,
saying, "If we should say, 'From heaven;'
he will say, 'Why then did you not believe
him?'
32 If we should say, 'From men' "—they
feared the people, for all held John to
really be a prophet.
33 They answered Jesus, "We don't
know."
Jesus said to them, "Neither will I tell
you by what authority I do these things."

12

1 He began to speak to them in parables.
"A man planted a vineyard, put a hedge
around it, dug a pit for the wine press,
built a tower, rented it out to a farmer,
and went into another country.
2 When it was time, he sent a servant to
the farmer to get from the farmer his
share of the fruit of the vineyard.
3 They took him, beat him, and sent him
away empty.
4 Again, he sent another servant to
them; and they threw stones at him,
wounded him in the head, and sent him
away shamefully treated.
5 Again he sent another, and they killed
him, and many others, beating some, and
killing some.
6 Therefore still having one, his beloved
son, he sent him last to them, saying, 'They
will respect my son.'
7 But those farmers said among
themselves, 'This is the heir. Come, let's
kill him, and the inheritance will be ours.'

* **11:17** Isaiah 56:7 * **11:17** Jeremiah 7:11 § **11:26** NU omits verse 26.

8 They took him, killed him, and cast
him out of the vineyard.
9 What therefore will the lord of the
vineyard do? He will come and destroy
the farmers, and will give the vineyard to
others.
10 Haven't you even read this Scripture:
'The stone which the builders rejected
was made the head of the corner.
11 This was from the Lord.
It is marvelous in our eyes'?"*
12 They tried to seize him, but they feared the multitude; for they perceived that he spoke the parable against them. They left him and went away.
13 They sent some of the Pharisees and the Herodians to him, that they might trap him with words.
14 When they had come, they asked him, "Teacher, we know that you are honest, and don't defer to anyone; for you aren't partial to anyone, but truly teach the way of God. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?
15 Shall we give, or shall we not give?"

But he, knowing their hypocrisy, said to them, "Why do you test me? Bring me a denarius, that I may see it."

16 They brought it.

He said to them, "Whose is this image and inscription?"

They said to him, "Caesar's."

17 Jesus answered them, "Give to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's."

They marveled greatly at him.

18 Some Sadducees, who say that there is no resurrection, came to him. They asked him, saying,
19 "Teacher, Moses wrote to us, 'If a man's brother dies and leaves a wife behind him, and leaves no children, that his brother should take his wife and raise up offspring for his brother.'
20 There were seven brothers. The first took a wife, and dying left no offspring.
21 The second took her, and died, leaving no children behind him. The third likewise;
22 and the seven took her and left no children. Last of all the woman also died.
23 In the resurrection, when they rise, whose wife will she be of them? For the seven had her as a wife."

24 Jesus answered them, "Isn't this because you are mistaken, not knowing the Scriptures nor the power of God?
25 For when they will rise from the dead, they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels in heaven.
26 But about the dead, that they are raised, haven't you read in the book of Moses about the Bush, how God spoke to him, saying, 'I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob'?*
27 He is not the God of the dead, but of the living. You are therefore badly mistaken."

28 One of the scribes came and heard them questioning together, and knowing that he had answered them well, asked him, "Which commandment is the greatest of all?"

29 Jesus answered, "The greatest is:
'Hear, Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is
one.
30 You shall love the Lord your God with
all your heart, with all your soul, with all
your mind, and with all your strength.'*
This is the first commandment.
31 The second is like this: 'You shall love
your neighbor as yourself.'* There is no
other commandment greater than these."

32 The scribe said to him, "Truly, teacher, you have said well that he is one, and there is none other but he;
33 and to love him with all the heart, with all the understanding, all the soul, and with all the strength, and to love his neighbor as himself, is more important than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices."

34 When Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, "You are not far from God's Kingdom."

No one dared ask him any question after that.

* **12:11** Psalms 118:22-23 * **12:26** Exodus 3:6 * **12:30** Deuteronomy 6:4-5 * **12:31** Leviticus 19:18

35 Jesus responded, as he taught in the
temple, "How is it that the scribes say that
the Christ is the son of David?
36 For David himself said in the Holy
Spirit,
'The Lord said to my Lord,
"Sit at my right hand,
until I make your enemies the
footstool of your feet." '*
37 Therefore David himself calls him
Lord, so how can he be his son?"
The common people heard him gladly.
38 In his teaching he said to them,
"Beware of the scribes, who like to walk in
long robes, and to get greetings in the
marketplaces,
39 and to get the best seats in the
synagogues and the best places at feasts,
40 those who devour widows' houses,
and for a pretense make long prayers.
These will receive greater
condemnation."
41 Jesus sat down opposite the treasury
and saw how the multitude cast money
into the treasury. Many who were rich
cast in much.
42 A poor widow came and she cast in
two small brass coins,† which equal a
quadrans coin.‡
43 He called his disciples to himself and
said to them, "Most certainly I tell you,
this poor widow gave more than all those
who are giving into the treasury,
44 for they all gave out of their
abundance, but she, out of her poverty,
gave all that she had to live on."

13

1 As he went out of the temple, one of his
disciples said to him, "Teacher, see what
kind of stones and what kind of
buildings!"
2 Jesus said to him, "Do you see these
great buildings? There will not be left
here one stone on another, which will not
be thrown down."
3 As he sat on the Mount of Olives
opposite the temple, Peter, James, John,
and Andrew asked him privately,
4 "Tell us, when will these things be?
What is the sign that these things are all
about to be fulfilled?"
5 Jesus, answering, began to tell them,
"Be careful that no one leads you astray.
6 For many will come in my name,
saying, 'I am he!'† and will lead many
astray.
7 "When you hear of wars and rumors
of wars, don't be troubled. For those must
happen, but the end is not yet.
8 For nation will rise against nation, and
kingdom against kingdom. There will be
earthquakes in various places. There will
be famines and troubles. These things are
the beginning of birth pains.
9 "But watch yourselves, for they will
deliver you up to councils. You will be
beaten in synagogues. You will stand
before rulers and kings for my sake, for a
testimony to them.
10 The Good News must first be
preached to all the nations.
11 When they lead you away and deliver
you up, don't be anxious beforehand or
premeditate what you will say, but say
whatever will be given you in that hour.
For it is not you who speak, but the Holy
Spirit.
12 "Brother will deliver up brother to
death, and the father his child. Children
will rise up against parents and cause
them to be put to death.
13 You will be hated by all men for my
name's sake, but he who endures to the
end will be saved.
14 "But when you see the abomination
of desolation,* spoken of by Daniel the
prophet, standing where it ought not" (let
the reader understand), "then let those
who are in Judea flee to the mountains,
15 and let him who is on the housetop
not go down, nor enter in, to take
anything out of his house.

* **12:36** Psalms 110:1 † **12:42** literally, lepta (or widow's mites). Lepta are very small brass coins worth half a quadrans each, which is a quarter of the copper assarion. Lepta are worth less than 1% of an agricultural worker's daily wages. ‡ **12:42** A quadrans is a coin worth about 1/64 of a denarius. A denarius is about one day's wages for an agricultural laborer. † **13:6** or, "I AM!" * **13:14** Daniel 9:27; 11:31; 12:11

16 Let him who is in the field not return
back to take his cloak.
17 But woe to those who are with child
and to those who nurse babies in those
days!
18 Pray that your flight won't be in the
winter.
19 For in those days there will be
oppression, such as there has not been the
like from the beginning of the creation
which God created until now, and never
will be.
20 Unless the Lord had shortened the
days, no flesh would have been saved; but
for the sake of the chosen ones, whom he
picked out, he shortened the days.
21 Then if anyone tells you, 'Look, here is
the Christ!' or, 'Look, there!' don't believe
it.
22 For false christs and false prophets
will arise and will show signs and
wonders, that they may lead astray, if
possible, even the chosen ones.
23 But you watch.

"Behold, I have told you all things
beforehand.
24 But in those days, after that
oppression, the sun will be darkened, the
moon will not give its light,
25 the stars will be falling from the sky,
and the powers that are in the heavens
will be shaken.*
26 Then they will see the Son of Man
coming in clouds with great power and
glory.
27 Then he will send out his angels, and
will gather together his chosen ones from
the four winds, from the ends of the earth
to the ends of the sky.

28 "Now from the fig tree, learn this
parable. When the branch has now
become tender and produces its leaves,
you know that the summer is near;
29 even so you also, when you see these
things coming to pass, know that it is near,
at the doors.
30 Most certainly I say to you, this
generation‡ will not pass away until all
these things happen.
31 Heaven and earth will pass away, but
my words will not pass away.
32 "But of that day or that hour no one
knows—not even the angels in heaven,
nor the Son, but only the Father.
33 Watch, keep alert, and pray; for you
don't know when the time is.
34 "It is like a man traveling to another
country, having left his house and given
authority to his servants, and to each one
his work, and also commanded the
doorkeeper to keep watch.
35 Watch therefore, for you don't know
when the lord of the house is
coming—whether at evening, or at
midnight, or when the rooster crows, or
in the morning;
36 lest, coming suddenly, he might find
you sleeping.
37 What I tell you, I tell all: Watch!"

14

1 It was now two days before the
Passover and the Feast of Unleavened
Bread, and the chief priests and the
scribes sought how they might seize him
by deception and kill him.
2 For they said, "Not during the feast,
because there might be a riot among the
people."
3 While he was at Bethany, in the house
of Simon the leper, as he sat at the table, a
woman came having an alabaster jar of
ointment of pure nard—very costly. She
broke the jar and poured it over his head.
4 But there were some who were
indignant among themselves, saying,
"Why has this ointment been wasted?
5 For this might have been sold for more
than three hundred denarii† and given to
the poor." So they grumbled against her.
6 But Jesus said, "Leave her alone. Why
do you trouble her? She has done a good
work for me.
7 For you always have the poor with
you, and whenever you want to, you can
do them good; but you will not always
have me.

* **13:25** Isaiah 13:10; 34:4 ‡ **13:30** The word translated "generation" (genea) could also be translated "race", "family", or "people". † **14:5** 300 denarii was about a year's wages for an agricultural laborer.

8 She has done what she could. She has
anointed my body beforehand for the
burying.
9 Most certainly I tell you, wherever this
Good News may be preached throughout
the whole world, that which this woman
has done will also be spoken of for a
memorial of her."
10 Judas Iscariot, who was one of the
twelve, went away to the chief priests,
that he might deliver him to them.
11 They, when they heard it, were glad,
and promised to give him money. He
sought how he might conveniently deliver
him.
12 On the first day of unleavened bread,
when they sacrificed the Passover, his
disciples asked him, "Where do you want
us to go and prepare that you may eat the
Passover?"
13 He sent two of his disciples and said
to them, "Go into the city, and there a man
carrying a pitcher of water will meet you.
Follow him,
14 and wherever he enters in, tell the
master of the house, 'The Teacher says,
"Where is the guest room, where I may eat
the Passover with my disciples?" '
15 He will himself show you a large
upper room furnished and ready. Get
ready for us there."
16 His disciples went out, and came into
the city, and found things as he had said to
them, and they prepared the Passover.
17 When it was evening he came with
the twelve.
18 As they sat and were eating, Jesus
said, "Most certainly I tell you, one of you
will betray me—he who eats with me."
19 They began to be sorrowful, and to
ask him one by one, "Surely not I?" And
another said, "Surely not I?"
20 He answered them, "It is one of the
twelve, he who dips with me in the dish.
21 For the Son of Man goes as it is
written about him, but woe to that man by
whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It
would be better for that man if he had not
been born."
22 As they were eating, Jesus took bread,
and when he had blessed it, he broke it
and gave to them, and said, "Take, eat.
This is my body."
23 He took the cup, and when he had
given thanks, he gave to them. They all
drank of it.
24 He said to them, "This is my blood of
the new covenant, which is poured out for
many.
25 Most certainly I tell you, I will no
more drink of the fruit of the vine until
that day when I drink it anew in God's
Kingdom."
26 When they had sung a hymn, they
went out to the Mount of Olives.
27 Jesus said to them, "All of you will be
made to stumble because of me tonight,
for it is written, 'I will strike the shepherd,
and the sheep will be scattered.'*
28 However, after I am raised up, I will
go before you into Galilee."
29 But Peter said to him, "Although all
will be offended, yet I will not."
30 Jesus said to him, "Most certainly I tell
you that you today, even this night, before
the rooster crows twice, you will deny me
three times."
31 But he spoke all the more, "If I must
die with you, I will not deny you." They all
said the same thing.
32 They came to a place which was
named Gethsemane. He said to his
disciples, "Sit here while I pray."
33 He took with him Peter, James, and
John, and began to be greatly troubled
and distressed.
34 He said to them, "My soul is
exceedingly sorrowful, even to death.
Stay here and watch."
35 He went forward a little, and fell on
the ground, and prayed that if it were
possible, the hour might pass away from
him.
36 He said, "Abba,‡ Father, all things are
possible to you. Please remove this cup
from me. However, not what I desire, but
what you desire."

* **14:27** Zechariah 13:7 ‡ **14:36** Abba is a Greek spelling for the Aramaic word for "Father" or "Daddy" used in a familiar, respectful, and loving way.

37 He came and found them sleeping,
and said to Peter, "Simon, are you
sleeping? Couldn't you watch one hour?
38 Watch and pray, that you may not
enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is
willing, but the flesh is weak."
39 Again he went away and prayed,
saying the same words.
40 Again he returned and found them
sleeping, for their eyes were very heavy;
and they didn't know what to answer him.
41 He came the third time and said to
them, "Sleep on now, and take your rest. It
is enough. The hour has come. Behold, the
Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of
sinners.
42 Arise! Let's get going. Behold, he who
betrays me is at hand."
43 Immediately, while he was still
speaking, Judas, one of the twelve,
came—and with him a multitude with
swords and clubs, from the chief priests,
the scribes, and the elders.
44 Now he who betrayed him had given
them a sign, saying, "Whomever I will
kiss, that is he. Seize him, and lead him
away safely."
45 When he had come, immediately he
came to him and said, "Rabbi! Rabbi!"
and kissed him.
46 They laid their hands on him and
seized him.
47 But a certain one of those who stood
by drew his sword and struck the servant
of the high priest, and cut off his ear.
48 Jesus answered them, "Have you
come out, as against a robber, with
swords and clubs to seize me?
49 I was daily with you in the temple
teaching, and you didn't arrest me. But
this is so that the Scriptures might be
fulfilled."
50 They all left him, and fled.
51 A certain young man followed him,
having a linen cloth thrown around
himself over his naked body. The young
men grabbed him,
52 but he left the linen cloth and fled
from them naked.
53 They led Jesus away to the high priest.
All the chief priests, the elders, and the
scribes came together with him.
54 Peter had followed him from a
distance, until he came into the court of
the high priest. He was sitting with the
officers, and warming himself in the light
of the fire.
55 Now the chief priests and the whole
council sought witnesses against Jesus to
put him to death, and found none.
56 For many gave false testimony
against him, and their testimony didn't
agree with each other.
57 Some stood up and gave false
testimony against him, saying,
58 "We heard him say, 'I will destroy this
temple that is made with hands, and in
three days I will build another made
without hands.' "
59 Even so, their testimony didn't agree.
60 The high priest stood up in the
middle, and asked Jesus, "Have you no
answer? What is it which these testify
against you?"
61 But he stayed quiet, and answered
nothing. Again the high priest asked him,
"Are you the Christ, the Son of the
Blessed?"
62 Jesus said, "I am. You will see the Son
of Man sitting at the right hand of Power,
and coming with the clouds of the sky."
63 The high priest tore his clothes and
said, "What further need have we of
witnesses?
64 You have heard the blasphemy! What
do you think?" They all condemned him
to be worthy of death.
65 Some began to spit on him, and to
cover his face, and to beat him with fists,
and to tell him, "Prophesy!" The officers
struck him with the palms of their hands.
66 As Peter was in the courtyard below,
one of the maids of the high priest came,
67 and seeing Peter warming himself,
she looked at him and said, "You were also
with the Nazarene, Jesus!"
68 But he denied it, saying, "I neither
know nor understand what you are
saying." He went out on the porch, and
the rooster crowed.
69 The maid saw him and began again to
tell those who stood by, "This is one of
them."

70 But he again denied it. After a little
while again those who stood by said to
Peter, "You truly are one of them, for you
are a Galilean, and your speech shows it."
71 But he began to curse and to swear, "I
don't know this man of whom you speak!"
72 The rooster crowed the second time.
Peter remembered the words that Jesus
said to him, "Before the rooster crows
twice, you will deny me three times."
When he thought about that, he wept.

15

1 Immediately in the morning the chief
priests, with the elders, scribes, and the
whole council, held a consultation, bound
Jesus, carried him away, and delivered
him up to Pilate.
2 Pilate asked him, "Are you the King of
the Jews?"
He answered, "So you say."
3 The chief priests accused him of many
things.
4 Pilate again asked him, "Have you no
answer? See how many things they testify
against you!"
5 But Jesus made no further answer, so
that Pilate marveled.
6 Now at the feast he used to release to
them one prisoner, whomever they asked
of him.
7 There was one called Barabbas, bound
with his fellow insurgents, men who in
the insurrection had committed murder.
8 The multitude, crying aloud, began to
ask him to do as he always did for them.
9 Pilate answered them, saying, "Do you
want me to release to you the King of the
Jews?"
10 For he perceived that for envy the
chief priests had delivered him up.
11 But the chief priests stirred up the
multitude, that he should release
Barabbas to them instead.
12 Pilate again asked them, "What then
should I do to him whom you call the King
of the Jews?"
13 They cried out again, "Crucify him!"
14 Pilate said to them, "Why, what evil
has he done?"
But they cried out exceedingly, "Crucify
him!"
15 Pilate, wishing to please the
multitude, released Barabbas to them,
and handed over Jesus, when he had
flogged him, to be crucified.
16 The soldiers led him away within the
court, which is the Praetorium; and they
called together the whole cohort.
17 They clothed him with purple; and
weaving a crown of thorns, they put it on
him.
18 They began to salute him, "Hail, King
of the Jews!"
19 They struck his head with a reed and
spat on him, and bowing their knees, did
homage to him.
20 When they had mocked him, they
took the purple cloak off him, and put his
own garments on him. They led him out
to crucify him.
21 They compelled one passing by,
coming from the country, Simon of
Cyrene, the father of Alexander and
Rufus, to go with them that he might bear
his cross.
22 They brought him to the place called
Golgotha, which is, being interpreted,
"The place of a skull."
23 They offered him wine mixed with
myrrh to drink, but he didn't take it.
24 Crucifying him, they parted his
garments among them, casting lots on
them, what each should take.
25 It was the third hour† when they
crucified him.
26 The superscription of his accusation
was written over him: "THE KING OF THE
JEWS."
27 With him they crucified two robbers,
one on his right hand, and one on his left.
28 The Scripture was fulfilled which
says, "He was counted with
transgressors."‡
29 Those who passed by blasphemed
him, wagging their heads and saying, "Ha!
You who destroy the temple and build it in
three days,
30 save yourself, and come down from
the cross!"

† **15:25** 9:00 a.m. ‡ **15:28** NU omits verse 28.

31 Likewise, also the chief priests
mocking among themselves with the
scribes said, “He saved others. He can’t
save himself.
32 Let the Christ, the King of Israel, now
come down from the cross, that we may
see and believe him.”§ Those who were
crucified with him also insulted him.
33 When the sixth hour† had come, there
was darkness over the whole land until
the ninth hour.‡
34 At the ninth hour Jesus cried with a
loud voice, saying, “Eloi, Eloi, lama
sabachthani?” which is, being
interpreted, “My God, my God, why have
you forsaken me?” *
35 Some of those who stood by, when
they heard it, said, “Behold, he is calling
Elijah.”
36 One ran, and filling a sponge full of
vinegar, put it on a reed and gave it to him
to drink, saying, “Let him be. Let’s see
whether Elijah comes to take him down.”
37 Jesus cried out with a loud voice, and
gave up the spirit.
38 The veil of the temple was torn in two
from the top to the bottom.
39 When the centurion, who stood by
opposite him, saw that he cried out like
this and breathed his last, he said, “Truly
this man was the Son of God!”
40 There were also women watching
from afar, among whom were both Mary
Magdalene and Mary the mother of James
the less and of Joses, and Salome;
41 who, when he was in Galilee,
followed him and served him; and many
other women who came up with him to
Jerusalem.
42 When evening had now come,
because it was the Preparation Day, that
is, the day before the Sabbath,
43 Joseph of Arimathaea, a prominent
council member who also himself was
looking for God’s Kingdom, came. He
boldly went in to Pilate, and asked for
Jesus’ body.
44 Pilate was surprised to hear that he
was already dead; and summoning the
centurion, he asked him whether he had
been dead long.
45 When he found out from the
centurion, he granted the body to Joseph.
46 He bought a linen cloth, and taking
him down, wound him in the linen cloth
and laid him in a tomb which had been
cut out of a rock. He rolled a stone against
the door of the tomb.
47 Mary Magdalene and Mary the
mother of Joses, saw where he was laid.

16

1 When the Sabbath was past, Mary
Magdalene, and Mary the mother of
James, and Salome bought spices, that
they might come and anoint him.
2 Very early on the first day of the week,
they came to the tomb when the sun had
risen.
3 They were saying among themselves,
“Who will roll away the stone from the
door of the tomb for us?”
4 for it was very big. Looking up, they
saw that the stone was rolled back.
5 Entering into the tomb, they saw a
young man sitting on the right side,
dressed in a white robe; and they were
amazed.
6 He said to them, “Don’t be amazed.
You seek Jesus, the Nazarene, who has
been crucified. He has risen! He is not
here. See the place where they laid him!
7 But go, tell his disciples and Peter, ‘He
goes before you into Galilee. There you
will see him, as he said to you.’ ”
8 They went out,† and fled from the
tomb, for trembling and astonishment
had come on them. They said nothing to
anyone; for they were afraid.‡

§ **15:32** TR omits “him” † **15:33** or, noon ‡ **15:33** 3:00 p.m. * **15:34** Psalms 22:1 † **16:8** TR adds “quickly” ‡ **16:8** One isolated manuscript omits verses 9-20 but adds this “short ending of Mark” to the end of verse 8: *They told all that had been commanded them briefly to those around Peter. After that, Jesus himself sent them out, from east to west, with the sacred and imperishable proclamation of eternal salvation.* § **16:9** NU includes the text of verses 9-20, but mentions in a footnote that a few manuscripts omitted it. The translators of the World English Bible regard Mark 16:9-20 as reliable based on an overwhelming majority of textual evidence, including not only the authoritative Greek Majority Text New Testament, but also the TR and many of the manuscripts cited in the NU text.

9 §Now when he had risen early on the
first day of the week, he appeared first to
Mary Magdalene, from whom he had cast
out seven demons.
10 She went and told those who had
been with him, as they mourned and
wept.
11 When they heard that he was alive
and had been seen by her, they
disbelieved.
12 After these things he was revealed in
another form to two of them as they
walked, on their way into the country.
13 They went away and told it to the rest.
They didn't believe them, either.
14 Afterward he was revealed to the
eleven themselves as they sat at the table;
and he rebuked them for their unbelief
and hardness of heart, because they
didn't believe those who had seen him
after he had risen.
15 He said to them, "Go into all the world
and preach the Good News to the whole
creation.
16 He who believes and is baptized will
be saved; but he who disbelieves will be
condemned.
17 These signs will accompany those
who believe: in my name they will cast
out demons; they will speak with new
languages;
18 they will take up serpents; and if they
drink any deadly thing, it will in no way
hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick,
and they will recover."
19 So then the Lord,† after he had spoken
to them, was received up into heaven and
sat down at the right hand of God.
20 They went out and preached
everywhere, the Lord working with them
and confirming the word by the signs that
followed. Amen.

† **16:19** NU adds "Jesus"

The Good News According to Luke

1 Since many have undertaken to set in
order a narrative concerning those
matters which have been fulfilled among
us,
2 even as those who from the beginning
were eyewitnesses and servants of the
word delivered them to us,
3 it seemed good to me also, having
traced the course of all things accurately
from the first, to write to you in order,
most excellent Theophilus;
4 that you might know the certainty
concerning the things in which you were
instructed.
5 There was in the days of Herod, the
king of Judea, a certain priest named
Zacharias, of the priestly division of
Abijah. He had a wife of the daughters of
Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth.
6 They were both righteous before God,
walking blamelessly in all the
commandments and ordinances of the
Lord.
7 But they had no child, because
Elizabeth was barren, and they both were
well advanced in years.
8 Now while he executed the priest's
office before God in the order of his
division
9 according to the custom of the priest's
office, his lot was to enter into the temple
of the Lord and burn incense.
10 The whole multitude of the people
were praying outside at the hour of
incense.
11 An angel of the Lord appeared to him,
standing on the right side of the altar of
incense.
12 Zacharias was troubled when he saw
him, and fear fell upon him.
13 But the angel said to him, "Don't be
afraid, Zacharias, because your request
has been heard. Your wife, Elizabeth, will
bear you a son, and you shall call his
name John.
14 You will have joy and gladness, and
many will rejoice at his birth.
15 For he will be great in the sight of the
Lord, and he will drink no wine nor
strong drink. He will be filled with the
Holy Spirit, even from his mother's womb.
16 He will turn many of the children of
Israel to the Lord their God.
17 He will go before him in the spirit and
power of Elijah, 'to turn the hearts of the
fathers to the children,'* and the
disobedient to the wisdom of the just; to
prepare a people prepared for the Lord."
18 Zacharias said to the angel, "How can
I be sure of this? For I am an old man, and
my wife is well advanced in years."
19 The angel answered him, "I am
Gabriel, who stands in the presence of
God. I was sent to speak to you and to
bring you this good news.
20 Behold,† you will be silent and not
able to speak until the day that these
things will happen, because you didn't
believe my words, which will be fulfilled
in their proper time."
21 The people were waiting for
Zacharias, and they marveled that he
delayed in the temple.
22 When he came out, he could not
speak to them. They perceived that he had
seen a vision in the temple. He continued
making signs to them, and remained
mute.
23 When the days of his service were
fulfilled, he departed to his house.
24 After these days Elizabeth his wife
conceived, and she hid herself five
months, saying,
25 "Thus has the Lord done to me in the
days in which he looked at me, to take
away my reproach among men."
26 Now in the sixth month, the angel
Gabriel was sent from God to a city of
Galilee named Nazareth,
27 to a virgin pledged to be married to a
man whose name was Joseph, of David's
house. The virgin's name was Mary.
28 Having come in, the angel said to her,
"Rejoice, you highly favored one! The

* **1:17** Malachi 4:6 † **1:20** "Behold", from "ἰδοὺ", means look at, take notice, observe, see, or gaze at. It is often used as an interjection.

Lord is with you. Blessed are you among
women!”
29 But when she saw him, she was
greatly troubled at the saying, and
considered what kind of salutation this
might be.
30 The angel said to her, “Don’t be afraid,
Mary, for you have found favor with God.
31 Behold, you will conceive in your
womb and give birth to a son, and shall
name him ‘Jesus.’
32 He will be great and will be called the
Son of the Most High. The Lord God will
give him the throne of his father David,
33 and he will reign over the house of
Jacob forever. There will be no end to his
Kingdom.”
34 Mary said to the angel, “How can this
be, seeing I am a virgin?”
35 The angel answered her, “The Holy
Spirit will come on you, and the power of
the Most High will overshadow you.
Therefore also the holy one who is born
from you will be called the Son of God.
36 Behold, Elizabeth your relative also
has conceived a son in her old age; and
this is the sixth month with her who was
called barren.
37 For nothing spoken by God is
impossible.”‡
38 Mary said, “Behold, the servant of the
Lord; let it be done to me according to
your word.”

Then the angel departed from her.

39 Mary arose in those days and went
into the hill country with haste, into a city
of Judah,
40 and entered into the house of
Zacharias and greeted Elizabeth.
41 When Elizabeth heard Mary’s
greeting, the baby leaped in her womb;
and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy
Spirit.
42 She called out with a loud voice and
said, “Blessed are you among women, and
blessed is the fruit of your womb!
43 Why am I so favored, that the mother
of my Lord should come to me?
44 For behold, when the voice of your
greeting came into my ears, the baby
leaped in my womb for joy!
45 Blessed is she who believed, for there
will be a fulfillment of the things which
have been spoken to her from the Lord!”
46 Mary said,
“My soul magnifies the Lord.
47 My spirit has rejoiced in God my
Savior,
48 for he has looked at the humble
state of his servant.
For behold, from now on, all generations
will call me blessed.
49 For he who is mighty has done
great things for me.
Holy is his name.
50 His mercy is for generations and
generations on those who fear him.
51 He has shown strength with his arm.
He has scattered the proud in the
imagination of their hearts.
52 He has put down princes from their
thrones,
and has exalted the lowly.
53 He has filled the hungry with good
things.
He has sent the rich away empty.
54 He has given help to Israel, his servant,
that he might remember mercy,
55 as he spoke to our fathers,
to Abraham and his offspring§
forever.”
56 Mary stayed with her about three
months, and then returned to her house.
57 Now the time that Elizabeth should
give birth was fulfilled, and she gave birth
to a son.
58 Her neighbors and her relatives
heard that the Lord had magnified his
mercy toward her, and they rejoiced with
her.
59 On the eighth day, they came to
circumcise the child; and they would have
called him Zacharias, after the name of
his father.
60 His mother answered, “Not so; but he
will be called John.”
61 They said to her, “There is no one
among your relatives who is called by this
name.”

‡ **1:37** or, “For everything spoken by God is possible.”

§ **1:55** or, seed

62 They made signs to his father, what
he would have him called.
63 He asked for a writing tablet, and
wrote, "His name is John."
They all marveled.
64 His mouth was opened immediately
and his tongue freed, and he spoke,
blessing God.
65 Fear came on all who lived around
them, and all these sayings were talked
about throughout all the hill country of
Judea.
66 All who heard them laid them up in
their heart, saying, "What then will this
child be?" The hand of the Lord was with
him.
67 His father Zacharias was filled with
the Holy Spirit, and prophesied, saying,
68 "Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel,
for he has visited and redeemed his
people;
69 and 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 who have been from
of old),
71 salvation from our enemies and
from the hand of all who hate us;
72 to show mercy toward our fathers,
to remember his holy covenant,
73 the oath which he swore to Abraham
our father,
74 to grant to us that we, being
delivered out of the hand of our
enemies,
should serve him without fear,
75 in holiness and righteousness
before him all the days of our life.
76 And you, child, will be called a prophet
of the Most High;
for you will go before the face of the
Lord to prepare his ways,
77 to give knowledge of salvation to
his people by the remission of their
sins,
78 because of the tender mercy of our God,
by which the dawn from on high will
visit us,
79 to shine on those who sit in
darkness and the shadow of death;
to guide our feet into the way of
peace."
80 The child was growing and becoming
strong in spirit, and was in the desert until
the day of his public appearance to Israel.

2

1 Now in those days, a decree went out
from Caesar Augustus that all the world
should be enrolled.
2 This was the first enrollment made
when Quirinius was governor of Syria.
3 All went to enroll themselves,
everyone to his own city.
4 Joseph also went up from Galilee, out
of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, to
David's city, which is called Bethlehem,
because he was of the house and family of
David,
5 to enroll himself with Mary, who was
pledged to be married to him as wife,
being pregnant.
6 While they were there, the day had
come for her to give birth.
7 She gave birth to her firstborn son.
She wrapped him in bands of cloth and
laid him in a feeding trough, because
there was no room for them in the inn.
8 There were shepherds in the same
country staying in the field, and keeping
watch by night over their flock.
9 Behold, an angel of the Lord stood by
them, and the glory of the Lord shone
around them, and they were terrified.
10 The angel said to them, "Don't be
afraid, for behold, I bring you good news
of great joy which will be to all the people.
11 For there is born to you today, in
David's city, a Savior, who is Christ† the
Lord.
12 This is the sign to you: you will find a
baby wrapped in strips of cloth, lying in a
feeding trough."
13 Suddenly, there was with the angel a
multitude of the heavenly army praising
God and saying,
14 "Glory to God in the highest,
on earth peace, good will toward
men."

† **2:11** "Christ" means "Anointed One".

15 When the angels went away from
them into the sky, the shepherds said to
one another, “Let’s go to Bethlehem, now,
and see this thing that has happened,
which the Lord has made known to us.”
16 They came with haste and found both
Mary and Joseph, and the baby was lying
in the feeding trough.
17 When they saw it, they publicized
widely the saying which was spoken to
them about this child.
18 All who heard it wondered at the
things which were spoken to them by the
shepherds.
19 But Mary kept all these sayings,
pondering them in her heart.
20 The shepherds returned, glorifying
and praising God for all the things that
they had heard and seen, just as it was
told them.
21 When eight days were fulfilled for the
circumcision of the child, his name was
called Jesus, which was given by the angel
before he was conceived in the womb.
22 When the days of their purification
according to the law of Moses were
fulfilled, they brought him up to
Jerusalem to present him to the Lord
23 (as it is written in the law of the Lord,
“Every male who opens the womb shall be
called holy to the Lord”),*
24 and to offer a sacrifice according to
that which is said in the law of the Lord,
“A pair of turtledoves, or two young
pigeons.”*
25 Behold, there was a man in Jerusalem
whose name was Simeon. This man was
righteous and devout, looking for the
consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit
was on him.
26 It had been revealed to him by the
Holy Spirit that he should not see death
before he had seen the Lord’s Christ.‡
27 He came in the Spirit into the temple.
When the parents brought in the child,
Jesus, that they might do concerning him
according to the custom of the law,
28 then he received him into his arms
and blessed God, and said,
29 “Now you are releasing your servant,
Master,
according to your word, in peace;
30 for my eyes have seen your salvation,
31 which you have prepared before
the face of all peoples;
32 a light for revelation to the nations,
and the glory of your people Israel.”
33 Joseph and his mother were
marveling at the things which were
spoken concerning him.
34 Simeon blessed them, and said to
Mary, his mother, “Behold, this child is
appointed for the falling and the rising of
many in Israel, and for a sign which is
spoken against.
35 Yes, a sword will pierce through your
own soul, that the thoughts of many
hearts may be revealed.”
36 There was one Anna, a prophetess,
the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of
Asher (she was of a great age, having lived
with a husband seven years from her
virginity,
37 and she had been a widow for about
eighty-four years), who didn’t depart
from the temple, worshiping with fastings
and petitions night and day.
38 Coming up at that very hour, she gave
thanks to the Lord, and spoke of him to all
those who were looking for redemption in
Jerusalem.
39 When they had accomplished all
things that were according to the law of
the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to
their own city, Nazareth.
40 The child was growing, and was
becoming strong in spirit, being filled
with wisdom, and the grace of God was
upon him.
41 His parents went every year to
Jerusalem at the feast of the Passover.
42 When he was twelve years old, they
went up to Jerusalem according to the
custom of the feast;
43 and when they had fulfilled the days,
as they were returning, the boy Jesus
stayed behind in Jerusalem. Joseph and
his mother didn’t know it,

* **2:23** Exodus 13:2,12 * **2:24** Leviticus 12:8 ‡ **2:26** “Christ” (Greek) and “Messiah” (Hebrew) both mean “Anointed One”

44 but supposing him to be in the company, they went a day's journey; and they looked for him among their relatives and acquaintances.
45 When they didn't find him, they returned to Jerusalem, looking for him.
46 After three days they found him in the temple, sitting in the middle of the teachers, both listening to them and asking them questions.
47 All who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers.
48 When they saw him, they were astonished; and his mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us this way? Behold, your father and I were anxiously looking for you."
49 He said to them, "Why were you looking for me? Didn't you know that I must be in my Father's house?"
50 They didn't understand the saying which he spoke to them.
51 And he went down with them and came to Nazareth. He was subject to them, and his mother kept all these sayings in her heart.
52 And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men.

3

1 Now in the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judea, and Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene,
2 during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John, the son of Zacharias, in the wilderness.
3 He came into all the region around the Jordan, preaching the baptism of repentance for remission of sins.
4 As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet,
"The voice of one crying in the wilderness,
'Make ready the way of the Lord.
Make his paths straight.
5 Every valley will be filled.
Every mountain and hill will be brought low.
The crooked will become straight,
and the rough ways smooth.
6 All flesh will see God's salvation.' "*
7 He said therefore to the multitudes who went out to be baptized by him, "You offspring of vipers, who warned you to flee from the wrath to come?
8 Therefore produce fruits worthy of repentance, and don't begin to say among yourselves, 'We have Abraham for our father;' for I tell you that God is able to raise up children to Abraham from these stones!
9 Even now the ax also lies at the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that doesn't produce good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire."
10 The multitudes asked him, "What then must we do?"
11 He answered them, "He who has two coats, let him give to him who has none. He who has food, let him do likewise."
12 Tax collectors also came to be baptized, and they said to him, "Teacher, what must we do?"
13 He said to them, "Collect no more than that which is appointed to you."
14 Soldiers also asked him, saying, "What about us? What must we do?"
He said to them, "Extort from no one by violence, neither accuse anyone wrongfully. Be content with your wages."
15 As the people were in expectation, and all men reasoned in their hearts concerning John, whether perhaps he was the Christ,
16 John answered them all, "I indeed baptize you with water, but he comes who is mightier than I, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to loosen. He will baptize you in the Holy Spirit and fire.
17 His winnowing fan is in his hand, and he will thoroughly cleanse his threshing floor, and will gather the wheat into his barn; but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire."
18 Then with many other exhortations he preached good news to the people,

* **3:6** Isaiah 40:3-5 † **3:19** a tetrarch is one of four governors of a province

19 but Herod the tetrarch,† being
reproved by him for Herodias, his
brother's‡ wife, and for all the evil things
which Herod had done,
20 added this also to them all, that he
shut up John in prison.

21 Now when all the people were
baptized, Jesus also had been baptized
and was praying. The sky was opened,
22 and the Holy Spirit descended in a
bodily form like a dove on him; and a
voice came out of the sky, saying "You are
my beloved Son. In you I am well
pleased."

23 Jesus himself, when he began to
teach, was about thirty years old, being
the son (as was supposed) of Joseph, the
son of Heli,
24 the son of Matthat, the son of Levi, the
son of Melchi, the son of Jannai, the son of
Joseph,
25 the son of Mattathias, the son of
Amos, the son of Nahum, the son of Esli,
the son of Naggai,
26 the son of Maath, the son of
Mattathias, the son of Semein, the son of
Joseph, the son of Judah,
27 the son of Joanan, the son of Rhesa,
the son of Zerubbabel, the son of Shealtiel,
the son of Neri,
28 the son of Melchi, the son of Addi, the
son of Cosam, the son of Elmodam, the son
of Er,
29 the son of Jose, the son of Eliezer, the
son of Jorim, the son of Matthat, the son of
Levi,
30 the son of Simeon, the son of Judah,
the son of Joseph, the son of Jonan, the son
of Eliakim,
31 the son of Melea, the son of Menan,
the son of Mattatha, the son of Nathan, the
son of David,
32 the son of Jesse, the son of Obed, the
son of Boaz, the son of Salmon, the son of
Nahshon,
33 the son of Amminadab, the son of
Aram,§ the son of Hezron, the son of
Perez, the son of Judah,
34 the son of Jacob, the son of Isaac, the
son of Abraham, the son of Terah, the son
of Nahor,
35 the son of Serug, the son of Reu, the
son of Peleg, the son of Eber, the son of
Shelah,
36 the son of Cainan, the son of
Arphaxad, the son of Shem, the son of
Noah, the son of Lamech,
37 the son of Methuselah, the son of
Enoch, the son of Jared, the son of
Mahalaleel, the son of Cainan,
38 the son of Enos, the son of Seth, the
son of Adam, the son of God.

4

1 Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned
from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit
into the wilderness
2 for forty days, being tempted by the
devil. He ate nothing in those days.
Afterward, when they were completed, he
was hungry.
3 The devil said to him, "If you are the
Son of God, command this stone to
become bread."
4 Jesus answered him, saying, "It is
written, 'Man shall not live by bread
alone, but by every word of God.' "*
5 The devil, leading him up on a high
mountain, showed him all the kingdoms
of the world in a moment of time.
6 The devil said to him, "I will give you
all this authority and their glory, for it has
been delivered to me, and I give it to
whomever I want.
7 If you therefore will worship before
me, it will all be yours."
8 Jesus answered him, "Get behind me,
Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship
the Lord your God, and you shall serve
him only.' "*
9 He led him to Jerusalem and set him
on the pinnacle of the temple, and said to
him, "If you are the Son of God, cast
yourself down from here,
10 for it is written,
'He will put his angels in charge of you, to
guard you;'

‡ **3:19** TR reads "brother Philip's" instead of "brother's"
§ **3:33** NU reads "Admin, the son of Arni" instead of "Aram"
* **4:4** Deuteronomy 8:3 * **4:8** Deuteronomy 6:13

11 and,
‘On their hands they will bear you up,
lest perhaps you dash your foot
against a stone.’ ”*
12 Jesus answering, said to him, “It has
been said, ‘You shall not tempt the Lord
your God.’ ”*
13 When the devil had completed every
temptation, he departed from him until
another time.
14 Jesus returned in the power of the
Spirit into Galilee, and news about him
spread through all the surrounding area.
15 He taught in their synagogues, being
glorified by all.
16 He came to Nazareth, where he had
been brought up. He entered, as was his
custom, into the synagogue on the
Sabbath day, and stood up to read.
17 The book of the prophet Isaiah was
handed to him. He opened the book, and
found the place where it was written,
18 “The Spirit of the Lord is on me,
because he has anointed me to preach
good news to the poor.
He has sent me to heal the broken
hearted,†
to proclaim release to the captives,
recovering of sight to the blind,
to deliver those who are crushed,
19 and to proclaim the acceptable year
of the Lord.”*
20 He closed the book, gave it back to the
attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in
the synagogue were fastened on him.
21 He began to tell them, “Today, this
Scripture has been fulfilled in your
hearing.”
22 All testified about him and wondered
at the gracious words which proceeded
out of his mouth; and they said, “Isn’t this
Joseph’s son?”
23 He said to them, “Doubtless you will
tell me this proverb, ‘Physician, heal
yourself! Whatever we have heard done
at Capernaum, do also here in your
hometown.’ ”
24 He said, “Most certainly I tell you, no
prophet is acceptable in his hometown.
25 But truly I tell you, there were many
widows in Israel in the days of Elijah,
when the sky was shut up three years and
six months, when a great famine came
over all the land.
26 Elijah was sent to none of them,
except to Zarephath, in the land of Sidon,
to a woman who was a widow.
27 There were many lepers in Israel in
the time of Elisha the prophet, yet not one
of them was cleansed, except Naaman, the
Syrian.”
28 They were all filled with wrath in the
synagogue as they heard these things.
29 They rose up, threw him out of the
city, and led him to the brow of the hill
that their city was built on, that they
might throw him off the cliff.
30 But he, passing through the middle of
them, went his way.
31 He came down to Capernaum, a city
of Galilee. He was teaching them on the
Sabbath day,
32 and they were astonished at his
teaching, for his word was with authority.
33 In the synagogue there was a man
who had a spirit of an unclean demon;
and he cried out with a loud voice,
34 saying, “Ah! what have we to do with
you, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to
destroy us? I know who you are: the Holy
One of God!”
35 Jesus rebuked him, saying, “Be silent
and come out of him!” When the demon
had thrown him down in the middle of
them, he came out of him, having done
him no harm.
36 Amazement came on all and they
spoke together, one with another, saying,
“What is this word? For with authority
and power he commands the unclean
spirits, and they come out!”
37 News about him went out into every
place of the surrounding region.
38 He rose up from the synagogue and
entered into Simon’s house. Simon’s
mother-in-law was afflicted with a great
fever, and they begged him to help her.

* **4:11** Psalms 91:11-12 * **4:12** Deuteronomy 6:16 † **4:18** NU omits “to heal the broken hearted” * **4:19** Isaiah 61:1-2

39 He stood over her and rebuked the
fever, and it left her. Immediately she
rose up and served them.
40 When the sun was setting, all those
who had any sick with various diseases
brought them to him; and he laid his
hands on every one of them, and healed
them.
41 Demons also came out of many,
crying out and saying, "You are the Christ,
the Son of God!" Rebuking them, he didn't
allow them to speak, because they knew
that he was the Christ.
42 When it was day, he departed and
went into an uninhabited place and the
multitudes looked for him, and came to
him, and held on to him, so that he
wouldn't go away from them.
43 But he said to them, "I must preach
the good news of God's Kingdom to the
other cities also. For this reason I have
been sent."
44 He was preaching in the synagogues
of Galilee.

5

1 Now while the multitude pressed on
him and heard the word of God, he was
standing by the lake of Gennesaret.
2 He saw two boats standing by the lake,
but the fishermen had gone out of them
and were washing their nets.
3 He entered into one of the boats,
which was Simon's, and asked him to put
out a little from the land. He sat down and
taught the multitudes from the boat.
4 When he had finished speaking, he
said to Simon, "Put out into the deep and
let down your nets for a catch."
5 Simon answered him, "Master, we
worked all night and caught nothing; but
at your word I will let down the net."
6 When they had done this, they caught
a great multitude of fish, and their net
was breaking.
7 They beckoned to their partners in the
other boat, that they should come and
help them. They came and filled both
boats, so that they began to sink.
8 But Simon Peter, when he saw it, fell
down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Depart
from me, for I am a sinful man, Lord."
9 For he was amazed, and all who were
with him, at the catch of fish which they
had caught;
10 and so also were James and John, sons
of Zebedee, who were partners with
Simon.
Jesus said to Simon, "Don't be afraid.
From now on you will be catching people
alive."
11 When they had brought their boats to
land, they left everything, and followed
him.
12 While he was in one of the cities,
behold, there was a man full of leprosy.
When he saw Jesus, he fell on his face and
begged him, saying, "Lord, if you want to,
you can make me clean."
13 He stretched out his hand and
touched him, saying, "I want to. Be made
clean."
Immediately the leprosy left him.
14 He commanded him to tell no one,
"But go your way and show yourself to the
priest, and offer for your cleansing
according to what Moses commanded, for
a testimony to them."
15 But the report concerning him spread
much more, and great multitudes came
together to hear and to be healed by him
of their infirmities.
16 But he withdrew himself into the
desert and prayed.
17 On one of those days, he was
teaching; and there were Pharisees and
teachers of the law sitting by who had
come out of every village of Galilee, Judea,
and Jerusalem. The power of the Lord
was with him to heal them.
18 Behold, men brought a paralyzed
man on a cot, and they sought to bring
him in to lay before Jesus.
19 Not finding a way to bring him in
because of the multitude, they went up to
the housetop and let him down through
the tiles with his cot into the middle
before Jesus.
20 Seeing their faith, he said to him,
"Man, your sins are forgiven you."
21 The scribes and the Pharisees began
to reason, saying, "Who is this who speaks
blasphemies? Who can forgive sins, but
God alone?"

22 But Jesus, perceiving their thoughts,
answered them, “Why are you reasoning
so in your hearts?
23 Which is easier to say, ‘Your sins are
forgiven you,’ or to say, ‘Arise and walk’?
24 But that you may know that the Son of
Man has authority on earth to forgive
sins,” he said to the paralyzed man, “I tell
you, arise, take up your cot, and go to your
house.”
25 Immediately he rose up before them,
and took up that which he was laying on,
and departed to his house, glorifying God.
26 Amazement took hold on all, and they
glorified God. They were filled with fear,
saying, “We have seen strange things
today.”
27 After these things he went out and
saw a tax collector named Levi sitting at
the tax office, and said to him, “Follow
me!”
28 He left everything, and rose up and
followed him.
29 Levi made a great feast for him in his
house. There was a great crowd of tax
collectors and others who were reclining
with them.
30 Their scribes and the Pharisees
murmured against his disciples, saying,
“Why do you eat and drink with the tax
collectors and sinners?”
31 Jesus answered them, “Those who are
healthy have no need for a physician, but
those who are sick do.
32 I have not come to call the righteous,
but sinners, to repentance.”
33 They said to him, “Why do John’s
disciples often fast and pray, likewise also
the disciples of the Pharisees, but yours
eat and drink?”
34 He said to them, “Can you make the
friends of the bridegroom fast while the
bridegroom is with them?
35 But the days will come when the
bridegroom will be taken away from
them. Then they will fast in those days.”
36 He also told a parable to them. “No
one puts a piece from a new garment on
an old garment, or else he will tear the
new, and also the piece from the new will
not match the old.
37 No one puts new wine into old
wineskins, or else the new wine will burst
the skins, and it will be spilled and the
skins will be destroyed.
38 But new wine must be put into fresh
wineskins, and both are preserved.
39 No man having drunk old wine
immediately desires new, for he says, ‘The
old is better.’ ”

6

1 Now on the second Sabbath after the
first, he was going through the grain
fields. His disciples plucked the heads of
grain and ate, rubbing them in their
hands.
2 But some of the Pharisees said to them,
“Why do you do that which is not lawful to
do on the Sabbath day?”
3 Jesus, answering them, said, “Haven’t
you read what David did when he was
hungry, he and those who were with him,
4 how he entered into God’s house, and
took and ate the show bread, and gave
also to those who were with him, which is
not lawful to eat except for the priests
alone?”
5 He said to them, “The Son of Man is
lord of the Sabbath.”
6 It also happened on another Sabbath
that he entered into the synagogue and
taught. There was a man there, and his
right hand was withered.
7 The scribes and the Pharisees watched
him, to see whether he would heal on the
Sabbath, that they might find an
accusation against him.
8 But he knew their thoughts; and he
said to the man who had the withered
hand, “Rise up and stand in the middle.”
He arose and stood.
9 Then Jesus said to them, “I will ask you
something: Is it lawful on the Sabbath to
do good, or to do harm? To save a life, or
to kill?”
10 He looked around at them all, and
said to the man, “Stretch out your hand.”
He did, and his hand was restored as
sound as the other.
11 But they were filled with rage, and
talked with one another about what they
might do to Jesus.

12 In these days, he went out to the
mountain to pray, and he continued all
night in prayer to God.
13 When it was day, he called his
disciples, and from them he chose twelve,
whom he also named apostles:
14 Simon, whom he also named Peter;
Andrew, his brother; James; John; Philip;
Bartholomew;
15 Matthew; Thomas; James the son of
Alphaeus; Simon who was called the
Zealot;
16 Judas the son of James; and Judas
Iscariot, who also became a traitor.
17 He came down with them and stood
on a level place, with a crowd of his
disciples and a great number of the people
from all Judea and Jerusalem and the sea
coast of Tyre and Sidon, who came to hear
him and to be healed of their diseases,
18 as well as those who were troubled by
unclean spirits; and they were being
healed.
19 All the multitude sought to touch him,
for power came out of him and healed
them all.
20 He lifted up his eyes to his disciples,
and said:
"Blessed are you who are poor,
for God's Kingdom is yours.
21 Blessed are you who hunger now,
for you will be filled.
Blessed are you who weep now,
for you will laugh.
22 Blessed are you when men hate you,
and when they exclude and mock
you, and throw out your name as
evil, for the Son of Man's sake.
23 Rejoice in that day and leap for joy,
for behold, your reward is great in
heaven, for their fathers did the
same thing to the prophets.

24 "But woe to you who are rich!
For you have received your
consolation.
25 Woe to you, you who are full now,
for you will be hungry.
Woe to you who laugh now,
for you will mourn and weep.
26 Woe,† when‡ men speak well of you,
for their fathers did the same thing to
the false prophets.
27 "But I tell you who hear: love your
enemies, do good to those who hate you,
28 bless those who curse you, and pray
for those who mistreat you.
29 To him who strikes you on the cheek,
offer also the other; and from him who
takes away your cloak, don't withhold
your coat also.
30 Give to everyone who asks you, and
don't ask him who takes away your goods
to give them back again.
31 "As you would like people to do to
you, do exactly so to them.
32 "If you love those who love you, what
credit is that to you? For even sinners love
those who love them.
33 If you do good to those who do good to
you, what credit is that to you? For even
sinners do the same.
34 If you lend to those from whom you
hope to receive, what credit is that to you?
Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive
back as much.
35 But love your enemies, and do good,
and lend, expecting nothing back; and
your reward will be great, and you will be
children of the Most High; for he is kind
toward the unthankful and evil.
36 "Therefore be merciful,
even as your Father is also merciful.
37 Don't judge,
and you won't be judged.
Don't condemn,
and you won't be condemned.
Set free,
and you will be set free.
38 "Give, and it will be given to you:
good measure, pressed down, shaken
together, and running over, will be given
to you.§ For with the same measure you
measure it will be measured back to you."
39 He spoke a parable to them. "Can the
blind guide the blind? Won't they both fall
into a pit?
40 A disciple is not above his teacher, but
everyone when he is fully trained will be
like his teacher.

† **6:26** TR adds "to you" ‡ **6:26** TR adds "all" § **6:38** literally, into your bosom.

41 Why do you see the speck of chaff that
is in your brother's eye, but don't consider
the beam that is in your own eye?
42 Or how can you tell your brother,
'Brother, let me remove the speck of chaff
that is in your eye,' when you yourself
don't see the beam that is in your own
eye? You hypocrite! First remove the
beam from your own eye, and then you
can see clearly to remove the speck of
chaff that is in your brother's eye.
43 "For there is no good tree that
produces rotten fruit, nor again a rotten
tree that produces good fruit.
44 For each tree is known by its own
fruit. For people don't gather figs from
thorns, nor do they gather grapes from a
bramble bush.
45 The good man out of the good
treasure of his heart brings out that which
is good, and the evil man out of the evil
treasure of his heart brings out that which
is evil, for out of the abundance of the
heart, his mouth speaks.
46 "Why do you call me, 'Lord, Lord,' and
don't do the things which I say?
47 Everyone who comes to me, and
hears my words and does them, I will
show you who he is like.
48 He is like a man building a house,
who dug and went deep and laid a
foundation on the rock. When a flood
arose, the stream broke against that
house, and could not shake it, because it
was founded on the rock.
49 But he who hears and doesn't do, is
like a man who built a house on the earth
without a foundation, against which the
stream broke, and immediately it fell; and
the ruin of that house was great."

7

1 After he had finished speaking in the
hearing of the people, he entered into
Capernaum.
2 A certain centurion's servant, who was
dear to him, was sick and at the point of
death.
3 When he heard about Jesus, he sent to
him elders of the Jews, asking him to
come and save his servant.
4 When they came to Jesus, they begged
him earnestly, saying, "He is worthy for
you to do this for him,
5 for he loves our nation, and he built
our synagogue for us."
6 Jesus went with them. When he was
now not far from the house, the centurion
sent friends to him, saying to him, "Lord,
don't trouble yourself, for I am not worthy
for you to come under my roof.
7 Therefore I didn't even think myself
worthy to come to you; but say the word,
and my servant will be healed.
8 For I also am a man placed under
authority, having under myself soldiers. I
tell this one, 'Go!' and he goes; and to
another, 'Come!' and he comes; and to my
servant, 'Do this,' and he does it."
9 When Jesus heard these things, he
marveled at him, and turned and said to
the multitude who followed him, "I tell
you, I have not found such great faith, no,
not in Israel."
10 Those who were sent, returning to the
house, found that the servant who had
been sick was well.
11 Soon afterwards, he went to a city
called Nain. Many of his disciples, along
with a great multitude, went with him.
12 Now when he came near to the gate of
the city, behold, one who was dead was
carried out, the only born† son of his
mother, and she was a widow. Many
people of the city were with her.
13 When the Lord saw her, he had
compassion on her and said to her, "Don't
cry."
14 He came near and touched the coffin,
and the bearers stood still. He said,
"Young man, I tell you, arise!"
15 He who was dead sat up and began to
speak. Then he gave him to his mother.
16 Fear took hold of all, and they
glorified God, saying, "A great prophet has
arisen among us!" and, "God has visited
his people!"

† **7:12** The phrase "only born" is from the Greek word "μονογενη", which is sometimes translated "only begotten" or "one and only".

17 This report went out concerning him
in the whole of Judea and in all the
surrounding region.
18 The disciples of John told him about
all these things.
19 John, calling to himself two of his
disciples, sent them to Jesus, saying, “Are
you the one who is coming, or should we
look for another?”
20 When the men had come to him, they
said, “John the Baptizer has sent us to you,
saying, ‘Are you he who comes, or should
we look for another?’ ”
21 In that hour he cured many of
diseases and plagues and evil spirits; and
to many who were blind he gave sight.
22 Jesus answered them, “Go and tell
John the things which you have seen and
heard: that the blind receive their sight,
the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the
deaf hear, the dead are raised up, and the
poor have good news preached to them.
23 Blessed is he who finds no occasion
for stumbling in me.”
24 When John’s messengers had
departed, he began to tell the multitudes
about John, “What did you go out into the
wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the
wind?
25 But what did you go out to see? A man
clothed in soft clothing? Behold, those
who are gorgeously dressed and live
delicately are in kings’ courts.
26 But what did you go out to see? A
prophet? Yes, I tell you, and much more
than a prophet.
27 This is he of whom it is written,
‘Behold, I send my messenger before your
face,
who will prepare your way before
you.’*
28 “For I tell you, among those who are
born of women there is not a greater
prophet than John the Baptizer; yet he
who is least in God’s Kingdom is greater
than he.”
29 When all the people and the tax
collectors heard this, they declared God to
be just, having been baptized with John’s
baptism.
30 But the Pharisees and the lawyers
rejected the counsel of God, not being
baptized by him themselves.
31 ‡“To what then should I compare the
people of this generation? What are they
like?
32 They are like children who sit in the
marketplace and call to one another,
saying, ‘We piped to you, and you didn’t
dance. We mourned, and you didn’t
weep.’
33 For John the Baptizer came neither
eating bread nor drinking wine, and you
say, ‘He has a demon.’
34 The Son of Man has come eating and
drinking, and you say, ‘Behold, a glutton
and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors
and sinners!’
35 Wisdom is justified by all her
children.”
36 One of the Pharisees invited him to
eat with him. He entered into the
Pharisee’s house and sat at the table.
37 Behold, a woman in the city who was
a sinner, when she knew that he was
reclining in the Pharisee’s house, brought
an alabaster jar of ointment.
38 Standing behind at his feet weeping,
she began to wet his feet with her tears,
and she wiped them with the hair of her
head, kissed his feet, and anointed them
with the ointment.
39 Now when the Pharisee who had
invited him saw it, he said to himself,
“This man, if he were a prophet, would
have perceived who and what kind of
woman this is who touches him, that she
is a sinner.”
40 Jesus answered him, “Simon, I have
something to tell you.”
He said, “Teacher, say on.”
41 “A certain lender had two debtors.
The one owed five hundred denarii, and
the other fifty.
42 When they couldn’t pay, he forgave
them both. Which of them therefore will
love him most?”
43 Simon answered, “He, I suppose, to
whom he forgave the most.”
He said to him, “You have judged
correctly.”

* **7:27** Malachi 3:1 ‡ **7:31** TR adds “But the Lord said,”

44 Turning to the woman, he said to
Simon, "Do you see this woman? I entered
into your house, and you gave me no
water for my feet, but she has wet my feet
with her tears, and wiped them with the
hair of her head.
45 You gave me no kiss, but she, since the
time I came in, has not ceased to kiss my
feet.
46 You didn't anoint my head with oil,
but she has anointed my feet with
ointment.
47 Therefore I tell you, her sins, which
are many, are forgiven, for she loved
much. But one to whom little is forgiven,
loves little."
48 He said to her, "Your sins are
forgiven."
49 Those who sat at the table with him
began to say to themselves, "Who is this
who even forgives sins?"
50 He said to the woman, "Your faith has
saved you. Go in peace."

8

1 Soon afterwards, he went about
through cities and villages, preaching and
bringing the good news of God's Kingdom.
With him were the twelve,
2 and certain women who had been
healed of evil spirits and infirmities: Mary
who was called Magdalene, from whom
seven demons had gone out;
3 and Joanna, the wife of Chuzas,
Herod's steward; Susanna; and many
others who served them† from their
possessions.
4 When a great multitude came together
and people from every city were coming
to him, he spoke by a parable:
5 "The farmer went out to sow his seed.
As he sowed, some fell along the road, and
it was trampled under foot, and the birds
of the sky devoured it.
6 Some seed fell on the rock, and as soon
as it grew, it withered away, because it
had no moisture.
7 Some fell amid the thorns, and the
thorns grew with it and choked it.
8 Some fell into the good ground and
grew and produced one hundred times as
much fruit." As he said these things, he
called out, "He who has ears to hear, let
him hear!"
9 Then his disciples asked him, "What
does this parable mean?"
10 He said, "To you it is given to know
the mysteries of God's Kingdom, but to the
rest it is given in parables, that 'seeing
they may not see, and hearing they may
not understand.'*
11 "Now the parable is this: The seed is
the word of God.
12 Those along the road are those who
hear; then the devil comes and takes away
the word from their heart, that they may
not believe and be saved.
13 Those on the rock are they who, when
they hear, receive the word with joy; but
these have no root. They believe for a
while, then fall away in time of
temptation.
14 What fell among the thorns, these are
those who have heard, and as they go on
their way they are choked with cares,
riches, and pleasures of life; and they
bring no fruit to maturity.
15 Those in the good ground, these are
those who with an honest and good heart,
having heard the word, hold it tightly, and
produce fruit with perseverance.
16 "No one, when he has lit a lamp,
covers it with a container or puts it under
a bed; but puts it on a stand, that those
who enter in may see the light.
17 For nothing is hidden that will not be
revealed, nor anything secret that will not
be known and come to light.
18 Be careful therefore how you hear.
For whoever has, to him will be given; and
whoever doesn't have, from him will be
taken away even that which he thinks he
has."
19 His mother and brothers came to him,
and they could not come near him for the
crowd.
20 Some people told him, "Your mother
and your brothers stand outside, desiring
to see you."

† **8:3** TR reads "him" instead of "them" * **8:10** Isaiah 6:9

21 But he answered them, “My mother
and my brothers are these who hear the
word of God and do it.”
22 Now on one of those days, he entered
into a boat, himself and his disciples, and
he said to them, “Let’s go over to the other
side of the lake.” So they launched out.
23 But as they sailed, he fell asleep. A
wind storm came down on the lake, and
they were taking on dangerous amounts
of water.
24 They came to him and awoke him,
saying, “Master, Master, we are dying!”
He awoke and rebuked the wind and the
raging of the water; then they ceased, and
it was calm.*
25 He said to them, “Where is your
faith?” Being afraid, they marveled,
saying to one another, “Who is this then,
that he commands even the winds and the
water, and they obey him?”
26 Then they arrived at the country of
the Gadarenes, which is opposite Galilee.
27 When Jesus stepped ashore, a certain
man out of the city who had demons for a
long time met him. He wore no clothes,
and didn’t live in a house, but in the
tombs.
28 When he saw Jesus, he cried out and
fell down before him, and with a loud
voice said, “What do I have to do with you,
Jesus, you Son of the Most High God? I beg
you, don’t torment me!”
29 For Jesus was commanding the
unclean spirit to come out of the man. For
the unclean spirit had often seized the
man. He was kept under guard and bound
with chains and fetters. Breaking the
bonds apart, he was driven by the demon
into the desert.
30 Jesus asked him, “What is your
name?”
He said, “Legion,” for many demons had
entered into him.
31 They begged him that he would not
command them to go into the abyss.
32 Now there was there a herd of many
pigs feeding on the mountain, and they
begged him that he would allow them to
enter into those. Then he allowed them.
33 The demons came out of the man and
entered into the pigs, and the herd rushed
down the steep bank into the lake and
were drowned.
34 When those who fed them saw what
had happened, they fled and told it in the
city and in the country.
35 People went out to see what had
happened. They came to Jesus and found
the man from whom the demons had
gone out, sitting at Jesus’ feet, clothed and
in his right mind; and they were afraid.
36 Those who saw it told them how he
who had been possessed by demons was
healed.
37 All the people of the surrounding
country of the Gadarenes asked him to
depart from them, for they were very
much afraid. Then he entered into the
boat and returned.
38 But the man from whom the demons
had gone out begged him that he might go
with him, but Jesus sent him away, saying,
39 “Return to your house, and declare
what great things God has done for you.”
He went his way, proclaiming throughout
the whole city what great things Jesus had
done for him.
40 When Jesus returned, the multitude
welcomed him, for they were all waiting
for him.
41 Behold, a man named Jairus came. He
was a ruler of the synagogue. He fell
down at Jesus’ feet and begged him to
come into his house,
42 for he had an only born‡ daughter,
about twelve years of age, and she was
dying. But as he went, the multitudes
pressed against him.
43 A woman who had a flow of blood for
twelve years, who had spent all her living
on physicians and could not be healed by
any,
44 came behind him and touched the
fringe§ of his cloak. Immediately the flow
of her blood stopped.
45 Jesus said, “Who touched me?”
When all denied it, Peter and those with
him said, “Master, the multitudes press

* **8:24** See Psalms 107:29 ‡ **8:42** The phrase “only born” is from the Greek word “μονογενη”, which is sometimes translated “only begotten” or “one and only”. § **8:44** or, tassel

and jostle you, and you say, 'Who touched me?'"
46 But Jesus said, "Someone did touch me, for I perceived that power has gone out of me."
47 When the woman saw that she was not hidden, she came trembling; and falling down before him declared to him in the presence of all the people the reason why she had touched him, and how she was healed immediately.
48 He said to her, "Daughter, cheer up. Your faith has made you well. Go in peace."
49 While he still spoke, one from the ruler of the synagogue's house came, saying to him, "Your daughter is dead. Don't trouble the Teacher."
50 But Jesus hearing it, answered him, "Don't be afraid. Only believe, and she will be healed."
51 When he came to the house, he didn't allow anyone to enter in, except Peter, John, James, the father of the child, and her mother.
52 All were weeping and mourning her, but he said, "Don't weep. She isn't dead, but sleeping."
53 They were ridiculing him, knowing that she was dead.
54 But he put them all outside, and taking her by the hand, he called, saying, "Child, arise!"
55 Her spirit returned, and she rose up immediately. He commanded that something be given to her to eat.
56 Her parents were amazed, but he commanded them to tell no one what had been done.

9

1 He called the twelve† together and gave them power and authority over all demons, and to cure diseases.
2 He sent them out to preach God's Kingdom and to heal the sick.
3 He said to them, "Take nothing for your journey—no staffs, nor wallet, nor bread, nor money. Don't have two tunics each.
4 Into whatever house you enter, stay there, and depart from there.
5 As many as don't receive you, when you depart from that city, shake off even the dust from your feet for a testimony against them."
6 They departed and went throughout the villages, preaching the Good News and healing everywhere.
7 Now Herod the tetrarch heard of all that was done by him; and he was very perplexed, because it was said by some that John had risen from the dead,
8 and by some that Elijah had appeared, and by others that one of the old prophets had risen again.
9 Herod said, "I beheaded John, but who is this about whom I hear such things?" He sought to see him.
10 The apostles, when they had returned, told him what things they had done.
He took them and withdrew apart to a desert region of‡ a city called Bethsaida.
11 But the multitudes, perceiving it, followed him. He welcomed them, spoke to them of God's Kingdom, and he cured those who needed healing.
12 The day began to wear away; and the twelve came and said to him, "Send the multitude away, that they may go into the surrounding villages and farms and lodge and get food, for we are here in a deserted place."
13 But he said to them, "You give them something to eat."
They said, "We have no more than five loaves and two fish, unless we should go and buy food for all these people."
14 For they were about five thousand men.
He said to his disciples, "Make them sit down in groups of about fifty each."
15 They did so, and made them all sit down.
16 He took the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up to the sky, he blessed them, broke them, and gave them to the disciples to set before the multitude.

† **9:1** TR reads "his twelve disciples" instead of "the twelve"
‡ **9:10** NU omits "a desert region of".

17 They ate and were all filled. They
gathered up twelve baskets of broken
pieces that were left over.
18 As he was praying alone, the disciples
were near him, and he asked them, "Who
do the multitudes say that I am?"
19 They answered, " 'John the Baptizer,'
but others say, 'Elijah,' and others, that
one of the old prophets has risen again."
20 He said to them, "But who do you say
that I am?"
Peter answered, "The Christ of God."
21 But he warned them and commanded
them to tell this to no one,
22 saying, "The Son of Man must suffer
many things, and be rejected by the
elders, chief priests, and scribes, and be
killed, and the third day be raised up."
23 He said to all, "If anyone desires to
come after me, let him deny himself, take
up his cross,§ and follow me.
24 For whoever desires to save his life
will lose it, but whoever will lose his life
for my sake will save it.
25 For what does it profit a man if he
gains the whole world, and loses or
forfeits his own self?
26 For whoever will be ashamed of me
and of my words, of him will the Son of
Man be ashamed when he comes in his
glory, and the glory of the Father, and of
the holy angels.
27 But I tell you the truth: There are
some of those who stand here who will in
no way taste of death until they see God's
Kingdom."
28 About eight days after these sayings,
he took with him Peter, John, and James,
and went up onto the mountain to pray.
29 As he was praying, the appearance of
his face was altered, and his clothing
became white and dazzling.
30 Behold, two men were talking with
him, who were Moses and Elijah,
31 who appeared in glory and spoke of
his departure,† which he was about to
accomplish at Jerusalem.
32 Now Peter and those who were with
him were heavy with sleep, but when they
were fully awake, they saw his glory, and
the two men who stood with him.
33 As they were parting from him, Peter
said to Jesus, "Master, it is good for us to
be here. Let's make three tents: one for
you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah,"
not knowing what he said.
34 While he said these things, a cloud
came and overshadowed them, and they
were afraid as they entered into the cloud.
35 A voice came out of the cloud, saying,
"This is my beloved Son. Listen to him!"
36 When the voice came, Jesus was
found alone. They were silent, and told no
one in those days any of the things which
they had seen.
37 On the next day, when they had come
down from the mountain, a great
multitude met him.
38 Behold, a man from the crowd called
out, saying, "Teacher, I beg you to look at
my son, for he is my only born‡ child.
39 Behold, a spirit takes him, he
suddenly cries out, and it convulses him
so that he foams; and it hardly departs
from him, bruising him severely.
40 I begged your disciples to cast it out,
and they couldn't."
41 Jesus answered, "Faithless and
perverse generation, how long shall I be
with you and bear with you? Bring your
son here."
42 While he was still coming, the demon
threw him down and convulsed him
violently. But Jesus rebuked the unclean
spirit, healed the boy, and gave him back
to his father.
43 They were all astonished at the
majesty of God.
But while all were marveling at all the
things which Jesus did, he said to his
disciples,
44 "Let these words sink into your ears,
for the Son of Man will be delivered up
into the hands of men."
45 But they didn't understand this
saying. It was concealed from them, that
they should not perceive it, and they were
afraid to ask him about this saying.

§ **9:23** TR, NU add "daily" † **9:31** literally, "exodus" ‡ **9:38** The phrase "only born" is from the Greek word "μονογενη", which is sometimes translated "only begotten" or "one and only".

46 An argument arose among them
about which of them was the greatest.
47 Jesus, perceiving the reasoning of
their hearts, took a little child, and set him
by his side,
48 and said to them, "Whoever receives
this little child in my name receives me.
Whoever receives me receives him who
sent me. For whoever is least among you
all, this one will be great."
49 John answered, "Master, we saw
someone casting out demons in your
name, and we forbade him, because he
doesn't follow with us."
50 Jesus said to him, "Don't forbid him,
for he who is not against us is for us."
51 It came to pass, when the days were
near that he should be taken up, he
intently set his face to go to Jerusalem
52 and sent messengers before his face.
They went and entered into a village of
the Samaritans, so as to prepare for him.
53 They didn't receive him, because he
was traveling with his face set toward
Jerusalem.
54 When his disciples, James and John,
saw this, they said, "Lord, do you want us
to command fire to come down from the
sky and destroy them, just as Elijah did?"
55 But he turned and rebuked them,
"You don't know of what kind of spirit you
are.
56 For the Son of Man didn't come to
destroy men's lives, but to save them."
They went to another village.
57 As they went on the way, a certain
man said to him, "I want to follow you
wherever you go, Lord."
58 Jesus said to him, "The foxes have
holes and the birds of the sky have nests,
but the Son of Man has no place to lay his
head."
59 He said to another, "Follow me!"
But he said, "Lord, allow me first to go
and bury my father."
60 But Jesus said to him, "Leave the dead
to bury their own dead, but you go and
announce God's Kingdom."
61 Another also said, "I want to follow
you, Lord, but first allow me to say
good-bye to those who are at my house."
62 But Jesus said to him, "No one, having
put his hand to the plow and looking back,
is fit for God's Kingdom."

10

1 Now after these things, the Lord also
appointed seventy others, and sent them
two by two ahead of him† into every city
and place where he was about to come.
2 Then he said to them, "The harvest is
indeed plentiful, but the laborers are few.
Pray therefore to the Lord of the harvest,
that he may send out laborers into his
harvest.
3 Go your ways. Behold, I send you out
as lambs among wolves.
4 Carry no purse, nor wallet, nor
sandals. Greet no one on the way.
5 Into whatever house you enter, first
say, 'Peace be to this house.'
6 If a son of peace is there, your peace
will rest on him; but if not, it will return to
you.
7 Remain in that same house, eating and
drinking the things they give, for the
laborer is worthy of his wages. Don't go
from house to house.
8 Into whatever city you enter and they
receive you, eat the things that are set
before you.
9 Heal the sick who are there and tell
them, 'God's Kingdom has come near to
you.'
10 But into whatever city you enter and
they don't receive you, go out into its
streets and say,
11 'Even the dust from your city that
clings to us, we wipe off against you.
Nevertheless know this, that God's
Kingdom has come near to you.'
12 I tell you, it will be more tolerable in
that day for Sodom than for that city.
13 "Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you,
Bethsaida! For if the mighty works had
been done in Tyre and Sidon which were
done in you, they would have repented
long ago, sitting in sackcloth and ashes.

† **10:1** literally, "before his face" ‡ **10:15** Hades is the lower realm of the dead, or Hell.

14 But it will be more tolerable for Tyre
and Sidon in the judgment than for you.
15 You, Capernaum, who are exalted to
heaven, will be brought down to Hades. ‡
16 Whoever listens to you listens to me,
and whoever rejects you rejects me.
Whoever rejects me rejects him who sent
me."
17 The seventy returned with joy,
saying, "Lord, even the demons are
subject to us in your name!"
18 He said to them, "I saw Satan having
fallen like lightning from heaven.
19 Behold, I give you authority to tread
on serpents and scorpions, and over all
the power of the enemy. Nothing will in
any way hurt you.
20 Nevertheless, don't rejoice in this,
that the spirits are subject to you, but
rejoice that your names are written in
heaven."
21 In that same hour, Jesus rejoiced in
the Holy Spirit, and said, "I thank you, O
Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you
have hidden these things from the wise
and understanding, and revealed them to
little children. Yes, Father, for so it was
well-pleasing in your sight."
22 Turning to the disciples, he said, "All
things have been delivered to me by my
Father. No one knows who the Son is,
except the Father, and who the Father is,
except the Son, and he to whomever the
Son desires to reveal him."
23 Turning to the disciples, he said
privately, "Blessed are the eyes which see
the things that you see,
24 for I tell you that many prophets and
kings desired to see the things which you
see, and didn't see them, and to hear the
things which you hear, and didn't hear
them."
25 Behold, a certain lawyer stood up and
tested him, saying, "Teacher, what shall I
do to inherit eternal life?"
26 He said to him, "What is written in the
law? How do you read it?"
27 He answered, "You shall love the Lord
your God with all your heart, with all your
soul, with all your strength, and with all
your mind;* and your neighbor as
yourself."*
28 He said to him, "You have answered
correctly. Do this, and you will live."
29 But he, desiring to justify himself,
asked Jesus, "Who is my neighbor?"
30 Jesus answered, "A certain man was
going down from Jerusalem to Jericho,
and he fell among robbers, who both
stripped him and beat him, and departed,
leaving him half dead.
31 By chance a certain priest was going
down that way. When he saw him, he
passed by on the other side.
32 In the same way a Levite also, when
he came to the place and saw him, passed
by on the other side.
33 But a certain Samaritan, as he
traveled, came where he was. When he
saw him, he was moved with compassion,
34 came to him, and bound up his
wounds, pouring on oil and wine. He set
him on his own animal, brought him to an
inn, and took care of him.
35 On the next day, when he departed,
he took out two denarii, gave them to the
host, and said to him, 'Take care of him.
Whatever you spend beyond that, I will
repay you when I return.'
36 Now which of these three do you
think seemed to be a neighbor to him who
fell among the robbers?"
37 He said, "He who showed mercy on
him."
Then Jesus said to him, "Go and do
likewise."
38 As they went on their way, he entered
into a certain village, and a certain
woman named Martha received him into
her house.
39 She had a sister called Mary, who also
sat at Jesus' feet and heard his word.
40 But Martha was distracted with much
serving, and she came up to him, and said,
"Lord, don't you care that my sister left
me to serve alone? Ask her therefore to
help me."
41 Jesus answered her, "Martha, Martha,
you are anxious and troubled about many
things,

* **10:27** Deuteronomy 6:5 * **10:27** Leviticus 19:18

42 but one thing is needed. Mary has
chosen the good part, which will not be
taken away from her."

11

1 When he finished praying in a certain
place, one of his disciples said to him,
"Lord, teach us to pray, just as John also
taught his disciples."
2 He said to them, "When you pray, say,
'Our Father in heaven,
may your name be kept holy.
May your Kingdom come.
May your will be done on earth, as it
is in heaven.
3 Give us day by day our daily bread.
4 Forgive us our sins,
for we ourselves also forgive
everyone who is indebted to us.
Bring us not into temptation,
but deliver us from the evil one.' "
5 He said to them, "Which of you, if you
go to a friend at midnight and tell him,
'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread,
6 for a friend of mine has come to me
from a journey, and I have nothing to set
before him,'
7 and he from within will answer and
say, 'Don't bother me. The door is now
shut, and my children are with me in bed.
I can't get up and give it to you'?
8 I tell you, although he will not rise and
give it to him because he is his friend, yet
because of his persistence, he will get up
and give him as many as he needs.
9 "I tell you, keep asking, and it will be
given you. Keep seeking, and you will
find. Keep knocking, and it will be opened
to you.
10 For everyone who asks receives. He
who seeks finds. To him who knocks it
will be opened.
11 "Which of you fathers, if your son
asks for bread, will give him a stone? Or if
he asks for a fish, he won't give him a
snake instead of a fish, will he?
12 Or if he asks for an egg, he won't give
him a scorpion, will he?
13 If you then, being evil, know how to
give good gifts to your children, how
much more will your heavenly Father
give the Holy Spirit to those who ask
him?"
14 He was casting out a demon, and it
was mute. When the demon had gone out,
the mute man spoke; and the multitudes
marveled.
15 But some of them said, "He casts out
demons by Beelzebul, the prince of the
demons."
16 Others, testing him, sought from him
a sign from heaven.
17 But he, knowing their thoughts, said
to them, "Every kingdom divided against
itself is brought to desolation. A house
divided against itself falls.
18 If Satan also is divided against
himself, how will his kingdom stand? For
you say that I cast out demons by
Beelzebul.
19 But if I cast out demons by Beelzebul,
by whom do your children cast them out?
Therefore they will be your judges.
20 But if I by God's finger cast out
demons, then God's Kingdom has come to
you.
21 "When the strong man, fully armed,
guards his own dwelling, his goods are
safe.
22 But when someone stronger attacks
him and overcomes him, he takes from
him his whole armor in which he trusted,
and divides his plunder.
23 "He who is not with me is against me.
He who doesn't gather with me scatters.
24 The unclean spirit, when he has gone
out of the man, passes through dry places,
seeking rest; and finding none, he says, 'I
will turn back to my house from which I
came out.'
25 When he returns, he finds it swept
and put in order.
26 Then he goes and takes seven other
spirits more evil than himself, and they
enter in and dwell there. The last state of
that man becomes worse than the first."
27 It came to pass, as he said these
things, a certain woman out of the
multitude lifted up her voice and said to
him, "Blessed is the womb that bore you,
and the breasts which nursed you!"

28 But he said, "On the contrary, blessed
are those who hear the word of God, and
keep it."
29 When the multitudes were gathering
together to him, he began to say, "This is
an evil generation. It seeks after a sign.
No sign will be given to it but the sign of
Jonah the prophet.
30 For even as Jonah became a sign to
the Ninevites, so the Son of Man will also
be to this generation.
31 The Queen of the South will rise up in
the judgment with the men of this
generation and will condemn them, for
she came from the ends of the earth to
hear the wisdom of Solomon; and behold,
one greater than Solomon is here.
32 The men of Nineveh will stand up in
the judgment with this generation, and
will condemn it, for they repented at the
preaching of Jonah; and behold, one
greater than Jonah is here.
33 "No one, when he has lit a lamp, puts
it in a cellar or under a basket, but on a
stand, that those who come in may see the
light.
34 The lamp of the body is the eye.
Therefore when your eye is good, your
whole body is also full of light; but when it
is evil, your body also is full of darkness.
35 Therefore see whether the light that
is in you isn't darkness.
36 If therefore your whole body is full of
light, having no part dark, it will be
wholly full of light, as when the lamp with
its bright shining gives you light."
37 Now as he spoke, a certain Pharisee
asked him to dine with him. He went in
and sat at the table.
38 When the Pharisee saw it, he
marveled that he had not first washed
himself before dinner.
39 The Lord said to him, "Now you
Pharisees cleanse the outside of the cup
and of the platter, but your inward part is
full of extortion and wickedness.
40 You foolish ones, didn't he who made
the outside make the inside also?
41 But give for gifts to the needy those
things which are within, and behold, all
things will be clean to you.
42 But woe to you Pharisees! For you
tithe the mint and rue and every herb, but
you bypass justice and God's love. You
ought to have done these, and not to have
left the other undone.
43 Woe to you Pharisees! For you love
the best seats in the synagogues and the
greetings in the marketplaces.
44 Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees,
hypocrites! For you are like hidden
graves, and the men who walk over them
don't know it."
45 One of the lawyers answered him,
"Teacher, in saying this you insult us also."
46 He said, "Woe to you lawyers also!
For you load men with burdens that are
difficult to carry, and you yourselves
won't even lift one finger to help carry
those burdens.
47 Woe to you! For you build the tombs
of the prophets, and your fathers killed
them.
48 So you testify and consent to the
works of your fathers. For they killed
them, and you build their tombs.
49 Therefore also the wisdom of God
said, 'I will send to them prophets and
apostles; and some of them they will kill
and persecute,
50 that the blood of all the prophets,
which was shed from the foundation of
the world, may be required of this
generation,
51 from the blood of Abel to the blood of
Zachariah, who perished between the
altar and the sanctuary.' Yes, I tell you, it
will be required of this generation.
52 Woe to you lawyers! For you took
away the key of knowledge. You didn't
enter in yourselves, and those who were
entering in, you hindered."
53 As he said these things to them, the
scribes and the Pharisees began to be
terribly angry, and to draw many things
out of him,
54 lying in wait for him, and seeking to
catch him in something he might say, that
they might accuse him.

12

1 Meanwhile, when a multitude of many
thousands had gathered together, so

much so that they trampled on each other,
he began to tell his disciples first of all,
"Beware of the yeast of the Pharisees,
which is hypocrisy.
2 But there is nothing covered up that
will not be revealed, nor hidden that will
not be known.
3 Therefore whatever you have said in
the darkness will be heard in the light.
What you have spoken in the ear in the
inner rooms will be proclaimed on the
housetops.
4 "I tell you, my friends, don't be afraid
of those who kill the body, and after that
have no more that they can do.
5 But I will warn you whom you should
fear. Fear him who after he has killed, has
power to cast into Gehenna.† Yes, I tell
you, fear him.
6 "Aren't five sparrows sold for two
assaria coins‡? Not one of them is
forgotten by God.
7 But the very hairs of your head are all
counted. Therefore don't be afraid. You
are of more value than many sparrows.
8 "I tell you, everyone who confesses me
before men, the Son of Man will also
confess before the angels of God;
9 but he who denies me in the presence
of men will be denied in the presence of
God's angels.
10 Everyone who speaks a word against
the Son of Man will be forgiven, but those
who blaspheme against the Holy Spirit
will not be forgiven.
11 When they bring you before the
synagogues, the rulers, and the
authorities, don't be anxious how or what
you will answer or what you will say;
12 for the Holy Spirit will teach you in
that same hour what you must say."
13 One of the multitude said to him,
"Teacher, tell my brother to divide the
inheritance with me."
14 But he said to him, "Man, who made
me a judge or an arbitrator over you?"
15 He said to them, "Beware! Keep
yourselves from covetousness, for a man's
life doesn't consist of the abundance of
the things which he possesses."
16 He spoke a parable to them, saying,
"The ground of a certain rich man
produced abundantly.
17 He reasoned within himself, saying,
'What will I do, because I don't have room
to store my crops?'
18 He said, 'This is what I will do. I will
pull down my barns, build bigger ones,
and there I will store all my grain and my
goods.
19 I will tell my soul, "Soul, you have
many goods laid up for many years. Take
your ease, eat, drink, and be merry." '
20 "But God said to him, 'You foolish one,
tonight your soul is required of you. The
things which you have prepared—whose
will they be?'
21 So is he who lays up treasure for
himself, and is not rich toward God."
22 He said to his disciples, "Therefore I
tell you, don't be anxious for your life,
what you will eat, nor yet for your body,
what you will wear.
23 Life is more than food, and the body
is more than clothing.
24 Consider the ravens: they don't sow,
they don't reap, they have no warehouse
or barn, and God feeds them. How much
more valuable are you than birds!
25 Which of you by being anxious can
add a cubit§ to his height?
26 If then you aren't able to do even the
least things, why are you anxious about
the rest?
27 Consider the lilies, how they grow.
They don't toil, neither do they spin; yet I
tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was
not arrayed like one of these.
28 But if this is how God clothes the grass
in the field, which today exists and
tomorrow is cast into the oven, how much
more will he clothe you, O you of little
faith?
29 "Don't seek what you will eat or what
you will drink; neither be anxious.

† **12:5** or, Hell ‡ **12:6** An assarion was a small copper coin worth about an hour's wages for an agricultural laborer.
§ **12:25** A cubit is the length from the tip of the middle finger to the elbow on a man's arm, or about 18 inches or 46 centimeters.

30 For the nations of the world seek after
all of these things, but your Father knows
that you need these things.
31 But seek God's Kingdom, and all these
things will be added to you.
32 "Don't be afraid, little flock, for it is
your Father's good pleasure to give you
the Kingdom.
33 Sell what you have and give gifts to
the needy. Make for yourselves purses
which don't grow old, a treasure in the
heavens that doesn't fail, where no thief
approaches and no moth destroys.
34 For where your treasure is, there will
your heart be also.
35 "Let your waist be dressed and your
lamps burning.
36 Be like men watching for their lord
when he returns from the wedding feast,
that when he comes and knocks, they may
immediately open to him.
37 Blessed are those servants whom the
lord will find watching when he comes.
Most certainly I tell you that he will dress
himself, make them recline, and will
come and serve them.
38 They will be blessed if he comes in the
second or third watch and finds them so.
39 But know this, that if the master of the
house had known in what hour the thief
was coming, he would have watched and
not allowed his house to be broken into.
40 Therefore be ready also, for the Son
of Man is coming in an hour that you don't
expect him."
41 Peter said to him, "Lord, are you
telling this parable to us, or to
everybody?"
42 The Lord said, "Who then is the
faithful and wise steward, whom his lord
will set over his household, to give them
their portion of food at the right times?
43 Blessed is that servant whom his lord
will find doing so when he comes.
44 Truly I tell you that he will set him
over all that he has.
45 But if that servant says in his heart,
'My lord delays his coming,' and begins to
beat the menservants and the
maidservants, and to eat and drink and to
be drunken,
46 then the lord of that servant will
come in a day when he isn't expecting him
and in an hour that he doesn't know, and
will cut him in two, and place his portion
with the unfaithful.
47 That servant who knew his lord's will,
and didn't prepare nor do what he
wanted, will be beaten with many stripes,
48 but he who didn't know, and did
things worthy of stripes, will be beaten
with few stripes. To whomever much is
given, of him will much be required; and
to whom much was entrusted, of him
more will be asked.
49 "I came to throw fire on the earth. I
wish it were already kindled.
50 But I have a baptism to be baptized
with, and how distressed I am until it is
accomplished!
51 Do you think that I have come to give
peace on the earth? I tell you, no, but
rather division.
52 For from now on, there will be five in
one house divided, three against two, and
two against three.
53 They will be divided, father against
son, and son against father; mother
against daughter, and daughter against
her mother; mother-in-law against her
daughter-in-law, and daughter-in-law
against her mother-in-law." *
54 He said to the multitudes also, "When
you see a cloud rising from the west,
immediately you say, 'A shower is
coming,' and so it happens.
55 When a south wind blows, you say,
'There will be a scorching heat,' and it
happens.
56 You hypocrites! You know how to
interpret the appearance of the earth and
the sky, but how is it that you don't
interpret this time?
57 "Why don't you judge for yourselves
what is right?
58 For when you are going with your
adversary before the magistrate, try
diligently on the way to be released from
him, lest perhaps he drag you to the judge,
and the judge deliver you to the officer,
and the officer throw you into prison.

* **12:53** Micah 7:6

59 I tell you, you will by no means get out
of there until you have paid the very last
penny.†”

13

1 Now there were some present at the
same time who told him about the
Galileans whose blood Pilate had mixed
with their sacrifices.
2 Jesus answered them, “Do you think
that these Galileans were worse sinners
than all the other Galileans, because they
suffered such things?
3 I tell you, no, but unless you repent,
you will all perish in the same way.
4 Or those eighteen on whom the tower
in Siloam fell and killed them—do you
think that they were worse offenders than
all the men who dwell in Jerusalem?
5 I tell you, no, but, unless you repent,
you will all perish in the same way.”
6 He spoke this parable. “A certain man
had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and
he came seeking fruit on it and found
none.
7 He said to the vine dresser, ‘Behold,
these three years I have come looking for
fruit on this fig tree, and found none. Cut
it down! Why does it waste the soil?’
8 He answered, ‘Lord, leave it alone this
year also, until I dig around it and fertilize
it.
9 If it bears fruit, fine; but if not, after
that, you can cut it down.’ ”
10 He was teaching in one of the
synagogues on the Sabbath day.
11 Behold, there was a woman who had
a spirit of infirmity eighteen years. She
was bent over and could in no way
straighten herself up.
12 When Jesus saw her, he called her
and said to her, “Woman, you are freed
from your infirmity.”
13 He laid his hands on her, and
immediately she stood up straight and
glorified God.
14 The ruler of the synagogue, being
indignant because Jesus had healed on
the Sabbath, said to the multitude, “There
are six days in which men ought to work.
Therefore come on those days and be
healed, and not on the Sabbath day!”
15 Therefore the Lord answered him,
“You hypocrites! Doesn’t each one of you
free his ox or his donkey from the stall on
the Sabbath and lead him away to water?
16 Ought not this woman, being a
daughter of Abraham whom Satan had
bound eighteen long years, be freed from
this bondage on the Sabbath day?”
17 As he said these things, all his
adversaries were disappointed; and all
the multitude rejoiced for all the glorious
things that were done by him.
18 He said, “What is God’s Kingdom like?
To what shall I compare it?
19 It is like a grain of mustard seed
which a man took and put in his own
garden. It grew and became a large tree,
and the birds of the sky live in its
branches.”
20 Again he said, “To what shall I
compare God’s Kingdom?
21 It is like yeast, which a woman took
and hid in three measures † of flour, until
it was all leavened.”
22 He went on his way through cities
and villages, teaching, and traveling on to
Jerusalem.
23 One said to him, “Lord, are they few
who are saved?”
He said to them,
24 “Strive to enter in by the narrow
door, for many, I tell you, will seek to
enter in and will not be able.
25 When once the master of the house
has risen up and has shut the door, and
you begin to stand outside and to knock at
the door, saying, ‘Lord, Lord, open to us!’
then he will answer and tell you, ‘I don’t
know you or where you come from.’
26 Then you will begin to say, ‘We ate
and drank in your presence, and you
taught in our streets.’
27 He will say, ‘I tell you, I don’t know
where you come from. Depart from me,
all you workers of iniquity.’

† **12:59** literally, lepton. A lepton is a very small brass Jewish coin worth half a Roman quadrans each, which is worth a quarter of the copper assarion. Lepta are worth less than 1% of an agricultural worker’s daily wages. † **13:21** literally, three sata. 3 sata is about 39 liters or a bit more than a bushel.

28 There will be weeping and gnashing
of teeth when you see Abraham, Isaac,
Jacob, and all the prophets in God's
Kingdom, and yourselves being thrown
outside.
29 They will come from the east, west,
north, and south, and will sit down in
God's Kingdom.
30 Behold, there are some who are last
who will be first, and there are some who
are first who will be last."
31 On that same day, some Pharisees
came, saying to him, "Get out of here and
go away, for Herod wants to kill you."
32 He said to them, "Go and tell that fox,
'Behold, I cast out demons and perform
cures today and tomorrow, and the third
day I complete my mission.
33 Nevertheless I must go on my way
today and tomorrow and the next day, for
it can't be that a prophet would perish
outside of Jerusalem.'
34 "Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kills
the prophets and stones those who are
sent to her! How often I wanted to gather
your children together, like a hen gathers
her own brood under her wings, and you
refused!
35 Behold, your house is left to you
desolate. I tell you, you will not see me
until you say, 'Blessed is he who comes in
the name of the Lord!' " *

14

1 When he went into the house of one of
the rulers of the Pharisees on a Sabbath to
eat bread, they were watching him.
2 Behold, a certain man who had dropsy
was in front of him.
3 Jesus, answering, spoke to the lawyers
and Pharisees, saying, "Is it lawful to heal
on the Sabbath?"
4 But they were silent.
He took him, and healed him, and let
him go.
5 He answered them, "Which of you, if
your son† or an ox fell into a well,
wouldn't immediately pull him out on a
Sabbath day?"
6 They couldn't answer him regarding
these things.
7 He spoke a parable to those who were
invited, when he noticed how they chose
the best seats, and said to them,
8 "When you are invited by anyone to a
wedding feast, don't sit in the best seat,
since perhaps someone more honorable
than you might be invited by him,
9 and he who invited both of you would
come and tell you, 'Make room for this
person.' Then you would begin, with
shame, to take the lowest place.
10 But when you are invited, go and sit
in the lowest place, so that when he who
invited you comes, he may tell you,
'Friend, move up higher.' Then you will be
honored in the presence of all who sit at
the table with you.
11 For everyone who exalts himself will
be humbled, and whoever humbles
himself will be exalted."
12 He also said to the one who had
invited him, "When you make a dinner or
a supper, don't call your friends, nor your
brothers, nor your kinsmen, nor rich
neighbors, or perhaps they might also
return the favor, and pay you back.
13 But when you make a feast, ask the
poor, the maimed, the lame, or the blind;
14 and you will be blessed, because they
don't have the resources to repay you. For
you will be repaid in the resurrection of
the righteous."
15 When one of those who sat at the
table with him heard these things, he said
to him, "Blessed is he who will feast in
God's Kingdom!"
16 But he said to him, "A certain man
made a great supper, and he invited many
people.
17 He sent out his servant at supper time
to tell those who were invited, 'Come, for
everything is ready now.'
18 They all as one began to make
excuses.
"The first said to him, 'I have bought a
field, and I must go and see it. Please have
me excused.'
19 "Another said, 'I have bought five
yoke of oxen, and I must go try them out.
Please have me excused.'

* **13:35** Psalms 118:26 † **14:5** TR reads "donkey" instead of "son"

20 "Another said, 'I have married a wife,
and therefore I can't come.'
21 "That servant came, and told his lord
these things. Then the master of the
house, being angry, said to his servant,
'Go out quickly into the streets and lanes
of the city, and bring in the poor, maimed,
blind, and lame.'
22 "The servant said, 'Lord, it is done as
you commanded, and there is still room.'
23 "The lord said to the servant, 'Go out
into the highways and hedges, and
compel them to come in, that my house
may be filled.
24 For I tell you that none of those men
who were invited will taste of my supper.
For many are called, but few are
chosen.‡' "
25 Now great multitudes were going
with him. He turned and said to them,
26 "If anyone comes to me, and doesn't
disregard§ his own father, mother, wife,
children, brothers, and sisters, yes, and
his own life also, he can't be my disciple.
27 Whoever doesn't bear his own cross
and come after me, can't be my disciple.
28 For which of you, desiring to build a
tower, doesn't first sit down and count the
cost, to see if he has enough to complete
it?
29 Or perhaps, when he has laid a
foundation and isn't able to finish,
everyone who sees begins to mock him,
30 saying, 'This man began to build and
wasn't able to finish.'
31 Or what king, as he goes to encounter
another king in war, will not sit down first
and consider whether he is able with ten
thousand to meet him who comes against
him with twenty thousand?
32 Or else, while the other is yet a great
way off, he sends an envoy and asks for
conditions of peace.
33 So therefore, whoever of you who
doesn't renounce all that he has, he can't
be my disciple.
34 "Salt is good, but if the salt becomes
flat and tasteless, with what do you
season it?
35 It is fit neither for the soil nor for the
manure pile. It is thrown out. He who has
ears to hear, let him hear."

15

1 Now all the tax collectors and sinners
were coming close to him to hear him.
2 The Pharisees and the scribes
murmured, saying, "This man welcomes
sinners, and eats with them."
3 He told them this parable:
4 "Which of you men, if you had one
hundred sheep and lost one of them,
wouldn't leave the ninety-nine in the
wilderness and go after the one that was
lost, until he found it?
5 When he has found it, he carries it on
his shoulders, rejoicing.
6 When he comes home, he calls
together his friends and his neighbors,
saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I
have found my sheep which was lost!'
7 I tell you that even so there will be
more joy in heaven over one sinner who
repents, than over ninety-nine righteous
people who need no repentance.
8 "Or what woman, if she had ten
drachma† coins, if she lost one drachma
coin, wouldn't light a lamp, sweep the
house, and seek diligently until she found
it?
9 When she has found it, she calls
together her friends and neighbors,
saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found
the drachma which I had lost!'
10 Even so, I tell you, there is joy in the
presence of the angels of God over one
sinner repenting."
11 He said, "A certain man had two sons.
12 The younger of them said to his
father, 'Father, give me my share of your
property.' So he divided his livelihood
between them.
13 Not many days after, the younger son
gathered all of this together and traveled
into a far country. There he wasted his
property with riotous living.
14 When he had spent all of it, there
arose a severe famine in that country, and
he began to be in need.

‡ **14:24** RP MT includes the last sentence. TR, NU, and FH MT omit: For many are called, but few are chosen. § **14:26** or, hate † **15:8** A drachma coin was worth about a days wages for an agricultural laborer.

15 He went and joined himself to one of
the citizens of that country, and he sent
him into his fields to feed pigs.
16 He wanted to fill his belly with the
pods that the pigs ate, but no one gave
him any.
17 But when he came to himself, he said,
'How many hired servants of my father's
have bread enough to spare, and I'm
dying with hunger!
18 I will get up and go to my father, and
will tell him, "Father, I have sinned
against heaven and in your sight.
19 I am no more worthy to be called
your son. Make me as one of your hired
servants." '
20 "He arose and came to his father. But
while he was still far off, his father saw
him and was moved with compassion,
and ran, fell on his neck, and kissed him.
21 The son said to him, 'Father, I have
sinned against heaven and in your sight. I
am no longer worthy to be called your
son.'
22 "But the father said to his servants,
'Bring out the best robe and put it on him.
Put a ring on his hand and sandals on his
feet.
23 Bring the fattened calf, kill it, and let's
eat and celebrate;
24 for this, my son, was dead and is alive
again. He was lost and is found.' Then
they began to celebrate.
25 "Now his elder son was in the field. As
he came near to the house, he heard
music and dancing.
26 He called one of the servants to him
and asked what was going on.
27 He said to him, 'Your brother has
come, and your father has killed the
fattened calf, because he has received him
back safe and healthy.'
28 But he was angry and would not go in.
Therefore his father came out and begged
him.
29 But he answered his father, 'Behold,
these many years I have served you, and I
never disobeyed a commandment of
yours, but you never gave me a goat, that I
might celebrate with my friends.
30 But when this your son came, who
has devoured your living with prostitutes,
you killed the fattened calf for him.'
31 "He said to him, 'Son, you are always
with me, and all that is mine is yours.
32 But it was appropriate to celebrate
and be glad, for this, your brother, was
dead, and is alive again. He was lost, and
is found.' "

16

1 He also said to his disciples, "There
was a certain rich man who had a
manager. An accusation was made to him
that this man was wasting his possessions.
2 He called him, and said to him, 'What
is this that I hear about you? Give an
accounting of your management, for you
can no longer be manager.'
3 "The manager said within himself,
'What will I do, seeing that my lord is
taking away the management position
from me? I don't have strength to dig. I
am ashamed to beg.
4 I know what I will do, so that when I
am removed from management, they may
receive me into their houses.'
5 Calling each one of his lord's debtors to
him, he said to the first, 'How much do
you owe to my lord?'
6 He said, 'A hundred batos† of oil.' He
said to him, 'Take your bill, and sit down
quickly and write fifty.'
7 Then he said to another, 'How much
do you owe?' He said, 'A hundred cors‡ of
wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill,
and write eighty.'
8 "His lord commended the dishonest
manager because he had done wisely, for
the children of this world are, in their
own generation, wiser than the children
of the light.
9 I tell you, make for yourselves friends
by means of unrighteous mammon, so
that when you fail, they may receive you
into the eternal tents.
10 He who is faithful in a very little is
faithful also in much. He who is dishonest
in a very little is also dishonest in much.

† **16:6** 100 batos is about 395 liters or 104 U. S. gallons.
‡ **16:7** 100 cors = about 2,110 liters or 600 bushels.

11 If therefore you have not been
faithful in the unrighteous mammon, who
will commit to your trust the true riches?
12 If you have not been faithful in that
which is another's, who will give you that
which is your own?
13 No servant can serve two masters, for
either he will hate the one and love the
other; or else he will hold to one and
despise the other. You aren't able to serve
God and Mammon."§
14 The Pharisees, who were lovers of
money, also heard all these things, and
they scoffed at him.
15 He said to them, "You are those who
justify yourselves in the sight of men, but
God knows your hearts. For that which is
exalted among men is an abomination in
the sight of God.
16 "The law and the prophets were until
John. From that time the Good News of
God's Kingdom is preached, and everyone
is forcing his way into it.
17 But it is easier for heaven and earth to
pass away than for one tiny stroke of a
pen in the law to fall.
18 "Everyone who divorces his wife and
marries another commits adultery. He
who marries one who is divorced from a
husband commits adultery.
19 "Now there was a certain rich man,
and he was clothed in purple and fine
linen, living in luxury every day.
20 A certain beggar, named Lazarus,
was taken to his gate, full of sores,
21 and desiring to be fed with the
crumbs that fell from the rich man's table.
Yes, even the dogs came and licked his
sores.
22 The beggar died, and he was carried
away by the angels to Abraham's bosom.
The rich man also died and was buried.
23 In Hades,† he lifted up his eyes, being
in torment, and saw Abraham far off, and
Lazarus at his bosom.
24 He cried and 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 in anguish
in this flame.'
25 "But Abraham said, 'Son, remember
that you, in your lifetime, received your
good things, and Lazarus, in the same
way, bad things. But here he is now
comforted and you are in anguish.
26 Besides all this, between us and you
there is a great gulf fixed, that those who
want to pass from here to you are not
able, and that no one may cross over from
there to us.'
27 "He said, 'I ask you therefore, father,
that you would send him to my father's
house—
28 for I have five brothers—that he may
testify to them, so they won't also come
into this place of torment.'
29 "But Abraham said to him, 'They have
Moses and the prophets. Let them listen to
them.'
30 "He said, 'No, father Abraham, but if
one goes to them from the dead, they will
repent.'
31 "He said to him, 'If they don't listen to
Moses and the prophets, neither will they
be persuaded if one rises from the dead.' "

17

1 He said to the disciples, "It is
impossible that no occasions of stumbling
should come, but woe to him through
whom they come!
2 It would be better for him if a
millstone were hung around his neck, and
he were thrown into the sea, rather than
that he should cause one of these little
ones to stumble.
3 Be careful. If your brother sins against
you, rebuke him. If he repents, forgive
him.
4 If he sins against you seven times in
the day, and seven times returns, saying, 'I
repent,' you shall forgive him."
5 The apostles said to the Lord,
"Increase our faith."
6 The Lord said, "If you had faith like a
grain of mustard seed, you would tell this
sycamore tree, 'Be uprooted and be
planted in the sea,' and it would obey you.
7 But who is there among you, having a
servant plowing or keeping sheep, that
will say when he comes in from the field,

§ **16:13** "Mammon" refers to riches or a false god of wealth. † **16:23** or, Hell

‘Come immediately and sit down at the table’?
8 Wouldn’t he rather tell him, ‘Prepare my supper, clothe yourself properly, and serve me while I eat and drink. Afterward you shall eat and drink’?
9 Does he thank that servant because he did the things that were commanded? I think not.
10 Even so you also, when you have done all the things that are commanded you, say, ‘We are unworthy servants. We have done our duty.’ ”
11 As he was on his way to Jerusalem, he was passing along the borders of Samaria and Galilee.
12 As he entered into a certain village, ten men who were lepers met him, who stood at a distance.
13 They lifted up their voices, saying, “Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!”
14 When he saw them, he said to them, “Go and show yourselves to the priests.” As they went, they were cleansed.
15 One of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, glorifying God with a loud voice.
16 He fell on his face at Jesus’ feet, giving him thanks; and he was a Samaritan.
17 Jesus answered, “Weren’t the ten cleansed? But where are the nine?
18 Were there none found who returned to give glory to God, except this foreigner?”
19 Then he said to him, “Get up, and go your way. Your faith has healed you.”
20 Being asked by the Pharisees when God’s Kingdom would come, he answered them, “God’s Kingdom doesn’t come with observation;
21 neither will they say, ‘Look, here!’ or, ‘Look, there!’ for behold, God’s Kingdom is within you.”
22 He said to the disciples, “The days will come when you will desire to see one of the days of the Son of Man, and you will not see it.
23 They will tell you, ‘Look, here!’ or ‘Look, there!’ Don’t go away or follow after them,
24 for as the lightning, when it flashes out of one part under the sky, shines to another part under the sky, so will the Son of Man be in his day.
25 But first, he must suffer many things and be rejected by this generation.
26 As it was in the days of Noah, even so it will also be in the days of the Son of Man.
27 They ate, they drank, they married, and they were given in marriage until the day that Noah entered into the ship, and the flood came and destroyed them all.
28 Likewise, even as it was in the days of Lot: they ate, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they built;
29 but in the day that Lot went out from Sodom, it rained fire and sulfur from the sky and destroyed them all.
30 It will be the same way in the day that the Son of Man is revealed.
31 In that day, he who will be on the housetop and his goods in the house, let him not go down to take them away. Let him who is in the field likewise not turn back.
32 Remember Lot’s wife!
33 Whoever seeks to save his life loses it, but whoever loses his life preserves it.
34 I tell you, in that night there will be two people in one bed. One will be taken and the other will be left.
35 There will be two grinding grain together. One will be taken and the other will be left.”
36 †
37 They, answering, asked him, “Where, Lord?”
He said to them, “Where the body is, there the vultures will also be gathered together.”

18

1 He also spoke a parable to them that they must always pray and not give up,
2 saying, “There was a judge in a certain city who didn’t fear God and didn’t respect man.
3 A widow was in that city, and she often came to him, saying, ‘Defend me from my adversary!’

† **17:36** Some Greek manuscripts add: “Two will be in the field: the one taken, and the other left.”

4 He wouldn't for a while; but afterward
he said to himself, 'Though I neither fear
God nor respect man,
5 yet because this widow bothers me, I
will defend her, or else she will wear me
out by her continual coming.' "

6 The Lord said, "Listen to what the
unrighteous judge says.
7 Won't God avenge his chosen ones
who are crying out to him day and night,
and yet he exercises patience with them?
8 I tell you that he will avenge them
quickly. Nevertheless, when the Son of
Man comes, will he find faith on the
earth?"

9 He also spoke this parable to certain
people who were convinced of their own
righteousness, and who despised all
others:
10 "Two men went up into the temple to
pray; one was a Pharisee, and the other
was a tax collector.
11 The Pharisee stood and prayed by
himself like this: 'God, I thank you that I
am not like the rest of men: extortionists,
unrighteous, adulterers, or even like this
tax collector.
12 I fast twice a week. I give tithes of all
that I get.'
13 But the tax collector, standing far
away, wouldn't even lift up his eyes to
heaven, but beat his chest, saying, 'God, be
merciful to me, a sinner!'
14 I tell you, this man went down to his
house justified rather than the other; for
everyone who exalts himself will be
humbled, but he who humbles himself
will be exalted."

15 They were also bringing their babies
to him, that he might touch them. But
when the disciples saw it, they rebuked
them.
16 Jesus summoned them, saying, "Allow
the little children to come to me, and don't
hinder them, for God's Kingdom belongs
to such as these.
17 Most certainly, I tell you, whoever
doesn't receive God's Kingdom like a little
child, he will in no way enter into it."

18 A certain ruler asked him, saying,
"Good Teacher, what shall I do to inherit
eternal life?"
19 Jesus asked him, "Why do you call me
good? No one is good, except one: God.
20 You know the commandments: 'Don't
commit adultery,' 'Don't murder,' 'Don't
steal,' 'Don't give false testimony,' 'Honor
your father and your mother.' "*
21 He said, "I have observed all these
things from my youth up."
22 When Jesus heard these things, he
said to him, "You still lack one thing. Sell
all that you have and distribute it to the
poor. Then you will have treasure in
heaven; then come, follow me."
23 But when he heard these things, he
became very sad, for he was very rich.
24 Jesus, seeing that he became very sad,
said, "How hard it is for those who have
riches to enter into God's Kingdom!
25 For it is easier for a camel to enter in
through a needle's eye than for a rich man
to enter into God's Kingdom."
26 Those who heard it said, "Then who
can be saved?"
27 But he said, "The things which are
impossible with men are possible with
God."
28 Peter said, "Look, we have left
everything and followed you."
29 He said to them, "Most certainly I tell
you, there is no one who has left house, or
wife, or brothers, or parents, or children,
for God's Kingdom's sake,
30 who will not receive many times
more in this time, and in the world to
come, eternal life."
31 He took the twelve aside and said to
them, "Behold, we are going up to
Jerusalem, and all the things that are
written through the prophets concerning
the Son of Man will be completed.
32 For he will be delivered up to the
Gentiles, will be mocked, treated
shamefully, and spit on.
33 They will scourge and kill him. On the
third day, he will rise again."
34 They understood none of these
things. This saying was hidden from

* **18:20** Exodus 20:12-16; Deuteronomy 5:16-20

them, and they didn't understand the things that were said.
35 As he came near Jericho, a certain blind man sat by the road, begging.
36 Hearing a multitude going by, he asked what this meant.
37 They told him that Jesus of Nazareth was passing by.
38 He cried out, "Jesus, you son of David, have mercy on me!"
39 Those who led the way rebuked him, that he should be quiet; but he cried out all the more, "You son of David, have mercy on me!"
40 Standing still, Jesus commanded him to be brought to him. When he had come near, he asked him,
41 "What do you want me to do?"
He said, "Lord, that I may see again."
42 Jesus said to him, "Receive your sight. Your faith has healed you."
43 Immediately he received his sight and followed him, glorifying God. All the people, when they saw it, praised God.

19

1 He entered and was passing through Jericho.
2 There was a man named Zacchaeus. He was a chief tax collector, and he was rich.
3 He was trying to see who Jesus was, and couldn't because of the crowd, because he was short.
4 He ran on ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see him, for he was going to pass that way.
5 When Jesus came to the place, he looked up and saw him, and said to him, "Zacchaeus, hurry and come down, for today I must stay at your house."
6 He hurried, came down, and received him joyfully.
7 When they saw it, they all murmured, saying, "He has gone in to lodge with a man who is a sinner."
8 Zacchaeus stood and said to the Lord, "Behold, Lord, half of my goods I give to the poor. If I have wrongfully exacted anything of anyone, I restore four times as much."
9 Jesus said to him, "Today, salvation has come to this house, because he also is a son of Abraham.
10 For the Son of Man came to seek and to save that which was lost."
11 As they heard these things, he went on and told a parable, because he was near Jerusalem, and they supposed that God's Kingdom would be revealed immediately.
12 He said therefore, "A certain nobleman went into a far country to receive for himself a kingdom and to return.
13 He called ten servants of his and gave them ten mina coins, † and told them, 'Conduct business until I come.'
14 But his citizens hated him, and sent an envoy after him, saying, 'We don't want this man to reign over us.'
15 "When he had come back again, having received the kingdom, he commanded these servants, to whom he had given the money, to be called to him, that he might know what they had gained by conducting business.
16 The first came before him, saying, 'Lord, your mina has made ten more minas.'
17 "He said to him, 'Well done, you good servant! Because you were found faithful with very little, you shall have authority over ten cities.'
18 "The second came, saying, 'Your mina, Lord, has made five minas.'
19 "So he said to him, 'And you are to be over five cities.'
20 Another came, saying, 'Lord, behold, your mina, which I kept laid away in a handkerchief,
21 for I feared you, because you are an exacting man. You take up that which you didn't lay down, and reap that which you didn't sow.'
22 "He said to him, 'Out of your own mouth I will judge you, you wicked servant! You knew that I am an exacting man, taking up that which I didn't lay

† **19:13** 10 minas was more than 3 years' wages for an agricultural laborer.

down and reaping that which I didn't sow.
23 Then why didn't you deposit my
money in the bank, and at my coming, I
might have earned interest on it?'
24 He said to those who stood by, 'Take
the mina away from him and give it to
him who has the ten minas.'
25 "They said to him, 'Lord, he has ten
minas!'
26 'For I tell you that to everyone who
has, will more be given; but from him
who doesn't have, even that which he has
will be taken away from him.
27 But bring those enemies of mine who
didn't want me to reign over them here,
and kill them before me.' "
28 Having said these things, he went on
ahead, going up to Jerusalem.
29 When he came near to Bethsphage‡
and Bethany, at the mountain that is
called Olivet, he sent two of his disciples,
30 saying, "Go your way into the village
on the other side, in which, as you enter,
you will find a colt tied, which no man has
ever sat upon. Untie it and bring it.
31 If anyone asks you, 'Why are you
untying it?' say to him: 'The Lord needs
it.' "
32 Those who were sent went away and
found things just as he had told them.
33 As they were untying the colt, its
owners said to them, "Why are you
untying the colt?"
34 They said, "The Lord needs it."
35 Then they brought it to Jesus. They
threw their cloaks on the colt and sat
Jesus on them.
36 As he went, they spread their cloaks
on the road.
37 As he was now getting near, at the
descent of the Mount of Olives, the whole
multitude of the disciples began to rejoice
and praise God with a loud voice for all
the mighty works which they had seen,
38 saying, "Blessed is the King who
comes in the name of the Lord!* Peace in
heaven, and glory in the highest!"
39 Some of the Pharisees from the
multitude said to him, "Teacher, rebuke
your disciples!"
40 He answered them, "I tell you that if
these were silent, the stones would cry
out."
41 When he came near, he saw the city
and wept over it,
42 saying, "If you, even you, had known
today the things which belong to your
peace! But now, they are hidden from
your eyes.
43 For the days will come on you when
your enemies will throw up a barricade
against you, surround you, hem you in on
every side,
44 and will dash you and your children
within you to the ground. They will not
leave in you one stone on another,
because you didn't know the time of your
visitation."
45 He entered into the temple and began
to drive out those who bought and sold in
it,
46 saying to them, "It is written, 'My
house is a house of prayer,' * but you have
made it a 'den of robbers'!" *
47 He was teaching daily in the temple,
but the chief priests, the scribes, and the
leading men among the people sought to
destroy him.
48 They couldn't find what they might
do, for all the people hung on to every
word that he said.

20

1 On one of those days, as he was
teaching the people in the temple and
preaching the Good News, the† priests and
scribes came to him with the elders.
2 They asked him, "Tell us: by what
authority do you do these things? Or who
is giving you this authority?"
3 He answered them, "I also will ask you
one question. Tell me:
4 the baptism of John, was it from
heaven, or from men?"
5 They reasoned with themselves,
saying, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will
say, 'Why didn't you believe him?'

‡ **19:29** TR, NU read "Bethpage" instead of "Bethsphage"
* **19:38** Psalms 118:26 * **19:46** Isaiah 56:7 * **19:46** Jeremiah 7:11 † **20:1** TR adds "chief"

6 But if we say, ‘From men,’ all the
people will stone us, for they are
persuaded that John was a prophet.”
7 They answered that they didn’t know
where it was from.
8 Jesus said to them, “Neither will I tell
you by what authority I do these things.”
9 He began to tell the people this
parable: “A ‡ man planted a vineyard and
rented it out to some farmers, and went
into another country for a long time.
10 At the proper season, he sent a
servant to the farmers to collect his share
of the fruit of the vineyard. But the
farmers beat him and sent him away
empty.
11 He sent yet another servant, and they
also beat him and treated him shamefully,
and sent him away empty.
12 He sent yet a third, and they also
wounded him and threw him out.
13 The lord of the vineyard said, ‘What
shall I do? I will send my beloved son. It
may be that seeing him, they will respect
him.’
14 “But when the farmers saw him, they
reasoned among themselves, saying, ‘This
is the heir. Come, let’s kill him, that the
inheritance may be ours.’
15 Then they threw him out of the
vineyard and killed him. What therefore
will the lord of the vineyard do to them?
16 He will come and destroy these
farmers, and will give the vineyard to
others.”
When they heard that, they said, “May
that never be!”
17 But he looked at them and said, “Then
what is this that is written,
‘The stone which the builders rejected
was made the chief cornerstone’?*
18 Everyone who falls on that stone will be
broken to pieces,
but it will crush whomever it falls on
to dust.”
19 The chief priests and the scribes
sought to lay hands on him that very hour,
but they feared the people—for they knew
he had spoken this parable against them.
20 They watched him and sent out spies,
who pretended to be righteous, that they
might trap him in something he said, so as
to deliver him up to the power and
authority of the governor.
21 They asked him, “Teacher, we know
that you say and teach what is right, and
aren’t partial to anyone, but truly teach
the way of God.
22 Is it lawful for us to pay taxes to
Caesar, or not?”
23 But he perceived their craftiness, and
said to them, “Why do you test me?
24 Show me a denarius. Whose image
and inscription are on it?”
They answered, “Caesar’s.”
25 He said to them, “Then give to Caesar
the things that are Caesar’s, and to God
the things that are God’s.”
26 They weren’t able to trap him in his
words before the people. They marveled
at his answer and were silent.
27 Some of the Sadducees came to him,
those who deny that there is a
resurrection.
28 They asked him, “Teacher, Moses
wrote to us that if a man’s brother dies
having a wife, and he is childless, his
brother should take the wife and raise up
children for his brother.
29 There were therefore seven brothers.
The first took a wife, and died childless.
30 The second took her as wife, and he
died childless.
31 The third took her, and likewise the
seven all left no children, and died.
32 Afterward the woman also died.
33 Therefore in the resurrection whose
wife of them will she be? For the seven
had her as a wife.”
34 Jesus said to them, “The children of
this age marry and are given in marriage.
35 But those who are considered worthy
to attain to that age and the resurrection
from the dead neither marry nor are
given in marriage.
36 For they can’t die any more, for they
are like the angels and are children of
God, being children of the resurrection.
37 But that the dead are raised, even
Moses showed at the bush, when he called

‡ **20:9** NU (in brackets) and TR add “certain” * **20:17** Psalms 118:22 * **20:37** Exodus 3:6

the Lord ‘The God of Abraham, the God of
Isaac, and the God of Jacob.’ *
38 Now he is not the God of the dead, but
of the living, for all are alive to him.”
39 Some of the scribes answered,
“Teacher, you speak well.”
40 They didn’t dare to ask him any more
questions.
41 He said to them, “Why do they say
that the Christ is David’s son?
42 David himself says in the book of
Psalms,
‘The Lord said to my Lord,
“Sit at my right hand,
43 until I make your enemies the
footstool of your feet.” ’ *
44 “David therefore calls him Lord, so
how is he his son?”
45 In the hearing of all the people, he
said to his disciples,
46 “Beware of those scribes who like to
walk in long robes, and love greetings in
the marketplaces, the best seats in the
synagogues, and the best places at feasts;
47 who devour widows’ houses, and for
a pretense make long prayers. These will
receive greater condemnation.”

21

1 He looked up and saw the rich people
who were putting their gifts into the
treasury.
2 He saw a certain poor widow casting
in two small brass coins.†
3 He said, “Truly I tell you, this poor
widow put in more than all of them,
4 for all these put in gifts for God from
their abundance, but she, out of her
poverty, put in all that she had to live on.”
5 As some were talking about the temple
and how it was decorated with beautiful
stones and gifts, he said,
6 “As for these things which you see, the
days will come in which there will not be
left here one stone on another that will
not be thrown down.”
7 They asked him, “Teacher, so when
will these things be? What is the sign that
these things are about to happen?”
8 He said, “Watch out that you don’t get
led astray, for many will come in my
name, saying, ‘I am he‡,’ and, ‘The time is
at hand.’ Therefore don’t follow them.
9 When you hear of wars and
disturbances, don’t be terrified, for these
things must happen first, but the end
won’t come immediately.”
10 Then he said to them, “Nation will
rise against nation, and kingdom against
kingdom.
11 There will be great earthquakes,
famines, and plagues in various places.
There will be terrors and great signs from
heaven.
12 But before all these things, they will
lay their hands on you and will persecute
you, delivering you up to synagogues and
prisons, bringing you before kings and
governors for my name’s sake.
13 It will turn out as a testimony for you.
14 Settle it therefore in your hearts not
to meditate beforehand how to answer,
15 for I will give you a mouth and
wisdom which all your adversaries will
not be able to withstand or to contradict.
16 You will be handed over even by
parents, brothers, relatives, and friends.
They will cause some of you to be put to
death.
17 You will be hated by all men for my
name’s sake.
18 And not a hair of your head will
perish.
19 “By your endurance you will win
your lives.
20 “But when you see Jerusalem
surrounded by armies, then know that its
desolation is at hand.
21 Then let those who are in Judea flee to
the mountains. Let those who are in the
middle of her depart. Let those who are in
the country not enter therein.
22 For these are days of vengeance, that
all things which are written may be
fulfilled.
23 Woe to those who are pregnant and to
those who nurse infants in those days! For
there will be great distress in the land and
wrath to this people.

* **20:43** Psalms 110:1 † **21:2** literally, “two lepta.” 2 lepta was about 1% of a day’s wages for an agricultural laborer.
‡ **21:8** or, I AM

24 They will fall by the edge of the
sword, and will be led captive into all the
nations. Jerusalem will be trampled down
by the Gentiles until the times of the
Gentiles are fulfilled.
25 “There will be signs in the sun, moon,
and stars; and on the earth anxiety of
nations, in perplexity for the roaring of
the sea and the waves;
26 men fainting for fear and for
expectation of the things which are
coming on the world, for the powers of
the heavens will be shaken.
27 Then they will see the Son of Man
coming in a cloud with power and great
glory.
28 But when these things begin to
happen, look up and lift up your heads,
because your redemption is near.”
29 He told them a parable. “See the fig
tree and all the trees.
30 When they are already budding, you
see it and know by your own selves that
the summer is already near.
31 Even so you also, when you see these
things happening, know that God’s
Kingdom is near.
32 Most certainly I tell you, this
generation will not pass away until all
things are accomplished.
33 Heaven and earth will pass away, but
my words will by no means pass away.
34 “So be careful, or your hearts will be
loaded down with carousing,
drunkenness, and cares of this life, and
that day will come on you suddenly.
35 For it will come like a snare on all
those who dwell on the surface of all the
earth.
36 Therefore be watchful all the time,
praying that you may be counted worthy
to escape all these things that will happen,
and to stand before the Son of Man.”
37 Every day Jesus was teaching in the
temple, and every night he would go out
and spend the night on the mountain that
is called Olivet.
38 All the people came early in the
morning to him in the temple to hear him.

22

1 Now the feast of unleavened bread,
which is called the Passover, was
approaching.
2 The chief priests and the scribes
sought how they might put him to death,
for they feared the people.
3 Satan entered into Judas, who was also
called Iscariot, who was counted with the
twelve.
4 He went away and talked with the
chief priests and captains about how he
might deliver him to them.
5 They were glad, and agreed to give
him money.
6 He consented and sought an
opportunity to deliver him to them in the
absence of the multitude.
7 The day of unleavened bread came, on
which the Passover must be sacrificed.
8 Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, “Go
and prepare the Passover for us, that we
may eat.”
9 They said to him, “Where do you want
us to prepare?”
10 He said to them, “Behold, when you
have entered into the city, a man carrying
a pitcher of water will meet you. Follow
him into the house which he enters.
11 Tell the master of the house, ‘The
Teacher says to you, “Where is the guest
room, where I may eat the Passover with
my disciples?” ’
12 He will show you a large, furnished
upper room. Make preparations there.”
13 They went, found things as Jesus had
told them, and they prepared the
Passover.
14 When the hour had come, he sat
down with the twelve apostles.
15 He said to them, “I have earnestly
desired to eat this Passover with you
before I suffer,
16 for I tell you, I will no longer by any
means eat of it until it is fulfilled in God’s
Kingdom.”
17 He received a cup, and when he had
given thanks, he said, “Take this and share
it among yourselves,
18 for I tell you, I will not drink at all
again from the fruit of the vine, until
God’s Kingdom comes.”
19 He took bread, and when he had
given thanks, he broke and gave it to

them, saying, “This is my body which is
given for you. Do this in memory of me.”
20 Likewise, he took the cup after
supper, saying, “This cup is the new
covenant in my blood, which is poured
out for you.
21 But behold, the hand of him who
betrays me is with me on the table.
22 The Son of Man indeed goes as it has
been determined, but woe to that man
through whom he is betrayed!”
23 They began to question among
themselves which of them it was who
would do this thing.
24 A dispute also arose among them,
which of them was considered to be
greatest.
25 He said to them, “The kings of the
nations lord it over them, and those who
have authority over them are called
‘benefactors.’
26 But not so with you. Rather, the one
who is greater among you, let him become
as the younger, and one who is governing,
as one who serves.
27 For who is greater, one who sits at the
table, or one who serves? Isn’t it he who
sits at the table? But I am among you as
one who serves.
28 “But you are those who have
continued with me in my trials.
29 I confer on you a kingdom, even as
my Father conferred on me,
30 that you may eat and drink at my
table in my Kingdom. You will sit on
thrones, judging the twelve tribes of
Israel.”
31 The Lord said, “Simon, Simon, behold,
Satan asked to have all of you, that he
might sift you as wheat,
32 but I prayed for you, that your faith
wouldn’t fail. You, when once you have
turned again, establish your brothers.”†
33 He said to him, “Lord, I am ready to go
with you both to prison and to death!”
34 He said, “I tell you, Peter, the rooster
will by no means crow today until you
deny that you know me three times.”
35 He said to them, “When I sent you out
without purse, bag, and sandals, did you
lack anything?”
They said, “Nothing.”
36 Then he said to them, “But now,
whoever has a purse, let him take it, and
likewise a bag. Whoever has none, let him
sell his cloak, and buy a sword.
37 For I tell you that this which is written
must still be fulfilled in me: ‘He was
counted with transgressors.’* For that
which concerns me is being fulfilled.”
38 They said, “Lord, behold, here are two
swords.”
He said to them, “That is enough.”
39 He came out and went, as his custom
was, to the Mount of Olives. His disciples
also followed him.
40 When he was at the place, he said to
them, “Pray that you don’t enter into
temptation.”
41 He was withdrawn from them about
a stone’s throw, and he knelt down and
prayed,
42 saying, “Father, if you are willing,
remove this cup from me. Nevertheless,
not my will, but yours, be done.”
43 An angel from heaven appeared to
him, strengthening him.
44 Being in agony, he prayed more
earnestly. His sweat became like great
drops of blood falling down on the
ground.
45 When he rose up from his prayer, he
came to the disciples and found them
sleeping because of grief,
46 and said to them, “Why do you sleep?
Rise and pray that you may not enter into
temptation.”
47 While he was still speaking, a crowd
appeared. He who was called Judas, one
of the twelve, was leading them. He came
near to Jesus to kiss him.
48 But Jesus said to him, “Judas, do you
betray the Son of Man with a kiss?”
49 When those who were around him
saw what was about to happen, they said
to him, “Lord, shall we strike with the
sword?”

† **22:32** The word for “brothers” here may be also correctly translated “brothers and sisters” or “siblings.” * **22:37** Isaiah 53:12

50 A certain one of them struck the
servant of the high priest, and cut off his
right ear.
51 But Jesus answered, "Let me at least
do this"—and he touched his ear and
healed him.
52 Jesus said to the chief priests, captains
of the temple, and elders, who had come
against him, "Have you come out as
against a robber, with swords and clubs?
53 When I was with you in the temple
daily, you didn't stretch out your hands
against me. But this is your hour, and the
power of darkness."
54 They seized him and led him away,
and brought him into the high priest's
house. But Peter followed from a distance.
55 When they had kindled a fire in the
middle of the courtyard and had sat down
together, Peter sat among them.
56 A certain servant girl saw him as he
sat in the light, and looking intently at
him, said, "This man also was with him."
57 He denied Jesus, saying, "Woman, I
don't know him."
58 After a little while someone else saw
him and said, "You also are one of them!"
But Peter answered, "Man, I am not!"
59 After about one hour passed, another
confidently affirmed, saying, "Truly this
man also was with him, for he is a
Galilean!"
60 But Peter said, "Man, I don't know
what you are talking about!"
Immediately, while he was still speaking,
a rooster crowed.
61 The Lord turned and looked at Peter.
Then Peter remembered the Lord's word,
how he said to him, "Before the rooster
crows you will deny me three times."
62 He went out, and wept bitterly.
63 The men who held Jesus mocked him
and beat him.
64 Having blindfolded him, they struck
him on the face and asked him,
"Prophesy! Who is the one who struck
you?"
65 They spoke many other things against
him, insulting him.
66 As soon as it was day, the assembly of
the elders of the people were gathered
together, both chief priests and scribes,
and they led him away into their council,
saying,
67 "If you are the Christ, tell us."
But he said to them, "If I tell you, you
won't believe,
68 and if I ask, you will in no way answer
me or let me go.
69 From now on, the Son of Man will be
seated at the right hand of the power of
God."
70 They all said, "Are you then the Son of
God?"
He said to them, "You say it, because I
am."
71 They said, "Why do we need any more
witness? For we ourselves have heard
from his own mouth!"

23

1 The whole company of them rose up
and brought him before Pilate.
2 They began to accuse him, saying, "We
found this man perverting the nation,
forbidding paying taxes to Caesar, and
saying that he himself is Christ, a king."
3 Pilate asked him, "Are you the King of
the Jews?"
He answered him, "So you say."
4 Pilate said to the chief priests and the
multitudes, "I find no basis for a charge
against this man."
5 But they insisted, saying, "He stirs up
the people, teaching throughout all Judea,
beginning from Galilee even to this place."
6 But when Pilate heard Galilee
mentioned, he asked if the man was a
Galilean.
7 When he found out that he was in
Herod's jurisdiction, he sent him to
Herod, who was also in Jerusalem during
those days.
8 Now when Herod saw Jesus, he was
exceedingly glad, for he had wanted to see
him for a long time, because he had heard
many things about him. He hoped to see
some miracle done by him.
9 He questioned him with many words,
but he gave no answers.
10 The chief priests and the scribes
stood, vehemently accusing him.
11 Herod with his soldiers humiliated
him and mocked him. Dressing him in

luxurious clothing, they sent him back to Pilate.
12 Herod and Pilate became friends with each other that very day, for before that they were enemies with each other.
13 Pilate called together the chief priests, the rulers, and the people,
14 and said to them, "You brought this man to me as one that perverts the people, and behold, having examined him before you, I found no basis for a charge against this man concerning those things of which you accuse him.
15 Neither has Herod, for I sent you to him, and see, nothing worthy of death has been done by him.
16 I will therefore chastise him and release him."
17 Now he had to release one prisoner to them at the feast.†
18 But they all cried out together, saying, "Away with this man! Release to us Barabbas!"—
19 one who was thrown into prison for a certain revolt in the city, and for murder.
20 Then Pilate spoke to them again, wanting to release Jesus,
21 but they shouted, saying, "Crucify! Crucify him!"
22 He said to them the third time, "Why? What evil has this man done? I have found no capital crime in him. I will therefore chastise him and release him."
23 But they were urgent with loud voices, asking that he might be crucified. Their voices and the voices of the chief priests prevailed.
24 Pilate decreed that what they asked for should be done.
25 He released him who had been thrown into prison for insurrection and murder, for whom they asked, but he delivered Jesus up to their will.
26 When they led him away, they grabbed one Simon of Cyrene, coming from the country, and laid the cross on him to carry it after Jesus.
27 A great multitude of the people followed him, including women who also mourned and lamented him.
28 But Jesus, turning to them, said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, don't weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children.
29 For behold, the days are coming in which they will say, 'Blessed are the barren, the wombs that never bore, and the breasts that never nursed.'
30 Then they will begin to tell the mountains, 'Fall on us!' and tell the hills, 'Cover us.'*
31 For if they do these things in the green tree, what will be done in the dry?"
32 There were also others, two criminals, led with him to be put to death.
33 When they came to the place that is called "The Skull", they crucified him there with the criminals, one on the right and the other on the left.
34 Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they don't know what they are doing."
Dividing his garments among them, they cast lots.
35 The people stood watching. The rulers with them also scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others. Let him save himself, if this is the Christ of God, his chosen one!"
36 The soldiers also mocked him, coming to him and offering him vinegar,
37 and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!"
38 An inscription was also written over him in letters of Greek, Latin, and Hebrew: "THIS IS THE KING OF THE JEWS."
39 One of the criminals who was hanged insulted him, saying, "If you are the Christ, save yourself and us!"
40 But the other answered, and rebuking him said, "Don't you even fear God, seeing you are under the same condemnation?
41 And we indeed justly, for we receive the due reward for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong."
42 He said to Jesus, "Lord, remember me when you come into your Kingdom."
43 Jesus said to him, "Assuredly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

† **23:17** NU omits verse 17. * **23:30** Hosea 10:8

44 It was now about the sixth hour,‡ and
darkness came over the whole land until
the ninth hour.§
45 The sun was darkened, and the veil of
the temple was torn in two.
46 Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said,
"Father, into your hands I commit my
spirit!" Having said this, he breathed his
last.
47 When the centurion saw what was
done, he glorified God, saying, "Certainly
this was a righteous man."
48 All the multitudes that came together
to see this, when they saw the things that
were done, returned home beating their
chests.
49 All his acquaintances and the women
who followed with him from Galilee stood
at a distance, watching these things.
50 Behold, there was a man named
Joseph, who was a member of the council,
a good and righteous man
51 (he had not consented to their
counsel and deed), from Arimathaea, a
city of the Jews, who was also waiting for
God's Kingdom.
52 This man went to Pilate, and asked for
Jesus' body.
53 He took it down and wrapped it in a
linen cloth, and laid him in a tomb that
was cut in stone, where no one had ever
been laid.
54 It was the day of the Preparation, and
the Sabbath was drawing near.
55 The women who had come with him
out of Galilee followed after, and saw the
tomb and how his body was laid.
56 They returned and prepared spices
and ointments. On the Sabbath they
rested according to the commandment.

24

1 But on the first day of the week, at
early dawn, they and some others came to
the tomb, bringing the spices which they
had prepared.
2 They found the stone rolled away from
the tomb.
3 They entered in, and didn't find the
Lord Jesus' body.
4 While they were greatly perplexed
about this, behold, two men stood by them
in dazzling clothing.
5 Becoming terrified, they bowed their
faces down to the earth.
The men said to them, "Why do you
seek the living among the dead?
6 He isn't here, but is risen. Remember
what he told you when he was still in
Galilee,
7 saying that the Son of Man must be
delivered up into the hands of sinful men
and be crucified, and the third day rise
again?"
8 They remembered his words,
9 returned from the tomb, and told all
these things to the eleven and to all the
rest.
10 Now they were Mary Magdalene,
Joanna, and Mary the mother of James.
The other women with them told these
things to the apostles.
11 These words seemed to them to be
nonsense, and they didn't believe them.
12 But Peter got up and ran to the tomb.
Stooping and looking in, he saw the strips
of linen lying by themselves, and he
departed to his home, wondering what
had happened.
13 Behold, two of them were going that
very day to a village named Emmaus,
which was sixty stadia† from Jerusalem.
14 They talked with each other about all
of these things which had happened.
15 While they talked and questioned
together, Jesus himself came near, and
went with them.
16 But their eyes were kept from
recognizing him.
17 He said to them, "What are you
talking about as you walk, and are sad?"
18 One of them, named Cleopas,
answered him, "Are you the only stranger
in Jerusalem who doesn't know the things
which have happened there in these
days?"
19 He said to them, "What things?"
They said to him, "The things
concerning Jesus the Nazarene, who was

‡ **23:44** Time was counted from sunrise, so the sixth hour was about noon. § **23:44** 3:00 p.m. † **24:13** 60 stadia = about 11 kilometers or about 7 miles.

a prophet mighty in deed and word
before God and all the people;
20 and how the chief priests and our
rulers delivered him up to be condemned
to death, and crucified him.
21 But we were hoping that it was he
who would redeem Israel. Yes, and
besides all this, it is now the third day
since these things happened.
22 Also, certain women of our company
amazed us, having arrived early at the
tomb;
23 and when they didn't find his body,
they came saying that they had also seen a
vision of angels, who said that he was
alive.
24 Some of us went to the tomb and
found it just like the women had said, but
they didn't see him."
25 He said to them, "Foolish people, and
slow of heart to believe in all that the
prophets have spoken!
26 Didn't the Christ have to suffer these
things and to enter into his glory?"
27 Beginning from Moses and from all
the prophets, he explained to them in all
the Scriptures the things concerning
himself.
28 They came near to the village where
they were going, and he acted like he
would go further.
29 They urged him, saying, "Stay with us,
for it is almost evening, and the day is
almost over."
He went in to stay with them.
30 When he had sat down at the table
with them, he took the bread and gave
thanks. Breaking it, he gave it to them.
31 Their eyes were opened and they
recognized him; then he vanished out of
their sight.
32 They said to one another, "Weren't
our hearts burning within us while he
spoke to us along the way, and while he
opened the Scriptures to us?"
33 They rose up that very hour, returned
to Jerusalem, and found the eleven
gathered together, and those who were
with them,
34 saying, "The Lord is risen indeed, and
has appeared to Simon!"
35 They related the things that
happened along the way, and how he was
recognized by them in the breaking of the
bread.
36 As they said these things, Jesus
himself stood among them, and said to
them, "Peace be to you."
37 But they were terrified and filled with
fear, and supposed that they had seen a
spirit.
38 He said to them, "Why are you
troubled? Why do doubts arise in your
hearts?
39 See my hands and my feet, that it is
truly me. Touch me and see, for a spirit
doesn't have flesh and bones, as you see
that I have."
40 When he had said this, he showed
them his hands and his feet.
41 While they still didn't believe for joy,
and wondered, he said to them, "Do you
have anything here to eat?"
42 They gave him a piece of a broiled
fish and some honeycomb.
43 He took them, and ate in front of
them.
44 He said to them, "This is what I told
you while I was still with you, that all
things which are written in the law of
Moses, the prophets, and the psalms
concerning me must be fulfilled."
45 Then he opened their minds, that
they might understand the Scriptures.
46 He said to them, "Thus it is written,
and thus it was necessary for the Christ to
suffer and to rise from the dead the third
day,
47 and that repentance and remission of
sins should be preached in his name to all
the nations, beginning at Jerusalem.
48 You are witnesses of these things.
49 Behold, I send out the promise of my
Father on you. But wait in the city of
Jerusalem until you are clothed with
power from on high."
50 He led them out as far as Bethany, and
he lifted up his hands and blessed them.
51 While he blessed them, he withdrew
from them and was carried up into
heaven.
52 They worshiped him and returned to
Jerusalem with great joy,

53 and were continually in the temple,
praising and blessing God. Amen.

The Good News According to John

1 In the beginning was the Word, and
the Word was with God, and the Word
was God.
2 The same was in the beginning with
God.
3 All things were made through him.
Without him, nothing was made that has
been made.
4 In him was life, and the life was the
light of men.
5 The light shines in the darkness, and
the darkness hasn't overcome† it.
6 There came a man sent from God,
whose name was John.
7 The same came as a witness, that he
might testify about the light, that all might
believe through him.
8 He was not the light, but was sent that
he might testify about the light.
9 The true light that enlightens everyone
was coming into the world.
10 He was in the world, and the world
was made through him, and the world
didn't recognize him.
11 He came to his own, and those who
were his own didn't receive him.
12 But as many as received him, to them
he gave the right to become God's
children, to those who believe in his
name:
13 who were born, not of blood, nor of
the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man,
but of God.
14 The Word became flesh and lived
among us. We saw his glory, such glory as
of the only born‡ Son of the Father, full of
grace and truth.
15 John testified about him. He cried out,
saying, "This was he of whom I said, 'He
who comes after me has surpassed me,
for he was before me.' "
16 From his fullness we all received
grace upon grace.
17 For the law was given through Moses.
Grace and truth were realized through
Jesus Christ.§
18 No one has seen God at any time. The
only born† Son,‡ who is in the bosom of
the Father, has declared him.
19 This is John's testimony, when the
Jews sent priests and Levites from
Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?"
20 He declared, and didn't deny, but he
declared, "I am not the Christ."
21 They asked him, "What then? Are you
Elijah?"
He said, "I am not."
"Are you the prophet?"
He answered, "No."
22 They said therefore to him, "Who are
you? Give us an answer to take back to
those who sent us. What do you say about
yourself?"
23 He said, "I am the voice of one crying
in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way
of the Lord,'* as Isaiah the prophet said."
24 The ones who had been sent were
from the Pharisees.
25 They asked him, "Why then do you
baptize if you are not the Christ, nor
Elijah, nor the prophet?"
26 John answered them, "I baptize in
water, but among you stands one whom
you don't know.
27 He is the one who comes after me,
who is preferred before me, whose sandal
strap I'm not worthy to loosen."
28 These things were done in Bethany
beyond the Jordan, where John was
baptizing.
29 The next day, he saw Jesus coming to
him, and said, "Behold,§ the Lamb of God,
who takes away the sin of the world!
30 This is he of whom I said, 'After me
comes a man who is preferred before me,
for he was before me.'

† **1:5** The word translated "overcome" (κατέλαβεν) can also be translated "comprehended." It refers to getting a grip on an enemy to defeat him. ‡ **1:14** The phrase "only born" is from the Greek word "μονογενους", which is sometimes translated "only begotten" or "one and only". § **1:17** "Christ" means "Anointed One". † **1:18** The phrase "only born" is from the Greek word "μονογενη", which is sometimes translated "only begotten" or "one and only". ‡ **1:18** NU reads "God" * **1:23** Isaiah 40:3 § **1:29** "Behold", from "ἰδοὺ", means look at, take notice, observe, see, or gaze at. It is often used as an interjection.

31 I didn't know him, but for this reason
I came baptizing in water, that he would
be revealed to Israel."
32 John testified, saying, "I have seen the
Spirit descending like a dove out of
heaven, and it remained on him.
33 I didn't recognize him, but he who
sent me to baptize in water said to me, 'On
whomever you will see the Spirit
descending and remaining on him is he
who baptizes in the Holy Spirit.'
34 I have seen and have testified that
this is the Son of God."
35 Again, the next day, John was
standing with two of his disciples,
36 and he looked at Jesus as he walked,
and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God!"
37 The two disciples heard him speak,
and they followed Jesus.
38 Jesus turned and saw them following,
and said to them, "What are you looking
for?"
They said to him, "Rabbi" (which is to
say, being interpreted, Teacher), "where
are you staying?"
39 He said to them, "Come and see."
They came and saw where he was
staying, and they stayed with him that
day. It was about the tenth hour.†
40 One of the two who heard John and
followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's
brother.
41 He first found his own brother,
Simon, and said to him, "We have found
the Messiah!" (which is, being
interpreted, Christ‡).
42 He brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked
at him and said, "You are Simon the son of
Jonah. You shall be called Cephas" (which
is by interpretation, Peter).§
43 On the next day, he was determined
to go out into Galilee, and he found Philip.
Jesus said to him, "Follow me."
44 Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the
city of Andrew and Peter.
45 Philip found Nathanael, and said to
him, "We have found him of whom Moses
in the law and also the prophets, wrote:
Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph."
46 Nathanael said to him, "Can any good
thing come out of Nazareth?"
Philip said to him, "Come and see."
47 Jesus saw Nathanael coming to him,
and said about him, "Behold, an Israelite
indeed, in whom is no deceit!"
48 Nathanael said to him, "How do you
know me?"
Jesus answered him, "Before Philip
called you, when you were under the fig
tree, I saw you."
49 Nathanael answered him, "Rabbi, you
are the Son of God! You are King of Israel!"
50 Jesus answered him, "Because I told
you, 'I saw you underneath the fig tree,' do
you believe? You will see greater things
than these!"
51 He said to him, "Most certainly, I tell
you all, hereafter you will see heaven
opened, and the angels of God ascending
and descending on the Son of Man."

2

1 The third day, there was a wedding in
Cana of Galilee. Jesus' mother was there.
2 Jesus also was invited, with his
disciples, to the wedding.
3 When the wine ran out, Jesus' mother
said to him, "They have no wine."
4 Jesus said to her, "Woman, what does
that have to do with you and me? My hour
has not yet come."
5 His mother said to the servants,
"Whatever he says to you, do it."
6 Now there were six water pots of stone
set there after the Jews' way of purifying,
containing two or three metretes† apiece.
7 Jesus said to them, "Fill the water pots
with water." So they filled them up to the
brim.
8 He said to them, "Now draw some out,
and take it to the ruler of the feast." So
they took it.
9 When the ruler of the feast tasted the
water now become wine, and didn't know
where it came from (but the servants who
had drawn the water knew), the ruler of
the feast called the bridegroom

† **1:39** 4:00 p.m. ‡ **1:41** "Messiah" (Hebrew) and "Christ" (Greek) both mean "Anointed One". § **1:42** "Cephas" (Aramaic) and "Peter" (Greek) both mean "Rock". † **2:6** 2 to 3 metretes is about 20 to 30 U. S. Gallons, or 75 to 115 liters.

10 and said to him, “Everyone serves the
good wine first, and when the guests have
drunk freely, then that which is worse.
You have kept the good wine until now!”
11 This beginning of his signs Jesus did
in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory;
and his disciples believed in him.
12 After this, he went down to
Capernaum, he, and his mother, his
brothers, and his disciples; and they
stayed there a few days.
13 The Passover of the Jews was at hand,
and Jesus went up to Jerusalem.
14 He found in the temple those who
sold oxen, sheep, and doves, and the
changers of money sitting.
15 He made a whip of cords and drove
all out of the temple, both the sheep and
the oxen; and he poured out the changers’
money and overthrew their tables.
16 To those who sold the doves, he said,
“Take these things out of here! Don’t make
my Father’s house a marketplace!”
17 His disciples remembered that it was
written, “Zeal for your house will eat me
up.”*
18 The Jews therefore answered him,
“What sign do you show us, seeing that
you do these things?”
19 Jesus answered them, “Destroy this
temple, and in three days I will raise it
up.”
20 The Jews therefore said, “It took
forty-six years to build this temple! Will
you raise it up in three days?”
21 But he spoke of the temple of his body.
22 When therefore he was raised from
the dead, his disciples remembered that
he said this, and they believed the
Scripture and the word which Jesus had
said.
23 Now when he was in Jerusalem at the
Passover, during the feast, many believed
in his name, observing his signs which he
did.
24 But Jesus didn’t entrust himself to
them, because he knew everyone,
25 and because he didn’t need for
anyone to testify concerning man; for he
himself knew what was in man.

3

1 Now there was a man of the Pharisees
named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews.
2 He came to Jesus by night and said to
him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a
teacher come from God, for no one can do
these signs that you do, unless God is with
him.”
3 Jesus answered him, “Most certainly I
tell you, unless one is born anew, † he
can’t see God’s Kingdom.”
4 Nicodemus said to him, “How can a
man be born when he is old? Can he enter
a second time into his mother’s womb and
be born?”
5 Jesus answered, “Most certainly I tell
you, unless one is born of water and
Spirit, he can’t enter into God’s Kingdom.
6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh.
That which is born of the Spirit is spirit.
7 Don’t marvel that I said to you, ‘You
must all be born anew.’
8 The wind‡ blows where it wants to,
and you hear its sound, but don’t know
where it comes from and where it is going.
So is everyone who is born of the Spirit.”
9 Nicodemus answered him, “How can
these things be?”
10 Jesus answered him, “Are you the
teacher of Israel, and don’t understand
these things?
11 Most certainly I tell you, we speak
that which we know and testify of that
which we have seen, and you don’t
receive our witness.
12 If I told you earthly things and you
don’t believe, how will you believe if I tell
you heavenly things?
13 No one has ascended into heaven but
he who descended out of heaven, the Son
of Man, who is in heaven.
14 As Moses lifted up the serpent in the
wilderness, even so must the Son of Man
be lifted up,
15 that whoever believes in him should
not perish, but have eternal life.

* **2:17** Psalms 69:9 † **3:3** The word translated “anew” here and in John 3:7 (ἄνωθεν) also means “again” and “from above”. ‡ **3:8** The same Greek word (πνεῦμα) means wind, breath, and spirit. § **3:16** The phrase “only born” is from the Greek word “μονογενη”, which is sometimes translated “only begotten” or “one and only”.

16 For God so loved the world, that he
gave his only born§ Son, that whoever
believes in him should not perish, but
have eternal life.
17 For God didn't send his Son into the
world to judge the world, but that the
world should be saved through him.
18 He who believes in him is not judged.
He who doesn't believe has been judged
already, because he has not believed in
the name of the only born Son of God.
19 This is the judgment, that the light has
come into the world, and men loved the
darkness rather than the light, for their
works were evil.
20 For everyone who does evil hates the
light and doesn't come to the light, lest his
works would be exposed.
21 But he who does the truth comes to
the light, that his works may be revealed,
that they have been done in God."

22 After these things, Jesus came with
his disciples into the land of Judea. He
stayed there with them and baptized.
23 John also was baptizing in Enon near
Salim, because there was much water
there. They came and were baptized;
24 for John was not yet thrown into
prison.
25 Therefore a dispute arose on the part
of John's disciples with some Jews about
purification.
26 They came to John and said to him,
"Rabbi, he who was with you beyond the
Jordan, to whom you have testified,
behold, he baptizes, and everyone is
coming to him."

27 John answered, "A man can receive
nothing unless it has been given him from
heaven.
28 You yourselves testify that I said, 'I am
not the Christ,' but, 'I have been sent
before him.'
29 He who has the bride is the
bridegroom; but the friend of the
bridegroom, who stands and hears him,
rejoices greatly because of the
bridegroom's voice. Therefore my joy is
made full.
30 He must increase, but I must
decrease.
31 "He who comes from above is above
all. He who is from the earth belongs to
the earth and speaks of the earth. He who
comes from heaven is above all.
32 What he has seen and heard, of that
he testifies; and no one receives his
witness.
33 He who has received his witness has
set his seal to this, that God is true.
34 For he whom God has sent speaks the
words of God; for God gives the Spirit
without measure.
35 The Father loves the Son, and has
given all things into his hand.
36 One who believes in the Son has
eternal life, but one who disobeys† the
Son won't see life, but the wrath of God
remains on him."

4

1 Therefore when the Lord knew that
the Pharisees had heard that Jesus was
making and baptizing more disciples than
John
2 (although Jesus himself didn't baptize,
but his disciples),
3 he left Judea and departed into Galilee.
4 He needed to pass through Samaria.
5 So he came to a city of Samaria called
Sychar, near the parcel of ground that
Jacob gave to his son Joseph.
6 Jacob's well was there. Jesus therefore,
being tired from his journey, sat down by
the well. It was about the sixth hour.†
7 A woman of Samaria came to draw
water. Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink."
8 For his disciples had gone away into
the city to buy food.
9 The Samaritan woman therefore said
to him, "How is it that you, being a Jew,
ask for a drink from me, a Samaritan
woman?" (For Jews have no dealings with
Samaritans.)
10 Jesus answered her, "If you knew the
gift of God, and who it is who says to you,
'Give me a drink,' you would have asked
him, and he would have given you living
water."
11 The woman said to him, "Sir, you
have nothing to draw with, and the well is

† **3:36** The same word can be translated "disobeys" or "disbelieves" in this context. † **4:6** noon

deep. So where do you get that living
water?
12 Are you greater than our father Jacob,
who gave us the well and drank from it
himself, as did his children and his
livestock?"
13 Jesus answered her, "Everyone who
drinks of this water will thirst again,
14 but whoever drinks of the water that I
will give him will never thirst again; but
the water that I will give him will become
in him a well of water springing up to
eternal life."
15 The woman said to him, "Sir, give me
this water, so that I don't get thirsty,
neither come all the way here to draw."
16 Jesus said to her, "Go, call your
husband, and come here."
17 The woman answered, "I have no
husband."
Jesus said to her, "You said well, 'I have
no husband,'
18 for you have had five husbands; and
he whom you now have is not your
husband. This you have said truly."
19 The woman said to him, "Sir, I
perceive that you are a prophet.
20 Our fathers worshiped in this
mountain, and you Jews say that in
Jerusalem is the place where people ought
to worship."
21 Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe
me, the hour is coming when neither in
this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you
worship the Father.
22 You worship that which you don't
know. We worship that which we know;
for salvation is from the Jews.
23 But the hour comes, and now is, when
the true worshipers will worship the
Father in spirit and truth, for the Father
seeks such to be his worshipers.
24 God is spirit, and those who worship
him must worship in spirit and truth."
25 The woman said to him, "I know that
Messiah is coming, he who is called
Christ.‡ When he has come, he will
declare to us all things."
26 Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one
who speaks to you."
27 Just then, his disciples came. They
marveled that he was speaking with a
woman; yet no one said, "What are you
looking for?" or, "Why do you speak with
her?"
28 So the woman left her water pot, went
away into the city, and said to the people,
29 "Come, see a man who told me
everything that I have done. Can this be
the Christ?"
30 They went out of the city, and were
coming to him.
31 In the meanwhile, the disciples urged
him, saying, "Rabbi, eat."
32 But he said to them, "I have food to
eat that you don't know about."
33 The disciples therefore said to one
another, "Has anyone brought him
something to eat?"
34 Jesus said to them, "My food is to do
the will of him who sent me and to
accomplish his work.
35 Don't you say, 'There are yet four
months until the harvest'? Behold, I tell
you, lift up your eyes and look at the fields,
that they are white for harvest already.
36 He who reaps receives wages and
gathers fruit to eternal life, that both he
who sows and he who reaps may rejoice
together.
37 For in this the saying is true, 'One
sows, and another reaps.'
38 I sent you to reap that for which you
haven't labored. Others have labored, and
you have entered into their labor."
39 From that city many of the
Samaritans believed in him because of the
word of the woman, who testified, "He
told me everything that I have done."
40 So when the Samaritans came to him,
they begged him to stay with them. He
stayed there two days.
41 Many more believed because of his
word.
42 They said to the woman, "Now we
believe, not because of your speaking; for
we have heard for ourselves, and know
that this is indeed the Christ, the Savior of
the world."

‡ **4:25** "Messiah" (Hebrew) and "Christ" (Greek) both mean "Anointed One".

43 After the two days he went out from
there and went into Galilee.
44 For Jesus himself testified that a
prophet has no honor in his own country.
45 So when he came into Galilee, the
Galileans received him, having seen all
the things that he did in Jerusalem at the
feast, for they also went to the feast.
46 Jesus came therefore again to Cana of
Galilee, where he made the water into
wine. There was a certain nobleman
whose son was sick at Capernaum.
47 When he heard that Jesus had come
out of Judea into Galilee, he went to him
and begged him that he would come down
and heal his son, for he was at the point of
death.
48 Jesus therefore said to him, "Unless
you people see signs and wonders, you
will in no way believe."
49 The nobleman said to him, "Sir, come
down before my child dies."
50 Jesus said to him, "Go your way. Your
son lives." The man believed the word
that Jesus spoke to him, and he went his
way.
51 As he was going down, his servants
met him and reported, saying "Your child
lives!"
52 So he inquired of them the hour when
he began to get better. They said therefore
to him, "Yesterday at the seventh hour,§
the fever left him."
53 So the father knew that it was at that
hour in which Jesus said to him, "Your son
lives." He believed, as did his whole
house.
54 This is again the second sign that
Jesus did, having come out of Judea into
Galilee.

5

1 After these things, there was a feast of
the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem.
2 Now in Jerusalem by the sheep gate,
there is a pool, which is called in Hebrew,
"Bethesda", having five porches.
3 In these lay a great multitude of those
who were sick, blind, lame, or paralyzed,
waiting for the moving of the water;
4 for an angel went down at certain
times into the pool and stirred up the
water. Whoever stepped in first after the
stirring of the water was healed of
whatever disease he had.†
5 A certain man was there who had
been sick for thirty-eight years.
6 When Jesus saw him lying there, and
knew that he had been sick for a long
time, he asked him, "Do you want to be
made well?"
7 The sick man answered him, "Sir, I
have no one to put me into the pool when
the water is stirred up, but while I'm
coming, another steps down before me."
8 Jesus said to him, "Arise, take up your
mat, and walk."
9 Immediately, the man was made well,
and took up his mat and walked.
Now that day was a Sabbath.
10 So the Jews said to him who was
cured, "It is the Sabbath. It is not lawful
for you to carry the mat."
11 He answered them, "He who made
me well said to me, 'Take up your mat and
walk.' "
12 Then they asked him, "Who is the
man who said to you, 'Take up your mat
and walk'?"
13 But he who was healed didn't know
who it was, for Jesus had withdrawn, a
crowd being in the place.
14 Afterward Jesus found him in the
temple and said to him, "Behold, you are
made well. Sin no more, so that nothing
worse happens to you."
15 The man went away, and told the Jews
that it was Jesus who had made him well.
16 For this cause the Jews persecuted
Jesus and sought to kill him, because he
did these things on the Sabbath.
17 But Jesus answered them, "My Father
is still working, so I am working, too."
18 For this cause therefore the Jews
sought all the more to kill him, because he
not only broke the Sabbath, but also
called God his own Father, making
himself equal with God.
19 Jesus therefore answered them,
"Most certainly, I tell you, the Son can do

§ **4:52** 1:00 p.m. † **5:4** NU omits from "waiting" in verse 3 to the end of verse 4.

nothing of himself, but what he sees the Father doing. For whatever things he does, these the Son also does likewise.
20 For the Father has affection for the Son, and shows him all things that he himself does. He will show him greater works than these, that you may marvel.
21 For as the Father raises the dead and gives them life, even so the Son also gives life to whom he desires.
22 For the Father judges no one, but he has given all judgment to the Son,
23 that all may honor the Son, even as they honor the Father. He who doesn't honor the Son doesn't honor the Father who sent him.
24 "Most certainly I tell you, he who hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life, and doesn't come into judgment, but has passed out of death into life.
25 Most certainly I tell you, the hour comes, and now is, when the dead will hear the Son of God's voice; and those who hear will live.
26 For as the Father has life in himself, even so he gave to the Son also to have life in himself.
27 He also gave him authority to execute judgment, because he is a son of man.
28 Don't marvel at this, for the hour comes in which all who are in the tombs will hear his voice
29 and will come out; those who have done good, to the resurrection of life; and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of judgment.
30 I can of myself do nothing. As I hear, I judge; and my judgment is righteous, because I don't seek my own will, but the will of my Father who sent me.
31 "If I testify about myself, my witness is not valid.
32 It is another who testifies about me. I know that the testimony which he testifies about me is true.
33 You have sent to John, and he has testified to the truth.
34 But the testimony which I receive is not from man. However, I say these things that you may be saved.
35 He was the burning and shining lamp, and you were willing to rejoice for a while in his light.
36 But the testimony which I have is greater than that of John; for the works which the Father gave me to accomplish, the very works that I do, testify about me, that the Father has sent me.
37 The Father himself, who sent me, has testified about me. You have neither heard his voice at any time, nor seen his form.
38 You don't have his word living in you, because you don't believe him whom he sent.
39 "You search the Scriptures, because you think that in them you have eternal life; and these are they which testify about me.
40 Yet you will not come to me, that you may have life.
41 I don't receive glory from men.
42 But I know you, that you don't have God's love in yourselves.
43 I have come in my Father's name, and you don't receive me. If another comes in his own name, you will receive him.
44 How can you believe, who receive glory from one another, and you don't seek the glory that comes from the only God?
45 "Don't think that I will accuse you to the Father. There is one who accuses you, even Moses, on whom you have set your hope.
46 For if you believed Moses, you would believe me; for he wrote about me.
47 But if you don't believe his writings, how will you believe my words?"

6

1 After these things, Jesus went away to the other side of the sea of Galilee, which is also called the Sea of Tiberias.
2 A great multitude followed him, because they saw his signs which he did on those who were sick.
3 Jesus went up into the mountain, and he sat there with his disciples.
4 Now the Passover, the feast of the Jews, was at hand.
5 Jesus therefore, lifting up his eyes and seeing that a great multitude was coming

to him, said to Philip, "Where are we to buy bread, that these may eat?"
6 He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he would do.
7 Philip answered him, "Two hundred denarii† worth of bread is not sufficient for them, that every one of them may receive a little."
8 One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him,
9 "There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish, but what are these among so many?"
10 Jesus said, "Have the people sit down." Now there was much grass in that place. So the men sat down, in number about five thousand.
11 Jesus took the loaves, and having given thanks, he distributed to the disciples, and the disciples to those who were sitting down, likewise also of the fish as much as they desired.
12 When they were filled, he said to his disciples, "Gather up the broken pieces which are left over, that nothing be lost."
13 So they gathered them up, and filled twelve baskets with broken pieces from the five barley loaves, which were left over by those who had eaten.
14 When therefore the people saw the sign which Jesus did, they said, "This is truly the prophet who comes into the world."
15 Jesus therefore, perceiving that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, withdrew again to the mountain by himself.
16 When evening came, his disciples went down to the sea.
17 They entered into the boat, and were going over the sea to Capernaum. It was now dark, and Jesus had not come to them.
18 The sea was tossed by a great wind blowing.
19 When therefore they had rowed about twenty-five or thirty stadia,‡ they saw Jesus walking on the sea* and drawing near to the boat; and they were afraid.
20 But he said to them, "It is I.§ Don't be afraid."
21 They were willing therefore to receive him into the boat. Immediately the boat was at the land where they were going.
22 On the next day, the multitude that stood on the other side of the sea saw that there was no other boat there, except the one in which his disciples had embarked, and that Jesus hadn't entered with his disciples into the boat, but his disciples had gone away alone.
23 However, boats from Tiberias came near to the place where they ate the bread after the Lord had given thanks.
24 When the multitude therefore saw that Jesus wasn't there, nor his disciples, they themselves got into the boats and came to Capernaum, seeking Jesus.
25 When they found him on the other side of the sea, they asked him, "Rabbi, when did you come here?"
26 Jesus answered them, "Most certainly I tell you, you seek me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate of the loaves and were filled.
27 Don't work for the food which perishes, but for the food which remains to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give to you. For God the Father has sealed him."
28 They said therefore to him, "What must we do, that we may work the works of God?"
29 Jesus answered them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent."
30 They said therefore to him, "What then do you do for a sign, that we may see and believe you? What work do you do?
31 Our fathers ate the manna in the wilderness. As it is written, 'He gave them bread out of heaven† to eat.' "*

† **6:7** A denarius was a silver coin worth about a day's wages for an agricultural laborer, so 200 denarii would be between 6 and 7 month's pay. ‡ **6:19** 25 to 30 stadia is about 5 to 6 kilometers or about 3 to 4 miles * **6:19** See Job 9:8 § **6:20** or, I AM † **6:31** Greek and Hebrew use the same word for "heaven", "the heavens", "the sky", and "the air". * **6:31** Exodus 16:4; Nehemiah 9:15; Psalms 78:24-25

32 Jesus therefore said to them, "Most certainly, I tell you, it wasn't Moses who gave you the bread out of heaven, but my Father gives you the true bread out of heaven.
33 For the bread of God is that which comes down out of heaven and gives life to the world."
34 They said therefore to him, "Lord, always give us this bread."

35 Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will not be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.
36 But I told you that you have seen me, and yet you don't believe.
37 All those whom the Father gives me will come to me. He who comes to me I will in no way throw out.
38 For I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will, but the will of him who sent me.
39 This is the will of my Father who sent me, that of all he has given to me I should lose nothing, but should raise him up at the last day.
40 This is the will of the one who sent me, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in him should have eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day."

41 The Jews therefore murmured concerning him, because he said, "I am the bread which came down out of heaven."
42 They said, "Isn't this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How then does he say, 'I have come down out of heaven'?"
43 Therefore Jesus answered them, "Don't murmur among yourselves.
44 No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him; and I will raise him up in the last day.
45 It is written in the prophets, 'They will all be taught by God.' * Therefore everyone who hears from the Father and has learned, comes to me.
46 Not that anyone has seen the Father, except he who is from God. He has seen the Father.
47 Most certainly, I tell you, he who believes in me has eternal life.
48 I am the bread of life.
49 Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness and they died.
50 This is the bread which comes down out of heaven, that anyone may eat of it and not die.
51 I am the living bread which came down out of heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever. Yes, the bread which I will give for the life of the world is my flesh."

52 The Jews therefore contended with one another, saying, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?"

53 Jesus therefore said to them, "Most certainly I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you don't have life in yourselves.
54 He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day.
55 For my flesh is food indeed, and my blood is drink indeed.
56 He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood lives in me, and I in him.
57 As the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so he who feeds on me will also live because of me.
58 This is the bread which came down out of heaven—not as our fathers ate the manna and died. He who eats this bread will live forever."
59 He said these things in the synagogue, as he taught in Capernaum.

60 Therefore many of his disciples, when they heard this, said, "This is a hard saying! Who can listen to it?"

61 But Jesus knowing in himself that his disciples murmured at this, said to them, "Does this cause you to stumble?
62 Then what if you would see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before?
63 It is the spirit who gives life. The flesh profits nothing. The words that I speak to you are spirit, and are life.
64 But there are some of you who don't believe." For Jesus knew from the beginning who they were who didn't

* **6:45** Isaiah 54:13

believe, and who it was who would betray him.
65 He said, "For this cause I have said to you that no one can come to me, unless it is given to him by my Father."
66 At this, many of his disciples went back and walked no more with him.
67 Jesus said therefore to the twelve, "You don't also want to go away, do you?"
68 Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom would we go? You have the words of eternal life.
69 We have come to believe and know that you are the Christ, the Son of the living God."
70 Jesus answered them, "Didn't I choose you, the twelve, and one of you is a devil?"
71 Now he spoke of Judas, the son of Simon Iscariot, for it was he who would betray him, being one of the twelve.

7

1 After these things, Jesus was walking in Galilee, for he wouldn't walk in Judea, because the Jews sought to kill him.
2 Now the feast of the Jews, the Feast of Booths, was at hand.
3 His brothers therefore said to him, "Depart from here and go into Judea, that your disciples also may see your works which you do.
4 For no one does anything in secret while he seeks to be known openly. If you do these things, reveal yourself to the world."
5 For even his brothers didn't believe in him.
6 Jesus therefore said to them, "My time has not yet come, but your time is always ready.
7 The world can't hate you, but it hates me, because I testify about it, that its works are evil.
8 You go up to the feast. I am not yet going up to this feast, because my time is not yet fulfilled."
9 Having said these things to them, he stayed in Galilee.
10 But when his brothers had gone up to the feast, then he also went up, not publicly, but as it were in secret.
11 The Jews therefore sought him at the feast, and said, "Where is he?"
12 There was much murmuring among the multitudes concerning him. Some said, "He is a good man." Others said, "Not so, but he leads the multitude astray."
13 Yet no one spoke openly of him for fear of the Jews.
14 But when it was now the middle of the feast, Jesus went up into the temple and taught.
15 The Jews therefore marveled, saying, "How does this man know letters, having never been educated?"
16 Jesus therefore answered them, "My teaching is not mine, but his who sent me.
17 If anyone desires to do his will, he will know about the teaching, whether it is from God or if I am speaking from myself.
18 He who speaks from himself seeks his own glory, but he who seeks the glory of him who sent him is true, and no unrighteousness is in him.
19 Didn't Moses give you the law, and yet none of you keeps the law? Why do you seek to kill me?"
20 The multitude answered, "You have a demon! Who seeks to kill you?"
21 Jesus answered them, "I did one work and you all marvel because of it.
22 Moses has given you circumcision (not that it is of Moses, but of the fathers), and on the Sabbath you circumcise a boy.
23 If a boy receives circumcision on the Sabbath, that the law of Moses may not be broken, are you angry with me because I made a man completely healthy on the Sabbath?
24 Don't judge according to appearance, but judge righteous judgment."
25 Therefore some of them of Jerusalem said, "Isn't this he whom they seek to kill?
26 Behold, he speaks openly, and they say nothing to him. Can it be that the rulers indeed know that this is truly the Christ?
27 However, we know where this man comes from, but when the Christ comes, no one will know where he comes from."
28 Jesus therefore cried out in the temple, teaching and saying, "You both know me, and know where I am from. I

have not come of myself, but he who sent me is true, whom you don't know.
29 I know him, because I am from him, and he sent me."
30 They sought therefore to take him; but no one laid a hand on him, because his hour had not yet come.
31 But of the multitude, many believed in him. They said, "When the Christ comes, he won't do more signs than those which this man has done, will he?"
32 The Pharisees heard the multitude murmuring these things concerning him, and the chief priests and the Pharisees sent officers to arrest him.
33 Then Jesus said, "I will be with you a little while longer, then I go to him who sent me.
34 You will seek me and won't find me. You can't come where I am."
35 The Jews therefore said among themselves, "Where will this man go that we won't find him? Will he go to the Dispersion among the Greeks and teach the Greeks?
36 What is this word that he said, 'You will seek me, and won't find me;' and 'Where I am, you can't come'?"
37 Now on the last and greatest day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, "If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink!
38 He who believes in me, as the Scripture has said, from within him will flow rivers of living water."
39 But he said this about the Spirit, which those believing in him were to receive. For the Holy Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus wasn't yet glorified.
40 Many of the multitude therefore, when they heard these words, said, "This is truly the prophet."
41 Others said, "This is the Christ." But some said, "What, does the Christ come out of Galilee?
42 Hasn't the Scripture said that the Christ comes of the offspring† of David,* and from Bethlehem,* the village where David was?"
43 So a division arose in the multitude because of him.
44 Some of them would have arrested him, but no one laid hands on him.
45 The officers therefore came to the chief priests and Pharisees; and they said to them, "Why didn't you bring him?"
46 The officers answered, "No man ever spoke like this man!"
47 The Pharisees therefore answered them, "You aren't also led astray, are you?
48 Have any of the rulers or any of the Pharisees believed in him?
49 But this multitude that doesn't know the law is cursed."
50 Nicodemus (he who came to him by night, being one of them) said to them,
51 "Does our law judge a man unless it first hears from him personally and knows what he does?"
52 They answered him, "Are you also from Galilee? Search and see that no prophet has arisen out of Galilee."*
53 Everyone went to his own house,

8

1 but Jesus went to the Mount of Olives.
2 Now very early in the morning, he came again into the temple, and all the people came to him. He sat down and taught them.
3 The scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman taken in adultery. Having set her in the middle,
4 they told him, "Teacher, we found this woman in adultery, in the very act.
5 Now in our law, Moses commanded us to stone such women.* What then do you say about her?"
6 They said this testing him, that they might have something to accuse him of.
But Jesus stooped down and wrote on the ground with his finger.
7 But when they continued asking him, he looked up and said to them, "He who is without sin among you, let him throw the first stone at her."
8 Again he stooped down and wrote on the ground with his finger.
9 They, when they heard it, being convicted by their conscience, went out one by one, beginning from the oldest,

† **7:42** or, seed * **7:42** 2 Samuel 7:12 * **7:42** Micah 5:2 * **7:52** See Isaiah 9:1; Matthew 4:13-16 * **8:5** Leviticus 20:10; Deuteronomy 22:22

even to the last. Jesus was left alone with the woman where she was, in the middle.
10 Jesus, standing up, saw her and said, "Woman, where are your accusers? Did no one condemn you?"
11 She said, "No one, Lord."
Jesus said, "Neither do I condemn you. Go your way. From now on, sin no more."†
12 Again, therefore, Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world.* He who follows me will not walk in the darkness, but will have the light of life."
13 The Pharisees therefore said to him, "You testify about yourself. Your testimony is not valid."
14 Jesus answered 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 don't know where I came from, or where I am going.
15 You judge according to the flesh. I judge no one.
16 Even if I do judge, my judgment is true, for I am not alone, but I am with the Father who sent me.
17 It's also written in your law that the testimony of two people is valid.*
18 I am one who testifies about myself, and the Father who sent me testifies about me."
19 They said therefore to him, "Where is your Father?"
Jesus answered, "You know neither me nor my Father. If you knew me, you would know my Father also."
20 Jesus spoke these words in the treasury, as he taught in the temple. Yet no one arrested him, because his hour had not yet come.
21 Jesus said therefore again to them, "I am going away, and you will seek me, and you will die in your sins. Where I go, you can't come."
22 The Jews therefore said, "Will he kill himself, because he says, 'Where I am going, you can't come'?"
23 He said to them, "You are from beneath. I am from above. You are of this world. I am not of this world.
24 I said therefore to you that you will die in your sins; for unless you believe that I am‡ he, you will die in your sins."
25 They said therefore to him, "Who are you?"
Jesus said to them, "Just what I have been saying to you from the beginning.
26 I have many things to speak and to judge concerning you. However, he who sent me is true; and the things which I heard from him, these I say to the world."
27 They didn't understand that he spoke to them about the Father.
28 Jesus therefore said to them, "When you have lifted up the Son of Man, then you will know that I am he, and I do nothing of myself, but as my Father taught me, I say these things.
29 He who sent me is with me. The Father hasn't left me alone, for I always do the things that are pleasing to him."
30 As he spoke these things, many believed in him.
31 Jesus therefore said to those Jews who had believed him, "If you remain in my word, then you are truly my disciples.
32 You will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." *
33 They answered him, "We are Abraham's offspring, and have never been in bondage to anyone. How do you say, 'You will be made free'?"
34 Jesus answered them, "Most certainly I tell you, everyone who commits sin is the bondservant of sin.
35 A bondservant doesn't live in the house forever. A son remains forever.
36 If therefore the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.
37 I know that you are Abraham's offspring, yet you seek to kill me, because my word finds no place in you.
38 I say the things which I have seen with my Father; and you also do the things which you have seen with your father."
39 They answered him, "Our father is Abraham."

† **8:11** NU includes John 7:53–John 8:11, but puts brackets around it to indicate that the textual critics had less confidence that this was original. * **8:12** Isaiah 60:1 * **8:17** Deuteronomy 17:6; 19:15 ‡ **8:24** or, I AM * **8:32** Psalms 119:45

Jesus said to them, “If you were
Abraham’s children, you would do the
works of Abraham.
40 But now you seek to kill me, a man
who has told you the truth which I heard
from God. Abraham didn’t do this.
41 You do the works of your father.”

They said to him, “We were not born of
sexual immorality. We have one Father,
God.”
42 Therefore Jesus said to them, “If God
were your father, you would love me, for I
came out and have come from God. For I
haven’t come of myself, but he sent me.
43 Why don’t you understand my
speech? Because you can’t hear my word.
44 You are of your father the devil, and
you want to do the desires of your father.
He was a murderer from the beginning,
and doesn’t stand in the truth, because
there is no truth in him. When he speaks a
lie, he speaks on his own; for he is a liar,
and the father of lies.
45 But because I tell the truth, you don’t
believe me.
46 Which of you convicts me of sin? If I
tell the truth, why do you not believe me?
47 He who is of God hears the words of
God. For this cause you don’t hear,
because you are not of God.”

48 Then the Jews answered him, “Don’t
we say well that you are a Samaritan, and
have a demon?”
49 Jesus answered, “I don’t have a
demon, but I honor my Father and you
dishonor me.
50 But I don’t seek my own glory. There
is one who seeks and judges.
51 Most certainly, I tell you, if a person
keeps my word, he will never see death.”

52 Then the Jews said to him, “Now we
know that you have a demon. Abraham
died, as did the prophets; and you say, ‘If a
man keeps my word, he will never taste of
death.’
53 Are you greater than our father
Abraham, who died? The prophets died.
Who do you make yourself out to be?”

54 Jesus answered, “If I glorify myself,
my glory is nothing. It is my Father who
glorifies me, of whom you say that he is
our God.
55 You have not known him, but I know
him. If I said, ‘I don’t know him,’ I would
be like you, a liar. But I know him and
keep his word.
56 Your father Abraham rejoiced to see
my day. He saw it and was glad.”
57 The Jews therefore said to him, “You
are not yet fifty years old! Have you seen
Abraham?”
58 Jesus said to them, “Most certainly, I
tell you, before Abraham came into
existence, I AM.*”
59 Therefore they took up stones to
throw at him, but Jesus hid himself and
went out of the temple, having gone
through the middle of them, and so
passed by.

9

1 As he passed by, he saw a man blind
from birth.
2 His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who
sinned, this man or his parents, that he
was born blind?”
3 Jesus answered, “This man didn’t sin,
nor did his parents, but that the works of
God might be revealed in him.
4 I must work the works of him who sent
me while it is day. The night is coming,
when no one can work.
5 While I am in the world, I am the light
of the world.”
6 When he had said this, he spat on the
ground, made mud with the saliva,
anointed the blind man’s eyes with the
mud,
7 and said to him, “Go, wash in the pool
of Siloam” (which means “Sent”). So he
went away, washed, and came back
seeing.
8 Therefore the neighbors and those
who saw that he was blind before said,
“Isn’t this he who sat and begged?”
9 Others were saying, “It is he.” Still
others were saying, “He looks like him.”
He said, “I am he.”
10 They therefore were asking him,
“How were your eyes opened?”

* **8:58** Exodus 3:14

11 He answered, “A man called Jesus
made mud, anointed my eyes, and said to
me, ‘Go to the pool of Siloam and wash.’
So I went away and washed, and I
received sight.”
12 Then they asked him, “Where is he?”
He said, “I don’t know.”
13 They brought him who had been
blind to the Pharisees.
14 It was a Sabbath when Jesus made the
mud and opened his eyes.
15 Again therefore the Pharisees also
asked him how he received his sight. He
said to them, “He put mud on my eyes, I
washed, and I see.”
16 Some therefore of the Pharisees said,
“This man is not from God, because he
doesn’t keep the Sabbath.”
Others said, “How can a man who is a
sinner do such signs?” So there was
division among them.
17 Therefore they asked the blind man
again, “What do you say about him,
because he opened your eyes?”
He said, “He is a prophet.”
18 The Jews therefore didn’t believe
concerning him, that he had been blind
and had received his sight, until they
called the parents of him who had
received his sight,
19 and asked them, “Is this your son,
whom you say was born blind? How then
does he now see?”
20 His parents answered them, “We
know that this is our son, and that he was
born blind;
21 but how he now sees, we don’t know;
or who opened his eyes, we don’t know.
He is of age. Ask him. He will speak for
himself.”
22 His parents said these things because
they feared the Jews; for the Jews had
already agreed that if any man would
confess him as Christ, he would be put out
of the synagogue.
23 Therefore his parents said, “He is of
age. Ask him.”
24 So they called the man who was blind
a second time, and said to him, “Give glory
to God. We know that this man is a
sinner.”
25 He therefore answered, “I don’t know
if he is a sinner. One thing I do know: that
though I was blind, now I see.”
26 They said to him again, “What did he
do to you? How did he open your eyes?”
27 He answered them, “I told you
already, and you didn’t listen. Why do you
want to hear it again? You don’t also want
to become his disciples, do you?”
28 They insulted him and said, “You are
his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses.
29 We know that God has spoken to
Moses. But as for this man, we don’t know
where he comes from.”
30 The man answered them, “How
amazing! You don’t know where he comes
from, yet he opened my eyes.
31 We know that God doesn’t listen to
sinners, but if anyone is a worshiper of
God and does his will, he listens to him.*
32 Since the world began it has never
been heard of that anyone opened the
eyes of someone born blind.
33 If this man were not from God, he
could do nothing.”
34 They answered him, “You were
altogether born in sins, and do you teach
us?” Then they threw him out.
35 Jesus heard that they had thrown him
out, and finding him, he said, “Do you
believe in the Son of God?”
36 He answered, “Who is he, Lord, that I
may believe in him?”
37 Jesus said to him, “You have both seen
him, and it is he who speaks with you.”
38 He said, “Lord, I believe!” and he
worshiped him.
39 Jesus said, “I came into this world for
judgment, that those who don’t see may
see; and that those who see may become
blind.”
40 Those of the Pharisees who were with
him heard these things, and said to him,
“Are we also blind?”
41 Jesus said to them, “If you were blind,
you would have no sin; but now you say,
‘We see.’ Therefore your sin remains.

* **9:31** Psalms 66:18; Proverbs 15:29; 28:9

10

1 “Most certainly, I tell you, one who
doesn’t enter by the door into the sheep
fold, but climbs up some other way, is a
thief and a robber.
2 But one who enters in by the door is
the shepherd of the sheep.
3 The gatekeeper opens the gate for him,
and the sheep listen to his voice. He calls
his own sheep by name and leads them
out.
4 Whenever he brings out his own
sheep, he goes before them; and the sheep
follow him, for they know his voice.
5 They will by no means follow a
stranger, but will flee from him; for they
don’t know the voice of strangers.”
6 Jesus spoke this parable to them, but
they didn’t understand what he was
telling them.
7 Jesus therefore said to them again,
“Most certainly, I tell you, I am the sheep’s
door.
8 All who came before me are thieves
and robbers, but the sheep didn’t listen to
them.
9 I am the door. If anyone enters in by
me, he will be saved, and will go in and go
out and will find pasture.
10 The thief only comes to steal, kill, and
destroy. I came that they may have life,
and may have it abundantly.
11 “I am the good shepherd.* The good
shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.
12 He who is a hired hand, and not a
shepherd, who doesn’t own the sheep,
sees the wolf coming, leaves the sheep,
and flees. The wolf snatches the sheep
and scatters them.
13 The hired hand flees because he is a
hired hand and doesn’t care for the sheep.
14 I am the good shepherd. I know my
own, and I’m known by my own;
15 even as the Father knows me, and I
know the Father. I lay down my life for
the sheep.
16 I have other sheep which are not of
this fold.* I must bring them also, and
they will hear my voice. They will become
one flock with one shepherd.
17 Therefore the Father loves me,
because I lay down my life, * that I may
take it again.
18 No one takes it away from me, but I
lay it down by myself. I have power to lay
it down, and I have power to take it again.
I received this commandment from my
Father.”
19 Therefore a division arose again
among the Jews because of these words.
20 Many of them said, “He has a demon
and is insane! Why do you listen to him?”
21 Others said, “These are not the
sayings of one possessed by a demon. It
isn’t possible for a demon to open the eyes
of the blind, is it?”*
22 It was the Feast of the Dedication† at
Jerusalem.
23 It was winter, and Jesus was walking
in the temple, in Solomon’s porch.
24 The Jews therefore came around him
and said to him, “How long will you hold
us in suspense? If you are the Christ, tell
us plainly.”
25 Jesus answered them, “I told you, and
you don’t believe. The works that I do in
my Father’s name, these testify about me.
26 But you don’t believe, because you
are not of my sheep, as I told you.
27 My sheep hear my voice, and I know
them, and they follow me.
28 I give eternal life to them. They will
never perish, and no one will snatch them
out of my hand.
29 My Father who has given them to me
is greater than all. No one is able to snatch
them out of my Father’s hand.
30 I and the Father are one.”
31 Therefore the Jews took up stones
again to stone him.
32 Jesus answered them, “I have shown
you many good works from my Father.
For which of those works do you stone
me?”
33 The Jews answered him, “We don’t
stone you for a good work, but for

* **10:11** Isaiah 40:11; Ezekiel 34:11-12,15,22 * **10:16** Isaiah 56:8 * **10:17** Isaiah 53:7-8 * **10:21** Exodus 4:11
† **10:22** The “Feast of the Dedication” is the Greek name for “Hanukkah”, a celebration of the rededication of the Temple.

blasphemy, because you, being a man, make yourself God."

34 Jesus answered them, "Isn't it written in your law, 'I said, you are gods'?*
35 If he called them gods, to whom the word of God came (and the Scripture can't be broken),
36 do you say of him whom the Father sanctified and sent into the world, 'You blaspheme,' because I said, 'I am the Son of God'?
37 If I don't do the works of my Father, don't believe me.
38 But if I do them, though you don't believe me, believe the works, that you may know and believe that the Father is in me, and I in the Father."

39 They sought again to seize him, and he went out of their hand.
40 He went away again beyond the Jordan into the place where John was baptizing at first, and he stayed there.
41 Many came to him. They said, "John indeed did no sign, but everything that John said about this man is true."
42 Many believed in him there.

11

1 Now a certain man was sick, Lazarus from Bethany, of the village of Mary and her sister, Martha.
2 It was that Mary who had anointed the Lord with ointment and wiped his feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was sick.
3 The sisters therefore sent to him, saying, "Lord, behold, he for whom you have great affection is sick."

4 But when Jesus heard it, he said, "This sickness is not to death, but for the glory of God, that God's Son may be glorified by it."
5 Now Jesus loved Martha, and her sister, and Lazarus.
6 When therefore he heard that he was sick, he stayed two days in the place where he was.
7 Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let's go into Judea again."

8 The disciples asked him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just trying to stone you. Are you going there again?"
9 Jesus answered, "Aren't there twelve hours of daylight? If a man walks in the day, he doesn't stumble, because he sees the light of this world.
10 But if a man walks in the night, he stumbles, because the light isn't in him."
11 He said these things, and after that, he said to them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going so that I may awake him out of sleep."
12 The disciples therefore said, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will recover."
13 Now Jesus had spoken of his death, but they thought that he spoke of taking rest in sleep.
14 So Jesus said to them plainly then, "Lazarus is dead.
15 I am glad for your sakes that I was not there, so that you may believe. Nevertheless, let's go to him."
16 Thomas therefore, who is called Didymus,† said to his fellow disciples, "Let's also go, that we may die with him."
17 So when Jesus came, he found that he had been in the tomb four days already.
18 Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, about fifteen stadia‡ away.
19 Many of the Jews had joined the women around Martha and Mary, to console them concerning their brother.
20 Then when Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, but Mary stayed in the house.
21 Therefore Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you would have been here, my brother wouldn't have died.
22 Even now I know that whatever you ask of God, God will give you."
23 Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again."
24 Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day."
25 Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will still live, even if he dies.

* **10:34** Psalms 82:6 † **11:16** "Didymus" means "Twin". ‡ **11:18** 15 stadia is about 2.8 kilometers or 1.7 miles

26 Whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?"
27 She said to him, "Yes, Lord. I have come to believe that you are the Christ, God's Son, he who comes into the world."
28 When she had said this, she went away and called Mary, her sister, secretly, saying, "The Teacher is here and is calling you."
29 When she heard this, she arose quickly and went to him.
30 Now Jesus had not yet come into the village, but was in the place where Martha met him.
31 Then the Jews who were with her in the house and were consoling her, when they saw Mary, that she rose up quickly and went out, followed her, saying, "She is going to the tomb to weep there."
32 Therefore when Mary came to where Jesus was and saw him, she fell down at his feet, saying to him, "Lord, if you would have been here, my brother wouldn't have died."
33 When Jesus therefore saw her weeping, and the Jews weeping who came with her, he groaned in the spirit and was troubled,
34 and said, "Where have you laid him?"
They told him, "Lord, come and see."
35 Jesus wept.
36 The Jews therefore said, "See how much affection he had for him!"
37 Some of them said, "Couldn't this man, who opened the eyes of him who was blind, have also kept this man from dying?"
38 Jesus therefore, again groaning in himself, came to the tomb. Now it was a cave, and a stone lay against it.
39 Jesus said, "Take away the stone."
Martha, the sister of him who was dead, said to him, "Lord, by this time there is a stench, for he has been dead four days."
40 Jesus said to her, "Didn't I tell you that if you believed, you would see God's glory?"
41 So they took away the stone from the place where the dead man was lying.§
Jesus lifted up his eyes and said, "Father, I thank you that you listened to me.
42 I know that you always listen to me, but because of the multitude standing around I said this, that they may believe that you sent me."
43 When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!"
44 He who was dead came out, bound hand and foot with wrappings, and his face was wrapped around with a cloth.
Jesus said to them, "Free him, and let him go."
45 Therefore many of the Jews who came to Mary and saw what Jesus did believed in him.
46 But some of them went away to the Pharisees and told them the things which Jesus had done.
47 The chief priests therefore and the Pharisees gathered a council, and said, "What are we doing? For this man does many signs.
48 If we leave him alone like this, everyone will believe in him, and the Romans will come and take away both our place and our nation."
49 But a certain one of them, Caiaphas, being high priest that year, said to them, "You know nothing at all,
50 nor do you consider that it is advantageous for us that one man should die for the people, and that the whole nation not perish."
51 Now he didn't say this of himself, but being high priest that year, he prophesied that Jesus would die for the nation,
52 and not for the nation only, but that he might also gather together into one the children of God who are scattered abroad.
53 So from that day forward they took counsel that they might put him to death.
54 Jesus therefore walked no more openly among the Jews, but departed from there into the country near the wilderness, to a city called Ephraim. He stayed there with his disciples.
55 Now the Passover of the Jews was at hand. Many went up from the country to

§ **11:41** NU omits "from the place where the dead man was lying."

Jerusalem before the Passover, to purify themselves.
56 Then they sought for Jesus and spoke with one another as they stood in the temple, “What do you think—that he isn’t coming to the feast at all?”
57 Now the chief priests and the Pharisees had commanded that if anyone knew where he was, he should report it, that they might seize him.

12

1 Then, six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus was, who had been dead, whom he raised from the dead.
2 So they made him a supper there. Martha served, but Lazarus was one of those who sat at the table with him.
3 Therefore Mary took a pound† of ointment of pure nard, very precious, and anointed Jesus’ feet and wiped his feet with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the ointment.

4 Then Judas Iscariot, Simon’s son, one of his disciples, who would betray him, said,
5 “Why wasn’t this ointment sold for three hundred denarii‡ and given to the poor?”
6 Now he said this, not because he cared for the poor, but because he was a thief, and having the money box, used to steal what was put into it.

7 But Jesus said, “Leave her alone. She has kept this for the day of my burial.
8 For you always have the poor with you, but you don’t always have me.”

9 A large crowd therefore of the Jews learned that he was there; and they came, not for Jesus’ sake only, but that they might see Lazarus also, whom he had raised from the dead.
10 But the chief priests conspired to put Lazarus to death also,
11 because on account of him many of the Jews went away and believed in Jesus.

12 On the next day a great multitude had come to the feast. When they heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem,
13 they took the branches of the palm trees and went out to meet him, and cried out, “Hosanna!§ Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord,* the King of Israel!”
14 Jesus, having found a young donkey, sat on it. As it is written,
15 “Don’t be afraid, daughter of Zion. Behold, your King comes, sitting on a donkey’s colt.”*
16 His disciples didn’t understand these things at first, but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things were written about him, and that they had done these things to him.
17 The multitude therefore that was with him when he called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead was testifying about it.
18 For this cause also the multitude went and met him, because they heard that he had done this sign.
19 The Pharisees therefore said among themselves, “See how you accomplish nothing. Behold, the world has gone after him.”
20 Now there were certain Greeks among those who went up to worship at the feast.
21 Therefore, these came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida of Galilee, and asked him, saying, “Sir, we want to see Jesus.”
22 Philip came and told Andrew, and in turn, Andrew came with Philip, and they told Jesus.
23 Jesus answered them, “The time has come for the Son of Man to be glorified.
24 Most certainly I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains by itself alone. But if it dies, it bears much fruit.
25 He who loves his life will lose it. He who hates his life in this world will keep it to eternal life.
26 If anyone serves me, let him follow me. Where I am, there my servant will

† **12:3** a Roman pound of 12 ounces, or about 340 grams ‡ **12:5** 300 denarii was about a year’s wages for an agricultural laborer. § **12:13** “Hosanna” means “save us” or “help us, we pray”. * **12:13** Psalms 118:25-26
* **12:15** Zechariah 9:9

also be. If anyone serves me, the Father
will honor him.
27 “Now my soul is troubled. What shall
I say? ‘Father, save me from this time’?
But I came to this time for this cause.
28 Father, glorify your name!”
Then a voice came out of the sky,
saying, “I have both glorified it and will
glorify it again.”
29 Therefore the multitude who stood by
and heard it said that it had thundered.
Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.”
30 Jesus answered, “This voice hasn’t
come for my sake, but for your sakes.
31 Now is the judgment of this world.
Now the prince of this world will be cast
out.
32 And I, if I am lifted up from the earth,
will draw all people to myself.”
33 But he said this, signifying by what
kind of death he should die.
34 The multitude answered him, “We
have heard out of the law that the Christ
remains forever.* How do you say, ‘The
Son of Man must be lifted up’? Who is this
Son of Man?”
35 Jesus therefore said to them, “Yet a
little while the light is with you. Walk
while you have the light, that darkness
doesn’t overtake you. He who walks in the
darkness doesn’t know where he is going.
36 While you have the light, believe in
the light, that you may become children of
light.” Jesus said these things, and he
departed and hid himself from them.
37 But though he had done so many
signs before them, yet they didn’t believe
in him,
38 that the word of Isaiah the prophet
might be fulfilled, which he spoke:
“Lord, who has believed our report?
To whom has the arm of the Lord
been revealed?”*
39 For this cause they couldn’t believe,
for Isaiah said again:
40 “He has blinded their eyes and he
hardened their heart,
lest they should see with their eyes,
and perceive with their heart,
and would turn,
and I would heal them.”*
41 Isaiah said these things when he saw
his glory, and spoke of him. *
42 Nevertheless, even many of the rulers
believed in him, but because of the
Pharisees they didn’t confess it, so that
they wouldn’t be put out of the synagogue,
43 for they loved men’s praise more than
God’s praise.
44 Jesus cried out and said, “Whoever
believes in me, believes not in me, but in
him who sent me.
45 He who sees me sees him who sent
me.
46 I have come as a light into the world,
that whoever believes in me may not
remain in the darkness.
47 If anyone listens to my sayings and
doesn’t believe, I don’t judge him. For I
came not to judge the world, but to save
the world.
48 He who rejects me, and doesn’t
receive my sayings, has one who judges
him. The word that I spoke will judge him
in the last day.
49 For I spoke not from myself, but the
Father who sent me gave me a
commandment, what I should say and
what I should speak.
50 I know that his commandment is
eternal life. The things therefore which I
speak, even as the Father has said to me,
so I speak.”

13

1 Now before the feast of the Passover,
Jesus, knowing that his time had come
that he would depart from this world to
the Father, having loved his own who
were in the world, he loved them to the
end.
2 During supper, the devil having
already put into the heart of Judas
Iscariot, Simon’s son, to betray him,
3 Jesus, knowing that the Father had
given all things into his hands, and that he
came from God and was going to God,
4 arose from supper, and laid aside his
outer garments. He took a towel and
wrapped a towel around his waist.

* **12:34** Isaiah 9:7; Daniel 2:44; See Isaiah 53:8 * **12:38** Isaiah 53:1 * **12:40** Isaiah 6:10 * **12:41** Isaiah 6:1

5 Then he poured water into the basin,
and began to wash the disciples' feet and
to wipe them with the towel that was
wrapped around him.
6 Then he came to Simon Peter. He said
to him, "Lord, do you wash my feet?"
7 Jesus answered him, "You don't know
what I am doing now, but you will
understand later."
8 Peter said to him, "You will never wash
my feet!"
Jesus answered him, "If I don't wash
you, you have no part with me."
9 Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my
feet only, but also my hands and my
head!"
10 Jesus said to him, "Someone who has
bathed only needs to have his feet
washed, but is completely clean. You are
clean, but not all of you."
11 For he knew him who would betray
him; therefore he said, "You are not all
clean."
12 So when he had washed their feet, put
his outer garment back on, and sat down
again, he said to them, "Do you know
what I have done to you?
13 You call me, 'Teacher' and 'Lord.' You
say so correctly, for so I am.
14 If I then, the Lord and the Teacher,
have washed your feet, you also ought to
wash one another's feet.
15 For I have given you an example, that
you should also do as I have done to you.
16 Most certainly I tell you, a servant is
not greater than his lord, neither is one
who is sent greater than he who sent him.
17 If you know these things, blessed are
you if you do them.
18 I don't speak concerning all of you. I
know whom I have chosen; but that the
Scripture may be fulfilled, 'He who eats
bread with me has lifted up his heel
against me.'*
19 From now on, I tell you before it
happens, that when it happens, you may
believe that I am he.
20 Most certainly I tell you, he who
receives whomever I send, receives me;
and he who receives me, receives him
who sent me."
21 When Jesus had said this, he was
troubled in spirit, and testified, "Most
certainly I tell you that one of you will
betray me."
22 The disciples looked at one another,
perplexed about whom he spoke.
23 One of his disciples, whom Jesus
loved, was at the table, leaning against
Jesus' chest.
24 Simon Peter therefore beckoned to
him, and said to him, "Tell us who it is of
whom he speaks."
25 He, leaning back, as he was, on Jesus'
chest, asked him, "Lord, who is it?"
26 Jesus therefore answered, "It is he to
whom I will give this piece of bread when
I have dipped it." So when he had dipped
the piece of bread, he gave it to Judas, the
son of Simon Iscariot.
27 After the piece of bread, then Satan
entered into him.
Then Jesus said to him, "What you do,
do quickly."
28 Now nobody at the table knew why
he said this to him.
29 For some thought, because Judas had
the money box, that Jesus said to him,
"Buy what things we need for the feast,"
or that he should give something to the
poor.
30 Therefore having received that
morsel, he went out immediately. It was
night.
31 When he had gone out, Jesus said,
"Now the Son of Man has been glorified,
and God has been glorified in him.
32 If God has been glorified in him, God
will also glorify him in himself, and he
will glorify him immediately.
33 Little children, I will be with you a
little while longer. You will seek me, and
as I said to the Jews, 'Where I am going,
you can't come,' so now I tell you.
34 A new commandment I give to you,
that you love one another. Just as I have
loved you, you also love one another.
35 By this everyone will know that you
are my disciples, if you have love for one
another."

* **13:18** Psalms 41:9

36 Simon Peter said to him, “Lord, where
are you going?”
Jesus answered, “Where I am going, you
can’t follow now, but you will follow
afterwards.”
37 Peter said to him, “Lord, why can’t I
follow you now? I will lay down my life
for you.”
38 Jesus answered him, “Will you lay
down your life for me? Most certainly I
tell you, the rooster won’t crow until you
have denied me three times.

14

1 “Don’t let your heart be troubled.
Believe in God. Believe also in me.
2 In my Father’s house are many homes.
If it weren’t so, I would have told you. I
am going to prepare a place for you.
3 If I go and prepare a place for you, I
will come again and will receive you to
myself; that where I am, you may be there
also.
4 You know where I go, and you know
the way.”
5 Thomas said to him, “Lord, we don’t
know where you are going. How can we
know the way?”
6 Jesus said to him, “I am the way, the
truth, and the life. No one comes to the
Father, except through me.
7 If you had known me, you would have
known my Father also. From now on, you
know him and have seen him.”
8 Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the
Father, and that will be enough for us.”
9 Jesus said to him, “Have I been with
you such a long time, and do you not
know me, Philip? He who has seen me has
seen the Father. How do you say, ‘Show us
the Father’?
10 Don’t you believe that I am in the
Father, and the Father in me? The words
that I tell you, I speak not from myself; but
the Father who lives in me does his works.

11 Believe me that I am in the Father,
and the Father in me; or else believe me
for the very works’ sake.
12 Most certainly I tell you, he who
believes in me, the works that I do, he will
do also; and he will do greater works than
these, because I am going to my Father.
13 Whatever you will ask in my name, I
will do it, that the Father may be glorified
in the Son.
14 If you will ask anything in my name, I
will do it.
15 If you love me, keep my
commandments.
16 I will pray to the Father, and he will
give you another Counselor, † that he may
be with you forever:
17 the Spirit of truth, whom the world
can’t receive, for it doesn’t see him and
doesn’t know him. You know him, for he
lives with you and will be in you.
18 I will not leave you orphans. I will
come to you.
19 Yet a little while, and the world will
see me no more; but you will see me.
Because I live, you will live also.
20 In that day you will know that I am in
my Father, and you in me, and I in you.
21 One who has my commandments and
keeps them, that person is one who loves
me. One who loves me will be loved by my
Father, and I will love him, and will reveal
myself to him.”

22 Judas (not Iscariot) said to him, “Lord,
what has happened that you are about to
reveal yourself to us, and not to the
world?”
23 Jesus answered him, “If a man loves
me, he will keep my word. My Father will
love him, and we will come to him and
make our home with him.
24 He who doesn’t love me doesn’t keep
my words. The word which you hear isn’t
mine, but the Father’s who sent me.

25 “I have said these things to you while
still living with you.
26 But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit,
whom the Father will send in my name,
will teach you all things, and will remind
you of all that I said to you.
27 Peace I leave with you. My peace I
give to you; not as the world gives, I give
to you. Don’t let your heart be troubled,
neither let it be fearful.

† **14:16** Greek παρακλητον: Counselor, Helper, Intercessor, Advocate, and Comforter.

28 You heard how I told you, ‘I am going
away, and I will come back to you.’ If you
loved me, you would have rejoiced
because I said ‘I am going to my Father;’
for the Father is greater than I.
29 Now I have told you before it happens
so that when it happens, you may believe.
30 I will no more speak much with you,
for the prince of the world comes, and he
has nothing in me.
31 But that the world may know that I
love the Father, and as the Father
commanded me, even so I do. Arise, let’s
go from here.

15

1 “I am the true vine, and my Father is
the farmer.
2 Every branch in me that doesn’t bear
fruit, he takes away. Every branch that
bears fruit, he prunes, that it may bear
more fruit.
3 You are already pruned clean because
of the word which I have spoken to you.
4 Remain in me, and I in you. As the
branch can’t bear fruit by itself unless it
remains in the vine, so neither can you,
unless you remain in me.
5 I am the vine. You are the branches.
He who remains in me and I in him bears
much fruit, for apart from me you can do
nothing.
6 If a man doesn’t remain in me, he is
thrown out as a branch and is withered;
and they gather them, throw them into
the fire, and they are burned.
7 If you remain in me, and my words
remain in you, you will ask whatever you
desire, and it will be done for you.
8 “In this my Father is glorified, that you
bear much fruit; and so you will be my
disciples.
9 Even as the Father has loved me, I also
have loved you. Remain in my love.
10 If you keep my commandments, you
will remain in my love, even as I have
kept my Father’s commandments and
remain in his love.
11 I have spoken these things to you, that
my joy may remain in you, and that your
joy may be made full.
12 “This is my commandment, that you
love one another, even as I have loved
you.
13 Greater love has no one than this, that
someone lay down his life for his friends.
14 You are my friends if you do whatever
I command you.
15 No longer do I call you servants, for
the servant doesn’t know what his lord
does. But I have called you friends, for
everything that I heard from my Father, I
have made known to you.
16 You didn’t choose me, but I chose you
and appointed you, that you should go
and bear fruit, and that your fruit should
remain; that whatever you will ask of the
Father in my name, he may give it to you.
17 “I command these things to you, that
you may love one another.
18 If the world hates you, you know that
it has hated me before it hated you.
19 If you were of the world, the world
would love its own. But because you are
not of the world, since I chose you out of
the world, therefore the world hates you.
20 Remember the word that I said to
you: ‘A servant is not greater than his
lord.’* If they persecuted me, they will
also persecute you. If they kept my word,
they will also keep yours.
21 But they will do all these things to you
for my name’s sake, because they don’t
know him who sent me.
22 If I had not come and spoken to them,
they would not have had sin; but now
they have no excuse for their sin.
23 He who hates me, hates my Father
also.
24 If I hadn’t done among them the
works which no one else did, they
wouldn’t have had sin. But now they have
seen and also hated both me and my
Father.
25 But this happened so that the word
may be fulfilled which was written in

* **15:20** John 13:16 * **15:25** Psalms 35:19; 69:4 † **15:26** Greek Parakletos: Counselor, Helper, Advocate, Intercessor, and Comforter.

their law, ‘They hated me without a cause.’*
26 “When the Counselor† has come,
whom I will send to you from the Father,
the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the
Father, he will testify about me.
27 You will also testify, because you have
been with me from the beginning.

16

1 “I have said these things to you so that
you wouldn’t be caused to stumble.
2 They will put you out of the
synagogues. Yes, the time is coming that
whoever kills you will think that he offers
service to God.
3 They will do these things† because
they have not known the Father nor me.
4 But I have told you these things so that
when the time comes, you may remember
that I told you about them. I didn’t tell you
these things from the beginning, because I
was with you.
5 But now I am going to him who sent
me, and none of you asks me, ‘Where are
you going?’
6 But because I have told you these
things, sorrow has filled your heart.
7 Nevertheless I tell you the truth: It is to
your advantage that I go away; for if I
don’t go away, the Counselor won’t come
to you. But if I go, I will send him to you.
8 When he has come, he will convict the
world about sin, about righteousness, and
about judgment;
9 about sin, because they don’t believe
in me;
10 about righteousness, because I am
going to my Father, and you won’t see me
any more;
11 about judgment, because the prince
of this world has been judged.
12 “I still have many things to tell you,
but you can’t bear them now.
13 However, when he, the Spirit of truth,
has come, he will guide you into all truth,
for he will not speak from himself; but
whatever he hears, he will speak. He will
declare to you things that are coming.
14 He will glorify me, for he will take
from what is mine and will declare it to
you.
15 All things that the Father has are
mine; therefore I said that he takes‡ of
mine and will declare it to you.
16 “A little while, and you will not see
me. Again a little while, and you will see
me.”
17 Some of his disciples therefore said to
one another, “What is this that he says to
us, ‘A little while, and you won’t see me,
and again a little while, and you will see
me;’ and, ‘Because I go to the Father’?”
18 They said therefore, “What is this that
he says, ‘A little while’? We don’t know
what he is saying.”
19 Therefore Jesus perceived that they
wanted to ask him, and he said to them,
“Do you inquire among yourselves
concerning this, that I said, ‘A little while,
and you won’t see me, and again a little
while, and you will see me’?
20 Most certainly I tell you that you will
weep and lament, but the world will
rejoice. You will be sorrowful, but your
sorrow will be turned into joy.
21 A woman, when she gives birth, has
sorrow because her time has come. But
when she has delivered the child, she
doesn’t remember the anguish any more,
for the joy that a human being is born into
the world.
22 Therefore you now have sorrow, but I
will see you again, and your heart will
rejoice, and no one will take your joy
away from you.
23 “In that day you will ask me no
questions. Most certainly I tell you,
whatever you may ask of the Father in my
name, he will give it to you.
24 Until now, you have asked nothing in
my name. Ask, and you will receive, that
your joy may be made full.
25 “I have spoken these things to you in
figures of speech. But the time is coming
when I will no more speak to you in
figures of speech, but will tell you plainly
about the Father.

† **16:3** TR adds “to you” ‡ **16:15** TR reads “will take” instead of “takes”

26 In that day you will ask in my name;
and I don't say to you that I will pray to the
Father for you,
27 for the Father himself loves you,
because you have loved me, and have
believed that I came from God.
28 I came from the Father and have
come into the world. Again, I leave the
world and go to the Father."
29 His disciples said to him, "Behold,
now you are speaking plainly, and using
no figures of speech.
30 Now we know that you know all
things, and don't need for anyone to
question you. By this we believe that you
came from God."
31 Jesus answered them, "Do you now
believe?
32 Behold, the time is coming, yes, and
has now come, that you will be scattered,
everyone to his own place, and you will
leave me alone. Yet I am not alone,
because the Father is with me.
33 I have told you these things, that in
me you may have peace. In the world you
have trouble; but cheer up! I have
overcome the world."

17

1 Jesus said these things, then lifting up
his eyes to heaven, he said, "Father, the
time has come. Glorify your Son, that
your Son may also glorify you;
2 even as you gave him authority over
all flesh, so he will give eternal life to all
whom you have given him.
3 This is eternal life, that they should
know you, the only true God, and him
whom you sent, Jesus Christ.
4 I glorified you on the earth. I have
accomplished the work which you have
given me to do.
5 Now, Father, glorify me with your own
self with the glory which I had with you
before the world existed.
6 "I revealed your name to the people
whom you have given me out of the
world. They were yours, and you have
given them to me. They have kept your
word.
7 Now they have known that all things
whatever you have given me are from
you,
8 for the words which you have given
me I have given to them; and they
received them, and knew for sure that I
came from you. They have believed that
you sent me.
9 I pray for them. I don't pray for the
world, but for those whom you have given
me, for they are yours.
10 All things that are mine are yours,
and yours are mine, and I am glorified in
them.
11 I am no more in the world, but these
are in the world, and I am coming to you.
Holy Father, keep them through your
name which you have given me, that they
may be one, even as we are.
12 While I was with them in the world, I
kept them in your name. I have kept those
whom you have given me. None of them
is lost except the son of destruction, that
the Scripture might be fulfilled.
13 But now I come to you, and I say these
things in the world, that they may have
my joy made full in themselves.
14 I have given them your word. The
world hated them because they are not of
the world, even as I am not of the world.
15 I pray not that you would take them
from the world, but that you would keep
them from the evil one.
16 They are not of the world, even as I
am not of the world.
17 Sanctify them in your truth. Your
word is truth.*
18 As you sent me into the world, even
so I have sent them into the world.
19 For their sakes I sanctify myself, that
they themselves also may be sanctified in
truth.
20 "Not for these only do I pray, but for
those also who will believe in me through
their word,
21 that they may all be one; even as you,
Father, are in me, and I in you, that they
also may be one in us; that the world may
believe that you sent me.
22 The glory which you have given me, I
have given to them, that they may be one,

* **17:17** Psalms 119:142

even as we are one,
23 I in them, and you in me, that they
may be perfected into one, that the world
may know that you sent me and loved
them, even as you loved me.
24 Father, I desire that they also whom
you have given me be with me where I
am, that they may see my glory which you
have given me, for you loved me before
the foundation of the world.
25 Righteous Father, the world hasn't
known you, but I knew you; and these
knew that you sent me.
26 I made known to them your name,
and will make it known; that the love with
which you loved me may be in them, and I
in them."

18

1 When Jesus had spoken these words,
he went out with his disciples over the
brook Kidron, where there was a garden,
into which he and his disciples entered.
2 Now Judas, who betrayed him, also
knew the place, for Jesus often met there
with his disciples.
3 Judas then, having taken a detachment
of soldiers and officers from the chief
priests and the Pharisees, came there with
lanterns, torches, and weapons.
4 Jesus therefore, knowing all the things
that were happening to him, went out and
said to them, "Who are you looking for?"
5 They answered him, "Jesus of
Nazareth."
Jesus said to them, "I am he."
Judas also, who betrayed him, was
standing with them.
6 When therefore he said to them, "I am
he," they went backward and fell to the
ground.
7 Again therefore he asked them, "Who
are you looking for?"
They said, "Jesus of Nazareth."
8 Jesus answered, "I told you that I am
he. If therefore you seek me, let these go
their way,"
9 that the word might be fulfilled which
he spoke, "Of those whom you have given
me, I have lost none."*

* **18:9** John 6:39

10 Simon Peter therefore, having a
sword, drew it, struck the high priest's
servant, and cut off his right ear. The
servant's name was Malchus.
11 Jesus therefore said to Peter, "Put the
sword into its sheath. The cup which the
Father has given me, shall I not surely
drink it?"
12 So the detachment, the commanding
officer, and the officers of the Jews seized
Jesus and bound him,
13 and led him to Annas first, for he was
father-in-law to Caiaphas, who was high
priest that year.
14 Now it was Caiaphas who advised the
Jews that it was expedient that one man
should perish for the people.
15 Simon Peter followed Jesus, as did
another disciple. Now that disciple was
known to the high priest, and entered in
with Jesus into the court of the high priest;
16 but Peter was standing at the door
outside. So the other disciple, who was
known to the high priest, went out and
spoke to her who kept the door, and
brought in Peter.
17 Then the maid who kept the door said
to Peter, "Are you also one of this man's
disciples?"
He said, "I am not."
18 Now the servants and the officers
were standing there, having made a fire
of coals, for it was cold. They were
warming themselves. Peter was with
them, standing and warming himself.
19 The high priest therefore asked Jesus
about his disciples and about his teaching.
20 Jesus answered him, "I spoke openly
to the world. I always taught in
synagogues and in the temple, where the
Jews always meet. I said nothing in secret.
21 Why do you ask me? Ask those who
have heard me what I said to them.
Behold, they know the things which I
said."
22 When he had said this, one of the
officers standing by slapped Jesus with his
hand, saying, "Do you answer the high
priest like that?"

23 Jesus answered him, “If I have spoken evil, testify of the evil; but if well, why do you beat me?”
24 Annas sent him bound to Caiaphas, the high priest.
25 Now Simon Peter was standing and warming himself. They said therefore to him, “You aren’t also one of his disciples, are you?”
He denied it and said, “I am not.”
26 One of the servants of the high priest, being a relative of him whose ear Peter had cut off, said, “Didn’t I see you in the garden with him?”
27 Peter therefore denied it again, and immediately the rooster crowed.
28 They led Jesus therefore from Caiaphas into the Praetorium. It was early, and they themselves didn’t enter into the Praetorium, that they might not be defiled, but might eat the Passover.
29 Pilate therefore went out to them and said, “What accusation do you bring against this man?”
30 They answered him, “If this man weren’t an evildoer, we wouldn’t have delivered him up to you.”
31 Pilate therefore said to them, “Take him yourselves, and judge him according to your law.”
Therefore the Jews said to him, “It is illegal for us to put anyone to death,”
32 that the word of Jesus might be fulfilled, which he spoke, signifying by what kind of death he should die.
33 Pilate therefore entered again into the Praetorium, called Jesus, and said to him, “Are you the King of the Jews?”
34 Jesus answered him, “Do you say this by yourself, or did others tell you about me?”
35 Pilate answered, “I’m not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests delivered you to me. What have you done?”
36 Jesus answered, “My Kingdom is not of this world. If my Kingdom were of this world, then my servants would fight, that I wouldn’t be delivered to the Jews. But now my Kingdom is not from here.”
37 Pilate therefore said to him, “Are you a king then?”
Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. For this reason I have been born, and for this reason I have come into the world, that I should testify to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice.”
38 Pilate said to him, “What is truth?”
When he had said this, he went out again to the Jews, and said to them, “I find no basis for a charge against him.
39 But you have a custom that I should release someone to you at the Passover. Therefore, do you want me to release to you the King of the Jews?”
40 Then they all shouted again, saying, “Not this man, but Barabbas!” Now Barabbas was a robber.

19

1 So Pilate then took Jesus and flogged him.
2 The soldiers twisted thorns into a crown and put it on his head, and dressed him in a purple garment.
3 They kept saying, “Hail, King of the Jews!” and they kept slapping him.
4 Then Pilate went out again, and said to them, “Behold, I bring him out to you, that you may know that I find no basis for a charge against him.”
5 Jesus therefore came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple garment. Pilate said to them, “Behold, the man!”
6 When therefore the chief priests and the officers saw him, they shouted, saying, “Crucify! Crucify!”
Pilate said to them, “Take him yourselves and crucify him, for I find no basis for a charge against him.”
7 The Jews answered him, “We have a law, and by our law he ought to die, because he made himself the Son of God.”
8 When therefore Pilate heard this saying, he was more afraid.
9 He entered into the Praetorium again, and said to Jesus, “Where are you from?” But Jesus gave him no answer.
10 Pilate therefore said to him, “Aren’t you speaking to me? Don’t you know that

I have power to release you and have
power to crucify you?"
11 Jesus answered, "You would have no
power at all against me, unless it were
given to you from above. Therefore he
who delivered me to you has greater sin."
12 At this, Pilate was seeking to release
him, but the Jews cried out, saying, "If you
release this man, you aren't Caesar's
friend! Everyone who makes himself a
king speaks against Caesar!"
13 When Pilate therefore heard these
words, he brought Jesus out and sat down
on the judgment seat at a place called "The
Pavement", but in Hebrew, "Gabbatha."
14 Now it was the Preparation Day of the
Passover, at about the sixth hour.† He said
to the Jews, "Behold, your King!"
15 They cried out, "Away with him!
Away with him! Crucify him!"
Pilate said to them, "Shall I crucify your
King?"
The chief priests answered, "We have
no king but Caesar!"
16 So then he delivered him to them to
be crucified. So they took Jesus and led
him away.
17 He went out, bearing his cross, to the
place called "The Place of a Skull", which
is called in Hebrew, "Golgotha",
18 where they crucified him, and with
him two others, on either side one, and
Jesus in the middle.
19 Pilate wrote a title also, and put it on
the cross. There was written, "JESUS OF
NAZARETH, THE KING OF THE JEWS."
20 Therefore many of the Jews read this
title, for the place where Jesus was
crucified was near the city; and it was
written in Hebrew, in Latin, and in Greek.
21 The chief priests of the Jews therefore
said to Pilate, "Don't write, 'The King of
the Jews,' but, 'he said, "I am King of the
Jews." ' "
22 Pilate answered, "What I have
written, I have written."
23 Then the soldiers, when they had
crucified Jesus, took his garments and
made four parts, to every soldier a part;
and also the tunic. Now the tunic was
without seam, woven from the top
throughout.
24 Then they said to one another, "Let's
not tear it, but cast lots for it to decide
whose it will be," that the Scripture might
be fulfilled, which says,

"They parted my garments among them.
They cast lots for my clothing."*

Therefore the soldiers did these things.
25 But standing by Jesus' cross were his
mother, his mother's sister, Mary the wife
of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene.
26 Therefore when Jesus saw his
mother, and the disciple whom he loved
standing there, he said to his mother,
"Woman, behold, your son!"
27 Then he said to the disciple, "Behold,
your mother!" From that hour, the
disciple took her to his own home.
28 After this, Jesus, seeing‡ that all things
were now finished, that the Scripture
might be fulfilled, said, "I am thirsty!"
29 Now a vessel full of vinegar was set
there; so they put a sponge full of the
vinegar on hyssop, and held it at his
mouth.
30 When Jesus therefore had received
the vinegar, he said, "It is finished!" Then
he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.
31 Therefore the Jews, because it was the
Preparation Day, so that the bodies
wouldn't remain on the cross on the
Sabbath (for that Sabbath was a special
one), asked of Pilate that their legs might
be broken and that they might be taken
away.
32 Therefore the soldiers came and
broke the legs of the first and of the other
who was crucified with him;
33 but when they came to Jesus and saw
that he was already dead, they didn't
break his legs.
34 However, one of the soldiers pierced
his side with a spear, and immediately
blood and water came out.

† **19:14** "the sixth hour" would have been 6:00 a.m. according to the Roman timekeeping system, or noon for the Jewish timekeeping system in use, then. * **19:24** Psalms 22:18 ‡ **19:28** NU, TR read "knowing" instead of "seeing"

35 He who has seen has testified, and his testimony is true. He knows that he tells the truth, that you may believe.
36 For these things happened that the Scripture might be fulfilled, “A bone of him will not be broken.”*
37 Again another Scripture says, “They will look on him whom they pierced.”*
38 After these things, Joseph of Arimathaea, being a disciple of Jesus, but secretly for fear of the Jews, asked of Pilate that he might take away Jesus’ body. Pilate gave him permission. He came therefore and took away his body.
39 Nicodemus, who at first came to Jesus by night, also came bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about a hundred Roman pounds.§
40 So they took Jesus’ body, and bound it in linen cloths with the spices, as the custom of the Jews is to bury.
41 Now in the place where he was crucified there was a garden. In the garden was a new tomb in which no man had ever yet been laid.
42 Then, because of the Jews’ Preparation Day (for the tomb was near at hand), they laid Jesus there.

20

1 Now on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene went early, while it was still dark, to the tomb, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb.
2 Therefore she ran and came to Simon Peter and to the other disciple whom Jesus loved, and said to them, “They have taken away the Lord out of the tomb, and we don’t know where they have laid him!”
3 Therefore Peter and the other disciple went out, and they went toward the tomb.
4 They both ran together. The other disciple outran Peter and came to the tomb first.
5 Stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths lying there; yet he didn’t enter in.
6 Then Simon Peter came, following him, and entered into the tomb. He saw the linen cloths lying,
7 and the cloth that had been on his head, not lying with the linen cloths, but rolled up in a place by itself.
8 So then the other disciple who came first to the tomb also entered in, and he saw and believed.
9 For as yet they didn’t know the Scripture, that he must rise from the dead.
10 So the disciples went away again to their own homes.
11 But Mary was standing outside at the tomb weeping. So as she wept, she stooped and looked into the tomb,
12 and she saw two angels in white sitting, one at the head and one at the feet, where the body of Jesus had lain.
13 They asked her, “Woman, why are you weeping?”
She said to them, “Because they have taken away my Lord, and I don’t know where they have laid him.”
14 When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing, and didn’t know that it was Jesus.
15 Jesus said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping? Who are you looking for?”
She, supposing him to be the gardener, said to him, “Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.”
16 Jesus said to her, “Mary.”
She turned and said to him, “Rabboni!”† which is to say, “Teacher!”‡
17 Jesus said to her, “Don’t hold me, for I haven’t yet ascended to my Father; but go to my brothers and tell them, ‘I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’ ”
18 Mary Magdalene came and told the disciples that she had seen the Lord, and that he had said these things to her.
19 When therefore it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and when the doors were locked where the disciples were assembled, for fear of the

* **19:36** Exodus 12:46; Numbers 9:12; Psalms 34:20 * **19:37** Zechariah 12:10 § **19:39** 100 Roman pounds of 12 ounces each, or about 72 pounds, or 33 Kilograms. † **20:16** Rabboni is a transliteration of the Aramaic word for “great teacher.” ‡ **20:16** or, Master

Jews, Jesus came and stood in the middle and said to them, "Peace be to you."
20 When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. The disciples therefore were glad when they saw the Lord.
21 Jesus therefore said to them again, "Peace be to you. As the Father has sent me, even so I send you."
22 When he had said this, he breathed on them, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit!
23 If you forgive anyone's sins, they have been forgiven them. If you retain anyone's sins, they have been retained."
24 But Thomas, one of the twelve, called Didymus,§ wasn't with them when Jesus came.
25 The other disciples therefore said to him, "We have seen the Lord!"
But he said to them, "Unless I see in his hands the print of the nails, put my finger into the print of the nails, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe."
26 After eight days, again his disciples were inside and Thomas was with them. Jesus came, the doors being locked, and stood in the middle, and said, "Peace be to you."
27 Then he said to Thomas, "Reach here your finger, and see my hands. Reach here your hand, and put it into my side. Don't be unbelieving, but believing."
28 Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!"
29 Jesus said to him, "Because you have seen me,† you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed."
30 Therefore Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book;
31 but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in his name.

21

1 After these things, Jesus revealed himself again to the disciples at the sea of Tiberias. He revealed himself this way.
2 Simon Peter, Thomas called Didymus,† Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, and the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples were together.
3 Simon Peter said to them, "I'm going fishing."
They told him, "We are also coming with you." They immediately went out and entered into the boat. That night, they caught nothing.
4 But when day had already come, Jesus stood on the beach; yet the disciples didn't know that it was Jesus.
5 Jesus therefore said to them, "Children, have you anything to eat?"
They answered him, "No."
6 He said to them, "Cast the net on the right side of the boat, and you will find some."
They cast it therefore, and now they weren't able to draw it in for the multitude of fish.
7 That disciple therefore whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It's the Lord!"
So when Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he wrapped his coat around himself (for he was naked), and threw himself into the sea.
8 But the other disciples came in the little boat (for they were not far from the land, but about two hundred cubits‡ away), dragging the net full of fish.
9 So when they got out on the land, they saw a fire of coals there, with fish and bread laid on it.
10 Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish which you have just caught."
11 Simon Peter went up, and drew the net to land, full of one hundred fifty-three great fish. Even though there were so many, the net wasn't torn.
12 Jesus said to them, "Come and eat breakfast!"
None of the disciples dared inquire of him, "Who are you?" knowing that it was the Lord.
13 Then Jesus came and took the bread, gave it to them, and the fish likewise.

§ **20:24** or, Twin † **20:29** TR adds "Thomas," † **21:2** or, Twin ‡ **21:8** 200 cubits is about 100 yards or about 91 meters

14 This is now the third time that Jesus
was revealed to his disciples after he had
risen from the dead.
15 So when they had eaten their
breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter,
"Simon, son of Jonah, do you love me
more than these?"
He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know
that I have affection for you."
He said to him, "Feed my lambs."
16 He said to him again a second time,
"Simon, son of Jonah, do you love me?"
He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know
that I have affection for you."
He said to him, "Tend my sheep."
17 He said to him the third time, "Simon,
son of Jonah, do you have affection for
me?"
Peter was grieved because he asked him
the third time, "Do you have affection for
me?" He said to him, "Lord, you know
everything. You know that I have
affection for you."
Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep.
18 Most certainly I tell you, when you
were young, you dressed yourself and
walked where you wanted to. But when
you are old, you will stretch out your
hands, and another will dress you and
carry you where you don't want to go."
19 Now he said this, signifying by what
kind of death he would glorify God. When
he had said this, he said to him, "Follow
me."
20 Then Peter, turning around, saw a
disciple following. This was the disciple
whom Jesus loved, the one who had also
leaned on Jesus' chest at the supper and
asked, "Lord, who is going to betray you?"
21 Peter, seeing him, said to Jesus, "Lord,
what about this man?"
22 Jesus said to him, "If I desire that he
stay until I come, what is that to you? You
follow me."
23 This saying therefore went out among
the brothers§ that this disciple wouldn't
die. Yet Jesus didn't say to him that he
wouldn't die, but, "If I desire that he stay
until I come, what is that to you?"

24 This is the disciple who testifies about
these things, and wrote these things. We
know that his witness is true.
25 There are also many other things
which Jesus did, which if they would all
be written, I suppose that even the world
itself wouldn't have room for the books
that would be written.

§ **21:23** The word for "brothers" here may be also correctly translated "brothers and sisters" or "siblings."

The Acts of the Apostles

1 The first book I wrote, Theophilus,
concerned all that Jesus began both to do
and to teach,
2 until the day in which he was received
up, after he had given commandment
through the Holy Spirit to the apostles
whom he had chosen.
3 To these he also showed himself alive
after he suffered, by many proofs,
appearing to them over a period of forty
days and speaking about God's Kingdom.
4 Being assembled together with them,
he commanded them, "Don't depart from
Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the
Father, which you heard from me.
5 For John indeed baptized in water, but
you will be baptized in the Holy Spirit not
many days from now."
6 Therefore, when they had come
together, they asked him, "Lord, are you
now restoring the kingdom to Israel?"
7 He said to them, "It isn't for you to
know times or seasons which the Father
has set within his own authority.
8 But you will receive power when the
Holy Spirit has come upon you. You will
be witnesses to me in Jerusalem, in all
Judea and Samaria, and to the uttermost
parts of the earth."
9 When he had said these things, as they
were looking, he was taken up, and a
cloud received him out of their sight.
10 While they were looking steadfastly
into the sky as he went, behold,† two men
stood by them in white clothing,
11 who also said, "You men of Galilee,
why do you stand looking into the sky?
This Jesus, who was received up from you
into the sky, will come back in the same
way as you saw him going into the sky."
12 Then they returned to Jerusalem from
the mountain called Olivet, which is near
Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey away.
13 When they had come in, they went up
into the upper room where they were
staying, that is Peter, John, James,
Andrew, Philip, Thomas, Bartholomew,
Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus,
Simon the Zealot, and Judas the son of
James.
14 All these with one accord continued
steadfastly in prayer and supplication,
along with the women and Mary the
mother of Jesus, and with his brothers.
15 In these days, Peter stood up in the
middle of the disciples (and the number of
names was about one hundred twenty),
and said,
16 "Brothers, it was necessary that this
Scripture should be fulfilled, which the
Holy Spirit spoke before by the mouth of
David concerning Judas, who was guide to
those who took Jesus.
17 For he was counted with us, and
received his portion in this ministry.
18 Now this man obtained a field with
the reward for his wickedness; and falling
headlong, his body burst open and all his
intestines gushed out.
19 It became known to everyone who
lived in Jerusalem that in their language
that field was called 'Akeldama,' that is,
'The field of blood.'
20 For it is written in the book of Psalms,
'Let his habitation be made desolate.
Let no one dwell in it;'*
and,
'Let another take his office.'*
21 "Of the men therefore who have
accompanied us all the time that the Lord
Jesus went in and out among us,
22 beginning from the baptism of John
to the day that he was received up from
us, of these one must become a witness
with us of his resurrection."
23 They put forward two: Joseph called
Barsabbas, who was also called Justus,
and Matthias.
24 They prayed and said, "You, Lord,
who know the hearts of all men, show
which one of these two you have chosen
25 to take part in this ministry and
apostleship from which Judas fell away,
that he might go to his own place."

† **1:10** "Behold", from "ἰδοὺ", means look at, take notice, observe, see, or gaze at. It is often used as an interjection.

* **1:20** Psalms 69:25 * **1:20** Psalms 109:8

26 They drew lots for them, and the lot
fell on Matthias; and he was counted with
the eleven apostles.

2

1 Now when the day of Pentecost had
come, they were all with one accord in
one place.
2 Suddenly there came from the sky a
sound like the rushing of a mighty wind,
and it filled all the house where they were
sitting.
3 Tongues like fire appeared and were
distributed to them, and one sat on each
of them.
4 They were all filled with the Holy
Spirit and began to speak with other
languages, as the Spirit gave them the
ability to speak.
5 Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem
Jews, devout men, from every nation
under the sky.
6 When this sound was heard, the
multitude came together and were
bewildered, because everyone heard
them speaking in his own language.
7 They were all amazed and marveled,
saying to one another, "Behold, aren't all
these who speak Galileans?
8 How do we hear, everyone in our own
native language?
9 Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and
people from Mesopotamia, Judea,
Cappadocia, Pontus, Asia,
10 Phrygia, Pamphylia, Egypt, the parts
of Libya around Cyrene, visitors from
Rome, both Jews and proselytes,
11 Cretans and Arabians—we hear them
speaking in our languages the mighty
works of God!"
12 They were all amazed and were
perplexed, saying to one another, "What
does this mean?"
13 Others, mocking, said, "They are filled
with new wine."
14 But Peter, standing up with the
eleven, lifted up his voice and spoke out to
them, "You men of Judea and all you who
dwell at Jerusalem, let this be known to
you, and listen to my words.
15 For these aren't drunken, as you
suppose, seeing it is only the third hour of
the day.†
16 But this is what has been spoken
through the prophet Joel:
17 'It will be in the last days, says God,
that I will pour out my Spirit on all
flesh.
Your sons and your daughters will
prophesy.
Your young men will see visions.
Your old men will dream dreams.
18 Yes, and on my servants and on my
handmaidens in those days,
I will pour out my Spirit, and they will
prophesy.
19 I will show wonders in the sky above,
and signs on the earth beneath:
blood, and fire, and billows of smoke.
20 The sun will be turned into darkness,
and the moon into blood,
before the great and glorious day of
the Lord comes.
21 It will be that whoever will call on the
name of the Lord will be saved.'*
22 "Men of Israel, hear these words!
Jesus of Nazareth, a man approved by God
to you by mighty works and wonders and
signs which God did by him among you,
even as you yourselves know,
23 him, being delivered up by the
determined counsel and foreknowledge
of God, you have taken by the hand of
lawless men, crucified and killed;
24 whom God raised up, having freed
him from the agony of death, because it
was not possible that he should be held by
it.
25 For David says concerning him,
'I saw the Lord always before my face,
for he is on my right hand, that I
should not be moved.
26 Therefore my heart was glad, and my
tongue rejoiced.
Moreover my flesh also will dwell in
hope,
27 because you will not leave my soul in
Hades,‡
neither will you allow your Holy One
to see decay.

† **2:15** about 9:00 a.m. * **2:21** Joel 2:28-32 ‡ **2:27** or, Hell

28 You made known to me the ways of life.
You will make me full of gladness
with your presence.'*

29 "Brothers, I may tell you freely of the patriarch David, that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day.
30 Therefore, being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that of the fruit of his body, according to the flesh, he would raise up the Christ§ to sit on his throne,
31 he foreseeing this, spoke about the resurrection of the Christ, that his soul wasn't left in Hades,† and his flesh didn't see decay.
32 This Jesus God raised up, to which we all are witnesses.
33 Being therefore exalted by the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he has poured out this which you now see and hear.
34 For David didn't ascend into the heavens, but he says himself,
'The Lord said to my Lord, "Sit by my right
hand
35 until I make your enemies a
footstool for your feet." '*

36 "Let all the house of Israel therefore know certainly that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified."
37 Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?"
38 Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.
39 For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are far off, even as many as the Lord our God will call to himself."
40 With many other words he testified and exhorted them, saying, "Save yourselves from this crooked generation!"
41 Then those who gladly received his word were baptized. There were added that day about three thousand souls.
42 They continued steadfastly in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and prayer.
43 Fear came on every soul, and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles.
44 All who believed were together, and had all things in common.
45 They sold their possessions and goods, and distributed them to all, according as anyone had need.
46 Day by day, continuing steadfastly with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread at home, they took their food with gladness and singleness of heart,
47 praising God and having favor with all the people. The Lord added to the assembly day by day those who were being saved.

3

1 Peter and John were going up into the temple at the hour of prayer, the ninth hour.†
2 A certain man who was lame from his mother's womb was being carried, whom they laid daily at the door of the temple which is called Beautiful, to ask gifts for the needy of those who entered into the temple.
3 Seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple, he asked to receive gifts for the needy.
4 Peter, fastening his eyes on him, with John, said, "Look at us."
5 He listened to them, expecting to receive something from them.
6 But Peter said, "I have no silver or gold, but what I have, that I give you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, get up and walk!"
7 He took him by the right hand and raised him up. Immediately his feet and his ankle bones received strength.

* **2:28** Psalms 16:8-11 § **2:30** "Christ" means "Anointed One". † **2:31** or, Hell * **2:35** Psalms 110:1 † **3:1** 3:00 p.m.

8 Leaping up, he stood and began to
walk. He entered with them into the
temple, walking, leaping, and praising
God.
9 All the people saw him walking and
praising God.
10 They recognized him, that it was he
who used to sit begging for gifts for the
needy at the Beautiful Gate of the temple.
They were filled with wonder and
amazement at what had happened to him.
11 As the lame man who was healed held
on to Peter and John, all the people ran
together to them in the porch that is called
Solomon's, greatly wondering.

12 When Peter saw it, he responded to
the people, "You men of Israel, why do you
marvel at this man? Why do you fasten
your eyes on us, as though by our own
power or godliness we had made him
walk?
13 The God of Abraham, Isaac, and
Jacob, the God of our fathers, has glorified
his Servant Jesus, whom you delivered up
and denied in the presence of Pilate, when
he had determined to release him.
14 But you denied the Holy and
Righteous One and asked for a murderer
to be granted to you,
15 and killed the Prince of life, whom
God raised from the dead, to which we are
witnesses.
16 By faith in his name, his name has
made this man strong, whom you see and
know. Yes, the faith which is through him
has given him this perfect soundness in
the presence of you all.

17 "Now, brothers,‡ I know that you did
this in ignorance, as did also your rulers.
18 But the things which God announced
by the mouth of all his prophets, that
Christ should suffer, he thus fulfilled.

19 "Repent therefore, and turn again,
that your sins may be blotted out, so that
there may come times of refreshing from
the presence of the Lord,
20 and that he may send Christ Jesus,
who was ordained for you before,
21 whom heaven must receive until the
times of restoration of all things, which
God spoke long ago by the mouth of his
holy prophets.
22 For Moses indeed said to the fathers,
'The Lord God will raise up a prophet for
you from among your brothers, like me.
You shall listen to him in all things
whatever he says to you.
23 It will be that every soul that will not
listen to that prophet will be utterly
destroyed from among the people.'*
24 Yes, and all the prophets from Samuel
and those who followed after, as many as
have spoken, also told of these days.
25 You are the children of the prophets,
and of the covenant which God made with
our fathers, saying to Abraham, 'All the
families of the earth will be blessed
through your offspring.'§*
26 God, having raised up his servant
Jesus, sent him to you first to bless you, in
turning away every one of you from your
wickedness."

4

1 As they spoke to the people, the priests
and the captain of the temple and the
Sadducees came to them,
2 being upset because they taught the
people and proclaimed in Jesus the
resurrection from the dead.
3 They laid hands on them, and put
them in custody until the next day, for it
was now evening.
4 But many of those who heard the word
believed, and the number of the men
came to be about five thousand.
5 In the morning, their rulers, elders,
and scribes were gathered together in
Jerusalem.
6 Annas the high priest was there, with
Caiaphas, John, Alexander, and as many
as were relatives of the high priest.
7 When they had stood Peter and John in
the middle of them, they inquired, "By
what power, or in what name, have you
done this?"

‡ **3:17** The word for "brothers" here may be also correctly translated "brothers and sisters" or "siblings." * **3:23** Deuteronomy 18:15,18-19 § **3:25** or, seed * **3:25** Genesis 22:18; 26:4

8 Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit,
said to them, “You rulers of the people and
elders of Israel,
9 if we are examined today concerning a
good deed done to a crippled man, by
what means this man has been healed,
10 may it be known to you all, and to all
the people of Israel, that in the name of
Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you
crucified, whom God raised from the
dead, this man stands here before you
whole in him.
11 He is ‘the stone which was regarded
as worthless by you, the builders, which
has become the head of the corner.’*
12 There is salvation in no one else, for
there is no other name under heaven that
is given among men, by which we must be
saved!”

13 Now when they saw the boldness of
Peter and John, and had perceived that
they were unlearned and ignorant men,
they marveled. They recognized that they
had been with Jesus.
14 Seeing the man who was healed
standing with them, they could say
nothing against it.
15 But when they had commanded them
to go aside out of the council, they
conferred among themselves,
16 saying, “What shall we do to these
men? Because indeed a notable miracle
has been done through them, as can be
plainly seen by all who dwell in
Jerusalem, and we can’t deny it.
17 But so that this spreads no further
among the people, let’s threaten them,
that from now on they don’t speak to
anyone in this name.”
18 They called them, and commanded
them not to speak at all nor teach in the
name of Jesus.

19 But Peter and John answered them,
“Whether it is right in the sight of God to
listen to you rather than to God, judge for
yourselves,
20 for we can’t help telling the things
which we saw and heard.”

21 When they had further threatened
them, they let them go, finding no way to
punish them, because of the people; for
everyone glorified God for that which was
done.
22 For the man on whom this miracle of
healing was performed was more than
forty years old.

23 Being let go, they came to their own
company and reported all that the chief
priests and the elders had said to them.
24 When they heard it, they lifted up
their voice to God with one accord and
said, “O Lord, you are God, who made the
sky, the earth, the sea, and all that is in
them;
25 who by the mouth of your servant
David, said,

‘Why do the nations rage,
and the peoples plot a vain thing?
26 The kings of the earth take a stand,
and the rulers plot together,
against the Lord, and against his
Christ.’†*
27 “For truly,‡ both Herod and Pontius
Pilate, with the Gentiles and the people of
Israel, were gathered together against
your holy servant Jesus, whom you
anointed,
28 to do whatever your hand and your
counsel foreordained to happen.
29 Now, Lord, look at their threats, and
grant to your servants to speak your word
with all boldness,
30 while you stretch out your hand to
heal; and that signs and wonders may be
done through the name of your holy
Servant Jesus.”

31 When they had prayed, the place was
shaken where they were gathered
together. They were all filled with the
Holy Spirit, and they spoke the word of
God with boldness.

32 The multitude of those who believed
were of one heart and soul. Not one of
them claimed that anything of the things
which he possessed was his own, but they
had all things in common.

* **4:11** Psalms 118:22 † **4:26** Christ (Greek) and Messiah (Hebrew) both mean Anointed One. * **4:26** Psalms 2:1-2
‡ **4:27** nu adds “in this city,”

33 With great power, the apostles gave
their testimony of the resurrection of the
Lord Jesus. Great grace was on them all.
34 For neither was there among them
any who lacked, for as many as were
owners of lands or houses sold them, and
brought the proceeds of the things that
were sold,
35 and laid them at the apostles' feet;
and distribution was made to each,
according as anyone had need.
36 Joses, who by the apostles was also
called Barnabas (which is, being
interpreted, Son of Encouragement), a
Levite, a man of Cyprus by race,
37 having a field, sold it and brought the
money and laid it at the apostles' feet.

5

1 But a certain man named Ananias,
with Sapphira his wife, sold a possession,
2 and kept back part of the price, his
wife also being aware of it, then brought a
certain part and laid it at the apostles' feet.
3 But Peter said, "Ananias, why has
Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy
Spirit and to keep back part of the price of
the land?
4 While you kept it, didn't it remain your
own? After it was sold, wasn't it in your
power? How is it that you have conceived
this thing in your heart? You haven't lied
to men, but to God."
5 Ananias, hearing these words, fell
down and died. Great fear came on all
who heard these things.
6 The young men arose and wrapped
him up, and they carried him out and
buried him.
7 About three hours later, his wife, not
knowing what had happened, came in.
8 Peter answered her, "Tell me whether
you sold the land for so much."
She said, "Yes, for so much."
9 But Peter asked her, "How is it that you
have agreed together to tempt the Spirit of
the Lord? Behold, the feet of those who
have buried your husband are at the door,
and they will carry you out."
10 She fell down immediately at his feet
and died. The young men came in and
found her dead, and they carried her out
and buried her by her husband.
11 Great fear came on the whole
assembly, and on all who heard these
things.
12 By the hands of the apostles many
signs and wonders were done among the
people. They were all with one accord in
Solomon's porch.
13 None of the rest dared to join them;
however, the people honored them.
14 More believers were added to the
Lord, multitudes of both men and women.
15 They even carried out the sick into
the streets and laid them on cots and
mattresses, so that as Peter came by, at
least his shadow might overshadow some
of them.
16 The multitude also came together
from the cities around Jerusalem,
bringing sick people and those who were
tormented by unclean spirits; and they
were all healed.
17 But the high priest rose up, and all
those who were with him (which is the
sect of the Sadducees), and they were
filled with jealousy
18 and laid hands on the apostles, then
put them in public custody.
19 But an angel of the Lord opened the
prison doors by night, and brought them
out and said,
20 "Go stand and speak in the temple to
the people all the words of this life."
21 When they heard this, they entered
into the temple about daybreak and
taught. But the high priest and those who
were with him came and called the
council together, with all the senate of the
children of Israel, and sent to the prison to
have them brought.
22 But the officers who came didn't find
them in the prison. They returned and
reported,
23 "We found the prison shut and
locked, and the guards standing before
the doors, but when we opened them, we
found no one inside!"
24 Now when the high priest, the captain
of the temple, and the chief priests heard
these words, they were very perplexed

about them and what might become of this.
25 One came and told them, “Behold, the men whom you put in prison are in the temple, standing and teaching the people.”
26 Then the captain went with the officers, and brought them without violence, for they were afraid that the people might stone them.
27 When they had brought them, they set them before the council. The high priest questioned them,
28 saying, “Didn’t we strictly command you not to teach in this name? Behold, you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching, and intend to bring this man’s blood on us.”
29 But Peter and the apostles answered, “We must obey God rather than men.
30 The God of our fathers raised up Jesus, whom you killed, hanging him on a tree.
31 God exalted him with his right hand to be a Prince and a Savior, to give repentance to Israel, and remission of sins.
32 We are his witnesses of these things; and so also is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him.”
33 But they, when they heard this, were cut to the heart, and were determined to kill them.
34 But one stood up in the council, a Pharisee named Gamaliel, a teacher of the law, honored by all the people, and commanded to put the apostles out for a little while.
35 He said to them, “You men of Israel, be careful concerning these men, what you are about to do.
36 For before these days Theudas rose up, making himself out to be somebody; to whom a number of men, about four hundred, joined themselves. He was slain; and all, as many as obeyed him, were dispersed and came to nothing.
37 After this man, Judas of Galilee rose up in the days of the enrollment, and drew away some people after him. He also perished, and all, as many as obeyed him, were scattered abroad.
38 Now I tell you, withdraw from these men and leave them alone. For if this counsel or this work is of men, it will be overthrown.
39 But if it is of God, you will not be able to overthrow it, and you would be found even to be fighting against God!”
40 They agreed with him. Summoning the apostles, they beat them and commanded them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go.
41 They therefore departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer dishonor for Jesus’ name.
42 Every day, in the temple and at home, they never stopped teaching and preaching Jesus, the Christ.

6

1 Now in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplying, a complaint arose from the Hellenists† against the Hebrews, because their widows were neglected in the daily service.
2 The twelve summoned the multitude of the disciples and said, “It is not appropriate for us to forsake the word of God and serve tables.
3 Therefore, select from among you, brothers, seven men of good report, full of the Holy Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business.
4 But we will continue steadfastly in prayer and in the ministry of the word.”
5 These words pleased the whole multitude. They chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch,
6 whom they set before the apostles. When they had prayed, they laid their hands on them.
7 The word of God increased and the number of the disciples greatly multiplied in Jerusalem. A great company of the priests were obedient to the faith.

† **6:1** The Hellenists used Greek language and culture, even though they were also of Hebrew descent.

8 Stephen, full of faith and power,
performed great wonders and signs
among the people.
9 But some of those who were of the
synagogue called “The Libertines”, and of
the Cyrenians, of the Alexandrians, and of
those of Cilicia and Asia arose, disputing
with Stephen.
10 They weren’t able to withstand the
wisdom and the Spirit by which he spoke.
11 Then they secretly induced men to
say, “We have heard him speak
blasphemous words against Moses and
God.”
12 They stirred up the people, the elders,
and the scribes, and came against him
and seized him, then brought him in to
the council,
13 and set up false witnesses who said,
“This man never stops speaking
blasphemous words against this holy
place and the law.
14 For we have heard him say that this
Jesus of Nazareth will destroy this place,
and will change the customs which Moses
delivered to us.”
15 All who sat in the council, fastening
their eyes on him, saw his face like it was
the face of an angel.

7

1 The high priest said, “Are these things
so?”
2 He said, “Brothers and fathers, listen.
The God of glory appeared to our father
Abraham when he was in Mesopotamia,
before he lived in Haran,
3 and said to him, ‘Get out of your land
and away from your relatives, and come
into a land which I will show you.’*
4 Then he came out of the land of the
Chaldaeans and lived in Haran. From
there, when his father was dead, God
moved him into this land where you are
now living.
5 He gave him no inheritance in it, no,
not so much as to set his foot on. He
promised that he would give it to him for
a possession, and to his offspring after
him, when he still had no child.
6 God spoke in this way: that his
offspring would live as aliens in a strange
land, and that they would be enslaved and
mistreated for four hundred years.
7 ‘I will judge the nation to which they
will be in bondage,’ said God, ‘and after
that they will come out and serve me in
this place.’*
8 He gave him the covenant of
circumcision. So Abraham became the
father of Isaac, and circumcised him the
eighth day. Isaac became the father of
Jacob, and Jacob became the father of the
twelve patriarchs.
9 “The patriarchs, moved with jealousy
against Joseph, sold him into Egypt. God
was with him
10 and delivered him out of all his
afflictions, and gave him favor and
wisdom before Pharaoh, king of Egypt. He
made him governor over Egypt and all his
house.
11 Now a famine came over all the land
of Egypt and Canaan, and great affliction.
Our fathers found no food.
12 But when Jacob heard that there was
grain in Egypt, he sent out our fathers the
first time.
13 On the second time Joseph was made
known to his brothers, and Joseph’s
family was revealed to Pharaoh.
14 Joseph sent and summoned Jacob his
father and all his relatives, seventy-five
souls.
15 Jacob went down into Egypt and he
died, himself and our fathers;
16 and they were brought back to
Shechem and laid in the tomb that
Abraham bought for a price in silver from
the children of Hamor of Shechem.
17 “But as the time of the promise came
close which God had sworn to Abraham,
the people grew and multiplied in Egypt,
18 until there arose a different king who
didn’t know Joseph.
19 The same took advantage of our race
and mistreated our fathers, and forced
them to abandon their babies, so that they
wouldn’t stay alive.
20 At that time Moses was born, and was
exceedingly handsome to God. He was

* **7:3** Genesis 12:1 * **7:7** Genesis 15:13-14

nourished three months in his father's house.
21 When he was abandoned, Pharaoh's daughter took him up and reared him as her own son.
22 Moses was instructed in all the wisdom of the Egyptians. He was mighty in his words and works.
23 But when he was forty years old, it came into his heart to visit his brothers,† the children of Israel.
24 Seeing one of them suffer wrong, he defended him and avenged him who was oppressed, striking the Egyptian.
25 He supposed that his brothers understood that God, by his hand, was giving them deliverance; but they didn't understand.
26 "The day following, he appeared to them as they fought, and urged them to be at peace again, saying, 'Sirs, you are brothers. Why do you wrong one another?'
27 But he who did his neighbor wrong pushed him away, saying, 'Who made you a ruler and a judge over us?
28 Do you want to kill me as you killed the Egyptian yesterday?'*
29 Moses fled at this saying, and became a stranger in the land of Midian, where he became the father of two sons.
30 "When forty years were fulfilled, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in the wilderness of Mount Sinai, in a flame of fire in a bush.
31 When Moses saw it, he wondered at the sight. As he came close to see, the voice of the Lord came to him,
32 'I am the God of your fathers: the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.'* Moses trembled and dared not look.
33 The Lord said to him, 'Take off your sandals, for the place where you stand is holy ground.
34 I have surely seen the affliction of my people who are in Egypt, and have heard their groaning. I have come down to deliver them. Now come, I will send you into Egypt.'*
35 "This Moses whom they refused, saying, 'Who made you a ruler and a judge?'—God has sent him as both a ruler and a deliverer by the hand of the angel who appeared to him in the bush.
36 This man led them out, having worked wonders and signs in Egypt, in the Red Sea, and in the wilderness for forty years.
37 This is that Moses who said to the children of Israel, 'The Lord our God will raise up a prophet for you from among your brothers, like me.'‡*
38 This is he who was in the assembly in the wilderness with the angel that spoke to him on Mount Sinai, and with our fathers, who received living revelations to give to us,
39 to whom our fathers wouldn't be obedient, but rejected him and turned back in their hearts to Egypt,
40 saying to Aaron, 'Make us gods that will go before us, for as for this Moses who led us out of the land of Egypt, we don't know what has become of him.'*
41 They made a calf in those days, and brought a sacrifice to the idol, and rejoiced in the works of their hands.
42 But God turned away and gave them up to serve the army of the sky,§ as it is written in the book of the prophets,

'Did you offer to me slain animals and sacrifices
forty years in the wilderness, O house of Israel?
43 You took up the tabernacle of Moloch,
the star of your god Rephan,
the figures which you made to worship,
so I will carry you away* beyond Babylon.'

44 "Our fathers had the tabernacle of the testimony in the wilderness, even as he who spoke to Moses commanded him to

† **7:23** The word for "brothers" here and where the context allows may be also correctly translated "brothers and sisters" or "siblings." * **7:28** Exodus 2:14 * **7:32** Exodus 3:6 * **7:34** Exodus 3:5,7-8,10 ‡ **7:37** TR adds "You shall listen to him." * **7:37** Deuteronomy 18:15 * **7:40** Exodus 32:1 § **7:42** This idiom could also be translated "host of heaven", or "angelic beings", or "heavenly bodies." * **7:43** Amos 5:25-27

make it according to the pattern that he had seen;
45 which also our fathers, in their turn, brought in with Joshua when they entered into the possession of the nations whom God drove out before the face of our fathers to the days of David,
46 who found favor in the sight of God, and asked to find a habitation for the God of Jacob.
47 But Solomon built him a house.
48 However, the Most High doesn't dwell in temples made with hands, as the prophet says,
49 'heaven is my throne,
and the earth a footstool for my feet.
What kind of house will you build me?'
says the Lord.
'Or what is the place of my rest?
50 Didn't my hand make all these things?'*
51 "You stiff-necked and uncircumcised in heart and ears, you always resist the Holy Spirit! As your fathers did, so you do.
52 Which of the prophets didn't your fathers persecute? They killed those who foretold the coming of the Righteous One, of whom you have now become betrayers and murderers.
53 You received the law as it was ordained by angels, and didn't keep it!"
54 Now when they heard these things, they were cut to the heart, and they gnashed at him with their teeth.
55 But he, being full of the Holy Spirit, looked up steadfastly into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing on the right hand of God,
56 and said, "Behold, I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!"
57 But they cried out with a loud voice and stopped their ears, then rushed at him with one accord.
58 They threw him out of the city and stoned him. The witnesses placed their garments at the feet of a young man named Saul.
59 They stoned Stephen as he called out, saying, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit!"
60 He kneeled down and cried with a loud voice, "Lord, don't hold this sin against them!" When he had said this, he fell asleep.

8

1 Saul was consenting to his death. A great persecution arose against the assembly which was in Jerusalem in that day. They were all scattered abroad throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria, except for the apostles.
2 Devout men buried Stephen and lamented greatly over him.
3 But Saul ravaged the assembly, entering into every house and dragged both men and women off to prison.
4 Therefore those who were scattered abroad went around preaching the word.
5 Philip went down to the city of Samaria and proclaimed to them the Christ.
6 The multitudes listened with one accord to the things that were spoken by Philip when they heard and saw the signs which he did.
7 For unclean spirits came out of many of those who had them. They came out, crying with a loud voice. Many who had been paralyzed and lame were healed.
8 There was great joy in that city.
9 But there was a certain man, Simon by name, who used to practice sorcery in the city and amazed the people of Samaria, making himself out to be some great one,
10 to whom they all listened, from the least to the greatest, saying, "This man is that great power of God."
11 They listened to him because for a long time he had amazed them with his sorceries.
12 But when they believed Philip preaching good news concerning God's Kingdom and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women.
13 Simon himself also believed. Being baptized, he continued with Philip. Seeing signs and great miracles occurring, he was amazed.
14 Now when the apostles who were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had

* **7:50** Isaiah 66:1-2

received the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them,
15 who, when they had come down, prayed for them, that they might receive the Holy Spirit;
16 for as yet he had fallen on none of them. They had only been baptized in the name of Christ Jesus.
17 Then they laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.
18 Now when Simon saw that the Holy Spirit was given through the laying on of the apostles' hands, he offered them money,
19 saying, "Give me also this power, that whomever I lay my hands on may receive the Holy Spirit."
20 But Peter said to him, "May your silver perish with you, because you thought you could obtain the gift of God with money!
21 You have neither part nor lot in this matter, for your heart isn't right before God.
22 Repent therefore of this, your wickedness, and ask God if perhaps the thought of your heart may be forgiven you.
23 For I see that you are in the poison of bitterness and in the bondage of iniquity."
24 Simon answered, "Pray for me to the Lord, that none of the things which you have spoken happen to me."
25 They therefore, when they had testified and spoken the word of the Lord, returned to Jerusalem, and preached the Good News to many villages of the Samaritans.
26 Then an angel of the Lord spoke to Philip, saying, "Arise, and go toward the south to the way that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza. This is a desert."
27 He arose and went; and behold, there was a man of Ethiopia, a eunuch of great authority under Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was over all her treasure, who had come to Jerusalem to worship.
28 He was returning and sitting in his chariot, and was reading the prophet Isaiah.
29 The Spirit said to Philip, "Go near, and join yourself to this chariot."
30 Philip ran to him, and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet, and said, "Do you understand what you are reading?"
31 He said, "How can I, unless someone explains it to me?" He begged Philip to come up and sit with him.
32 Now the passage of the Scripture which he was reading was this,
"He was led as a sheep to the slaughter.
As a lamb before his shearer is silent,
so he doesn't open his mouth.
33 In his humiliation, his judgment was taken away.
Who will declare His generation?
For his life is taken from the earth."*
34 The eunuch answered Philip, "Who is the prophet talking about? About himself, or about someone else?"
35 Philip opened his mouth, and beginning from this Scripture, preached to him about Jesus.
36 As they went on the way, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Behold, here is water. What is keeping me from being baptized?"
37 †
38 He commanded the chariot to stand still, and they both went down into the water, both Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him.
39 When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught Philip away, and the eunuch didn't see him any more, for he went on his way rejoicing.
40 But Philip was found at Azotus. Passing through, he preached the Good News to all the cities until he came to Caesarea.

9

1 But Saul, still breathing threats and slaughter against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest
2 and asked for letters from him to the synagogues of Damascus, that if he found

* **8:33** Isaiah 53:7,8 † **8:37** TR adds *Philip said, "If you believe with all your heart, you may." He answered, "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God."*

any who were of the Way, whether men
or women, he might bring them bound to
Jerusalem.
3 As he traveled, he got close to
Damascus, and suddenly a light from the
sky shone around him.
4 He fell on the earth, and heard a voice
saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you
persecute me?"
5 He said, "Who are you, Lord?"
The Lord said, "I am Jesus, whom you
are persecuting.†
6 But‡ rise up and enter into the city,
then you will be told what you must do."
7 The men who traveled with him stood
speechless, hearing the sound, but seeing
no one.
8 Saul arose from the ground, and when
his eyes were opened, he saw no one.
They led him by the hand and brought
him into Damascus.
9 He was without sight for three days,
and neither ate nor drank.
10 Now there was a certain disciple at
Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said
to him in a vision, "Ananias!"
He said, "Behold, it's me, Lord."
11 The Lord said to him, "Arise and go to
the street which is called Straight, and
inquire in the house of Judah§ for one
named Saul, a man of Tarsus. For behold,
he is praying,
12 and in a vision he has seen a man
named Ananias coming in and laying his
hands on him, that he might receive his
sight."
13 But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have
heard from many about this man, how
much evil he did to your saints at
Jerusalem.
14 Here he has authority from the chief
priests to bind all who call on your name."
15 But the Lord said to him, "Go your
way, for he is my chosen vessel to bear my
name before the nations and kings, and
the children of Israel.
16 For I will show him how many things
he must suffer for my name's sake."
17 Ananias departed and entered into
the house. Laying his hands on him, he
said, "Brother Saul, the Lord, who
appeared to you on the road by which you
came, has sent me that you may receive
your sight and be filled with the Holy
Spirit."
18 Immediately something like scales
fell from his eyes, and he received his
sight. He arose and was baptized.
19 He took food and was strengthened.

Saul stayed several days with the
disciples who were at Damascus.
20 Immediately in the synagogues he
proclaimed the Christ, that he is the Son of
God.
21 All who heard him were amazed, and
said, "Isn't this he who in Jerusalem made
havoc of those who called on this name?
And he had come here intending to bring
them bound before the chief priests!"

22 But Saul increased more in strength,
and confounded the Jews who lived at
Damascus, proving that this is the Christ.
23 When many days were fulfilled, the
Jews conspired together to kill him,
24 but their plot became known to Saul.
They watched the gates both day and
night that they might kill him,
25 but his disciples took him by night
and let him down through the wall,
lowering him in a basket.

26 When Saul had come to Jerusalem, he
tried to join himself to the disciples; but
they were all afraid of him, not believing
that he was a disciple.
27 But Barnabas took him and brought
him to the apostles, and declared to them
how he had seen the Lord on the way, and
that he had spoken to him, and how at
Damascus he had preached boldly in the
name of Jesus.
28 He was with them entering into†
Jerusalem,
29 preaching boldly in the name of the
Lord Jesus.‡ He spoke and disputed

† **9:5** TR adds "It's hard for you to kick against the cattle prods." ‡ **9:6** TR omits "But" § **9:11** or, Judas † **9:28** TR and NU add "and going out" ‡ **9:29** TR and NU omit "Jesus" and reverse the order of verses 28 & 29. § **9:29** The Hellenists were Hebrews who used Greek language and culture.

against the Hellenists,§ but they were seeking to kill him.
30 When the brothers† knew it, they brought him down to Caesarea and sent him off to Tarsus.
31 So the assemblies throughout all Judea, Galilee, and Samaria had peace and were built up. They were multiplied, walking in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit.
32 As Peter went throughout all those parts, he came down also to the saints who lived at Lydda.
33 There he found a certain man named Aeneas, who had been bedridden for eight years because he was paralyzed.
34 Peter said to him, "Aeneas, Jesus Christ heals you. Get up and make your bed!" Immediately he arose.
35 All who lived at Lydda and in Sharon saw him, and they turned to the Lord.
36 Now there was at Joppa a certain disciple named Tabitha, which when translated means Dorcas.‡ This woman was full of good works and acts of mercy which she did.
37 In those days, she became sick and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in an upper room.
38 As Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, hearing that Peter was there, sent two men§ to him, imploring him not to delay in coming to them.
39 Peter got up and went with them. When he had come, they brought him into the upper room. All the widows stood by him weeping, and showing the tunics and other garments which Dorcas had made while she was with them.
40 Peter sent them all out, and knelt down and prayed. Turning to the body, he said, "Tabitha, get up!" She opened her eyes, and when she saw Peter, she sat up.
41 He gave her his hand and raised her up. Calling the saints and widows, he presented her alive.
42 This became known throughout all Joppa, and many believed in the Lord.
43 He stayed many days in Joppa with a tanner named Simon.

10

1 Now there was a certain man in Caesarea, Cornelius by name, a centurion of what was called the Italian Regiment,
2 a devout man, and one who feared God with all his house, who gave gifts for the needy generously to the people, and always prayed to God.
3 At about the ninth hour of the day,† he clearly saw in a vision an angel of God coming to him and saying to him, "Cornelius!"
4 He, fastening his eyes on him and being frightened, said, "What is it, Lord?"
He said to him, "Your prayers and your gifts to the needy have gone up for a memorial before God.
5 Now send men to Joppa, and get Simon, who is also called Peter.
6 He is staying with a tanner named Simon, whose house is by the seaside.‡
7 When the angel who spoke to him had departed, Cornelius called two of his household servants and a devout soldier of those who waited on him continually.
8 Having explained everything to them, he sent them to Joppa.
9 Now on the next day as they were on their journey and got close to the city, Peter went up on the housetop to pray at about noon.
10 He became hungry and desired to eat, but while they were preparing, he fell into a trance.
11 He saw heaven opened and a certain container descending to him, like a great sheet let down by four corners on the earth,
12 in which were all kinds of four-footed animals of the earth, wild animals, reptiles, and birds of the sky.
13 A voice came to him, "Rise, Peter, kill and eat!"
14 But Peter said, "Not so, Lord; for I have never eaten anything that is common or unclean."

† **9:30** The word for "brothers" here and where the context allows may also be correctly translated "brothers and sisters" or "siblings." ‡ **9:36** "Dorcas" is Greek for "Gazelle." § **9:38** Reading from NU, TR; MT omits "two men"
† **10:3** 3:00 p.m. ‡ **10:6** TR adds "This one will tell you what it is necessary for you to do."

15 A voice came to him again the second time, "What God has cleansed, you must not call unclean."
16 This was done three times, and immediately the thing was received up into heaven.
17 Now while Peter was very perplexed in himself what the vision which he had seen might mean, behold, the men who were sent by Cornelius, having made inquiry for Simon's house, stood before the gate,
18 and called and asked whether Simon, who was also called Peter, was lodging there.
19 While Peter was pondering the vision, the Spirit said to him, "Behold, three§ men seek you.
20 But arise, get down, and go with them, doubting nothing; for I have sent them."
21 Peter went down to the men, and said, "Behold, I am he whom you seek. Why have you come?"
22 They said, "Cornelius, a centurion, a righteous man and one who fears God, and well spoken of by all the nation of the Jews, was directed by a holy angel to invite you to his house, and to listen to what you say."
23 So he called them in and provided a place to stay.

On the next day Peter arose and went out with them, and some of the brothers from Joppa accompanied him.
24 On the next day they entered into Caesarea. Cornelius was waiting for them, having called together his relatives and his near friends.
25 When Peter entered, Cornelius met him, fell down at his feet, and worshiped him.
26 But Peter raised him up, saying, "Stand up! I myself am also a man."
27 As he talked with him, he went in and found many gathered together.
28 He said to them, "You yourselves know how it is an unlawful thing for a man who is a Jew to join himself or come to one of another nation, but God has shown me that I shouldn't call any man unholy or unclean.
29 Therefore I also came without complaint when I was sent for. I ask therefore, why did you send for me?"

30 Cornelius said, "Four days ago, I was fasting until this hour; and at the ninth hour,† I prayed in my house, and behold, a man stood before me in bright clothing
31 and said, 'Cornelius, your prayer is heard, and your gifts to the needy are remembered in the sight of God.
32 Send therefore to Joppa and summon Simon, who is also called Peter. He is staying in the house of a tanner named Simon, by the seaside. When he comes, he will speak to you.'
33 Therefore I sent to you at once, and it was good of you to come. Now therefore we are all here present in the sight of God to hear all things that have been commanded you by God."

34 Peter opened his mouth and said, "Truly I perceive that God doesn't show favoritism;
35 but in every nation he who fears him and works righteousness is acceptable to him.
36 The word which he sent to the children of Israel, preaching good news of peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all—
37 you yourselves know what happened, which was proclaimed throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee, after the baptism which John preached;
38 how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth 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.
39 We are witnesses of everything he did both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem; whom they also‡ killed, hanging him on a tree.
40 God raised him up the third day and gave him to be revealed,
41 not to all the people, but to witnesses who were chosen before by God, to us,

§ **10:19** Reading from TR and NU. MT omits "three" † **10:30** 3:00 p.m. ‡ **10:39** TR omits "also"

who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead.
42 He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that this is he who is appointed by God as the Judge of the living and the dead.
43 All the prophets testify about him, that through his name everyone who believes in him will receive remission of sins."
44 While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit fell on all those who heard the word.
45 They of the circumcision who believed were amazed, as many as came with Peter, because the gift of the Holy Spirit was also poured out on the Gentiles.
46 For they heard them speaking in other languages and magnifying God.
Then Peter answered,
47 "Can anyone forbid these people from being baptized with water? They have received the Holy Spirit just like us."
48 He commanded them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked him to stay some days.

11

1 Now the apostles and the brothers† who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also received the word of God.
2 When Peter had come up to Jerusalem, those who were of the circumcision contended with him,
3 saying, "You went in to uncircumcised men and ate with them!"
4 But Peter began, and explained to them in order, saying,
5 "I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision: a certain container descending, like it was a great sheet let down from heaven by four corners. It came as far as me.
6 When I had looked intently at it, I considered, and saw the four-footed animals of the earth, wild animals, creeping things, and birds of the sky.
7 I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Rise, Peter, kill and eat!'
8 But I said, 'Not so, Lord, for nothing unholy or unclean has ever entered into my mouth.'
9 But a voice answered me the second time out of heaven, 'What God has cleansed, don't you call unclean.'
10 This was done three times, and all were drawn up again into heaven.
11 Behold, immediately three men stood before the house where I was, having been sent from Caesarea to me.
12 The Spirit told me to go with them without discriminating. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered into the man's house.
13 He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying to him, 'Send to Joppa and get Simon, who is called Peter,
14 who will speak to you words by which you will be saved, you and all your house.'
15 As I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell on them, even as on us at the beginning.
16 I remembered the word of the Lord, how he said, 'John indeed baptized in water, but you will be baptized in the Holy Spirit.'
17 If then God gave to them the same gift as us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I, that I could withstand God?"
18 When they heard these things, they held their peace and glorified God, saying, "Then God has also granted to the Gentiles repentance to life!"
19 They therefore who were scattered abroad by the oppression that arose about Stephen traveled as far as Phoenicia, Cyprus, and Antioch, speaking the word to no one except to Jews only.
20 But there were some of them, men of Cyprus and Cyrene, who, when they had come to Antioch, spoke to the Hellenists,‡ preaching the Lord Jesus.
21 The hand of the Lord was with them, and a great number believed and turned to the Lord.
22 The report concerning them came to the ears of the assembly which was in

† **11:1** The word for "brothers" here and where context allows may also be correctly translated "brothers and sisters" or "siblings." ‡ **11:20** A Hellenist is someone who keeps Greek customs and culture.

Jerusalem. They sent out Barnabas to go as far as Antioch,
23 who, when he had come, and had seen the grace of God, was glad. He exhorted them all, that with purpose of heart they should remain near to the Lord.
24 For he was a good man, and full of the Holy Spirit and of faith, and many people were added to the Lord.
25 Barnabas went out to Tarsus to look for Saul.
26 When he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. For a whole year they were gathered together with the assembly, and taught many people. The disciples were first called Christians in Antioch.
27 Now in these days, prophets came down from Jerusalem to Antioch.
28 One of them named Agabus stood up and indicated by the Spirit that there should be a great famine all over the world, which also happened in the days of Claudius.
29 As any of the disciples had plenty, each determined to send relief to the brothers who lived in Judea;
30 which they also did, sending it to the elders by the hands of Barnabas and Saul.

12

1 Now about that time, King Herod stretched out his hands to oppress some of the assembly.
2 He killed James, the brother of John, with the sword.
3 When he saw that it pleased the Jews, he proceeded to seize Peter also. This was during the days of unleavened bread.
4 When he had arrested him, he put him in prison and delivered him to four squads of four soldiers each to guard him, intending to bring him out to the people after the Passover.
5 Peter therefore was kept in the prison, but constant prayer was made by the assembly to God for him.
6 The same night when Herod was about to bring him out, Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains. Guards in front of the door kept the prison.
7 And behold, an angel of the Lord stood by him, and a light shone in the cell. He struck Peter on the side and woke him up, saying, “Stand up quickly!” His chains fell off his hands.
8 The angel said to him, “Get dressed and put on your sandals.” He did so. He said to him, “Put on your cloak and follow me.”
9 And he went out and followed him. He didn’t know that what was being done by the angel was real, but thought he saw a vision.
10 When they were past the first and the second guard, they came to the iron gate that leads into the city, which opened to them by itself. They went out and went down one street, and immediately the angel departed from him.
11 When Peter had come to himself, he said, “Now I truly know that the Lord has sent out his angel and delivered me out of the hand of Herod, and from everything the Jewish people were expecting.”
12 Thinking about that, he came to the house of Mary, the mother of John who was called Mark, where many were gathered together and were praying.
13 When Peter knocked at the door of the gate, a servant girl named Rhoda came to answer.
14 When she recognized Peter’s voice, she didn’t open the gate for joy, but ran in and reported that Peter was standing in front of the gate.
15 They said to her, “You are crazy!” But she insisted that it was so. They said, “It is his angel.”
16 But Peter continued knocking. When they had opened, they saw him and were amazed.
17 But he, beckoning to them with his hand to be silent, declared to them how the Lord had brought him out of the prison. He said, “Tell these things to James and to the brothers.” Then he departed and went to another place.
18 Now as soon as it was day, there was no small stir among the soldiers about what had become of Peter.

19 When Herod had sought for him and
didn't find him, he examined the guards,
then commanded that they should be put
to death. He went down from Judea to
Caesarea, and stayed there.
20 Now Herod was very angry with the
people of Tyre and Sidon. They came with
one accord to him and, having made
Blastus, the king's personal aide, their
friend, they asked for peace, because their
country depended on the king's country
for food.
21 On an appointed day, Herod dressed
himself in royal clothing, sat on the
throne, and gave a speech to them.
22 The people shouted, "The voice of a
god, and not of a man!"
23 Immediately an angel of the Lord
struck him, because he didn't give God the
glory. Then he was eaten by worms and
died.
24 But the word of God grew and
multiplied.
25 Barnabas and Saul returned to† Jerusalem when they had fulfilled their
service, also taking with them John who
was called Mark.

13

1 Now in the assembly that was at
Antioch there were some prophets and
teachers: Barnabas, Simeon who was
called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen
the foster brother of Herod the tetrarch,
and Saul.
2 As they served the Lord and fasted, the
Holy Spirit said, "Separate Barnabas and
Saul for me, for the work to which I have
called them."
3 Then, when they had fasted and
prayed and laid their hands on them, they
sent them away.
4 So, being sent out by the Holy Spirit,
they went down to Seleucia. From there
they sailed to Cyprus.
5 When they were at Salamis, they
proclaimed God's word in the Jewish
synagogues. They also had John as their
attendant.
6 When they had gone through the
island to Paphos, they found a certain
sorcerer, a false prophet, a Jew whose
name was Bar Jesus,
7 who was with the proconsul, Sergius
Paulus, a man of understanding. This
man summoned Barnabas and Saul, and
sought to hear the word of God.
8 But Elymas the sorcerer (for so is his
name by interpretation) withstood them,
seeking to turn the proconsul away from
the faith.
9 But Saul, who is also called Paul, filled
with the Holy Spirit, fastened his eyes on
him
10 and said, "You son of the devil, full of
all deceit and all cunning, you enemy of
all righteousness, will you not cease to
pervert the right ways of the Lord?
11 Now, behold, the hand of the Lord is
on you, and you will be blind, not seeing
the sun for a season!"
Immediately a mist and darkness fell on
him. He went around seeking someone to
lead him by the hand.
12 Then the proconsul, when he saw
what was done, believed, being
astonished at the teaching of the Lord.
13 Now Paul and his company set sail
from Paphos and came to Perga in
Pamphylia. John departed from them and
returned to Jerusalem.
14 But they, passing on from Perga,
came to Antioch of Pisidia. They went into
the synagogue on the Sabbath day and sat
down.
15 After the reading of the law and the
prophets, the rulers of the synagogue sent
to them, saying, "Brothers, if you have any
word of exhortation for the people,
speak."
16 Paul stood up, and gesturing with his
hand said, "Men of Israel, and you who
fear God, listen.
17 The God of this people† chose our
fathers, and exalted the people when they
stayed as aliens in the land of Egypt, and
with an uplifted arm, he led them out of it.
18 For a period of about forty years he
put up with them in the wilderness.
19 When he had destroyed seven
nations in the land of Canaan, he gave

† **12:25** TR reads "from" instead of "to" † **13:17** TR, NU add "Israel"

them their land for an inheritance for
about four hundred fifty years.
20 After these things, he gave them
judges until Samuel the prophet.
21 Afterward they asked for a king, and
God gave to them Saul the son of Kish, a
man of the tribe of Benjamin, for forty
years.
22 When he had removed him, he raised
up David to be their king, to whom he also
testified, 'I have found David the son of
Jesse, a man after my heart, who will do
all my will.'
23 From this man's offspring, God has
brought salvation‡ to Israel according to
his promise,
24 before his coming, when John had
first preached the baptism of repentance
to Israel.§
25 As John was fulfilling his course, he
said, 'What do you suppose that I am? I
am not he. But behold, one comes after
me, the sandals of whose feet I am not
worthy to untie.'

26 "Brothers, children of the stock of
Abraham, and those among you who fear
God, the word of this salvation is sent out
to you.
27 For those who dwell in Jerusalem,
and their rulers, because they didn't know
him, nor the voices of the prophets which
are read every Sabbath, fulfilled them by
condemning him.
28 Though they found no cause for
death, they still asked Pilate to have him
killed.
29 When they had fulfilled all things that
were written about him, they took him
down from the tree and laid him in a
tomb.
30 But God raised him from the dead,
31 and he was seen for many days by
those who came up with him from Galilee
to Jerusalem, who are his witnesses to the
people.
32 We bring you good news of the
promise made to the fathers,
33 that God has fulfilled this to us, their
children, in that he raised up Jesus. As it is
also written in the second psalm,
'You are my Son.
Today I have become your father.'*
34 "Concerning that he raised him up
from the dead, now no more to return to
corruption, he has spoken thus: 'I will give
you the holy and sure blessings of David.'*
35 Therefore he says also in another
psalm, 'You will not allow your Holy One
to see decay.'*
36 For David, after he had in his own
generation served the counsel of God, fell
asleep, was laid with his fathers, and saw
decay.
37 But he whom God raised up saw no
decay.
38 Be it known to you therefore,
brothers,† that through this man is
proclaimed to you remission of sins;
39 and by him everyone who believes is
justified from all things, from which you
could not be justified by the law of Moses.
40 Beware therefore, lest that come on
you which is spoken in the prophets:
41 'Behold, you scoffers!
Wonder and perish,
for I work a work in your days,
a work which you will in no way
believe, if one declares it to you.' " *
42 So when the Jews went out of the
synagogue, the Gentiles begged that these
words might be preached to them the next
Sabbath.
43 Now when the synagogue broke up,
many of the Jews and of the devout
proselytes followed Paul and Barnabas;
who, speaking to them, urged them to
continue in the grace of God.
44 The next Sabbath, almost the whole
city was gathered together to hear the
word of God.
45 But when the Jews saw the
multitudes, they were filled with jealousy,
and contradicted the things which were
spoken by Paul, and blasphemed.

‡ **13:23** TR, NU read "a Savior, Jesus" instead of "salvation" § **13:24** TR, NU read "to all the people of Israel" instead of "to Israel" * **13:33** Psalms 2:7 * **13:34** Isaiah 55:3 * **13:35** Psalms 16:10 † **13:38** The word for "brothers" here and where the context allows may also be correctly translated "brothers and sisters" or "siblings." * **13:41** Habakkuk 1:5

46 Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly,
and said, “It was necessary that God’s
word should be spoken to you first. Since
indeed you thrust it from yourselves, and
judge yourselves unworthy of eternal life,
behold, we turn to the Gentiles.
47 For so has the Lord commanded us,
saying,
‘I have set you as a light for the Gentiles,
that you should bring salvation to the
uttermost parts of the earth.’ ” *
48 As the Gentiles heard this, they were
glad and glorified the word of God. As
many as were appointed to eternal life
believed.
49 The Lord’s word was spread abroad
throughout all the region.
50 But the Jews stirred up the devout
and prominent women and the chief men
of the city, and stirred up a persecution
against Paul and Barnabas, and threw
them out of their borders.
51 But they shook off the dust of their
feet against them, and came to Iconium.
52 The disciples were filled with joy and
with the Holy Spirit.

14

1 In Iconium, they entered together into
the synagogue of the Jews, and so spoke
that a great multitude both of Jews and of
Greeks believed.
2 But the disbelieving† Jews stirred up
and embittered the souls of the Gentiles
against the brothers.
3 Therefore they stayed there a long
time, speaking boldly in the Lord, who
testified to the word of his grace, granting
signs and wonders to be done by their
hands.
4 But the multitude of the city was
divided. Part sided with the Jews and part
with the apostles.
5 When some of both the Gentiles and
the Jews, with their rulers, made a violent
attempt to mistreat and stone them,
6 they became aware of it and fled to the
cities of Lycaonia, Lystra, Derbe, and the
surrounding region.
7 There they preached the Good News.
8 At Lystra a certain man sat, impotent
in his feet, a cripple from his mother’s
womb, who never had walked.
9 He was listening to Paul speaking,
who, fastening eyes on him and seeing
that he had faith to be made whole,
10 said with a loud voice, “Stand upright
on your feet!” He leaped up and walked.
11 When the multitude saw what Paul
had done, they lifted up their voice, saying
in the language of Lycaonia, “The gods
have come down to us in the likeness of
men!”
12 They called Barnabas “Jupiter”, and
Paul “Mercury”, because he was the chief
speaker.
13 The priest of Jupiter, whose temple
was in front of their city, brought oxen
and garlands to the gates, and would have
made a sacrifice along with the
multitudes.
14 But when the apostles, Barnabas and
Paul, heard of it, they tore their clothes
and sprang into the multitude, crying out,
15 “Men, why are you doing these
things? We also are men of the same
nature as you, and bring you good news,
that you should turn from these vain
things to the living God, who made the
sky, the earth, the sea, and all that is in
them;
16 who in the generations gone by
allowed all the nations to walk in their
own ways.
17 Yet he didn’t leave himself without
witness, in that he did good and gave you‡
rains from the sky and fruitful seasons,
filling our hearts with food and gladness.”
18 Even saying these things, they hardly
stopped the multitudes from making a
sacrifice to them.
19 But some Jews from Antioch and
Iconium came there, and having
persuaded the multitudes, they stoned
Paul and dragged him out of the city,
supposing that he was dead.
20 But as the disciples stood around him,
he rose up, and entered into the city. On
the next day he went out with Barnabas to
Derbe.

* **13:47** Isaiah 49:6 † **14:2** or, disobedient ‡ **14:17** TR reads “us” instead of “you”

21 When they had preached the Good
News to that city and had made many
disciples, they returned to Lystra,
Iconium, and Antioch,
22 strengthening the souls of the
disciples, exhorting them to continue in
the faith, and that through many
afflictions we must enter into God's
Kingdom.
23 When they had appointed elders for
them in every assembly, and had prayed
with fasting, they commended them to the
Lord on whom they had believed.
24 They passed through Pisidia and
came to Pamphylia.
25 When they had spoken the word in
Perga, they went down to Attalia.
26 From there they sailed to Antioch,
from where they had been committed to
the grace of God for the work which they
had fulfilled.
27 When they had arrived and had
gathered the assembly together, they
reported all the things that God had done
with them, and that he had opened a door
of faith to the nations.
28 They stayed there with the disciples
for a long time.

15

1 Some men came down from Judea and
taught the brothers,† "Unless you are
circumcised after the custom of Moses,
you can't be saved."
2 Therefore when Paul and Barnabas
had no small discord and discussion with
them, they appointed Paul, Barnabas, and
some others of them to go up to Jerusalem
to the apostles and elders about this
question.
3 They, being sent on their way by the
assembly, passed through both Phoenicia
and Samaria, declaring the conversion of
the Gentiles. They caused great joy to all
the brothers.
4 When they had come to Jerusalem,
they were received by the assembly and
the apostles and the elders, and they
reported everything that God had done
with them.
5 But some of the sect of the Pharisees
who believed rose up, saying, "It is
necessary to circumcise them, and to
command them to keep the law of Moses."
6 The apostles and the elders were
gathered together to see about this matter.
7 When there had been much
discussion, Peter rose up and said to them,
"Brothers, you know that a good while ago
God made a choice among you that by my
mouth the nations should hear the word
of the Good News and believe.
8 God, who knows the heart, testified
about them, giving them the Holy Spirit,
just like he did to us.
9 He made no distinction between us
and them, cleansing their hearts by faith.
10 Now therefore why do you tempt
God, that you should put a yoke on the
neck of the disciples which neither our
fathers nor we were able to bear?
11 But we believe that we are saved
through the grace of the Lord Jesus,‡ just
as they are."
12 All the multitude kept silence, and
they listened to Barnabas and Paul
reporting what signs and wonders God
had done among the nations through
them.
13 After they were silent, James
answered, "Brothers, listen to me.
14 Simeon has reported how God first
visited the nations to take out of them a
people for his name.
15 This agrees with the words of the
prophets. As it is written,
16 'After these things I will return.
I will again build the tabernacle of David,
which has fallen.
I will again build its ruins.
I will set it up
17 that the rest of men may seek after the
Lord:
all the Gentiles who are called by my
name,
says the Lord, who does all these things.'*
18 "All of God's works are known to him
from eternity.

† **15:1** The word for "brothers" here and where the context allows may also be correctly translated "brothers and sisters" or "siblings." ‡ **15:11** TR adds "Christ" * **15:17** Amos 9:11-12

19 Therefore my judgment is that we
don't trouble those from among the
Gentiles who turn to God,
20 but that we write to them that they
abstain from the pollution of idols, from
sexual immorality, from what is
strangled, and from blood.
21 For Moses from generations of old has
in every city those who preach him, being
read in the synagogues every Sabbath."
22 Then it seemed good to the apostles
and the elders, with the whole assembly,
to choose men out of their company, and
send them to Antioch with Paul and
Barnabas: Judas called Barsabbas, and
Silas, chief men among the brothers.§
23 They wrote these things by their
hand:
"The apostles, the elders, and the
brothers, to the brothers who are of the
Gentiles in Antioch, Syria, and Cilicia:
greetings.
24 Because we have heard that some
who went out from us have troubled you
with words, unsettling your souls, saying,
'You must be circumcised and keep the
law,' to whom we gave no commandment;
25 it seemed good to us, having come to
one accord, to choose out men and send
them to you with our beloved Barnabas
and Paul,
26 men who have risked their lives for
the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.
27 We have sent therefore Judas and
Silas, who themselves will also tell you the
same things by word of mouth.
28 For it seemed good to the Holy Spirit,
and to us, to lay no greater burden on you
than these necessary things:
29 that you abstain from things
sacrificed to idols, from blood, from things
strangled, and from sexual immorality,
from which if you keep yourselves, it will
be well with you. Farewell."
30 So, when they were sent off, they
came to Antioch. Having gathered the
multitude together, they delivered the
letter.
31 When they had read it, they rejoiced
over the encouragement.
32 Judas and Silas, also being prophets
themselves, encouraged the brothers with
many words and strengthened them.
33 After they had spent some time there,
they were dismissed in peace from the
brothers to the apostles.
34 †
35 But Paul and Barnabas stayed in
Antioch, teaching and preaching the word
of the Lord, with many others also.
36 After some days Paul said to
Barnabas, "Let's return now and visit our
brothers in every city in which we
proclaimed the word of the Lord, to see
how they are doing."
37 Barnabas planned to take John, who
was called Mark, with them also.
38 But Paul didn't think that it was a
good idea to take with them someone who
had withdrawn from them in Pamphylia,
and didn't go with them to do the work.
39 Then the contention grew so sharp
that they separated from each other.
Barnabas took Mark with him and sailed
away to Cyprus,
40 but Paul chose Silas and went out,
being commended by the brothers to the
grace of God.
41 He went through Syria and Cilicia,
strengthening the assemblies.

16

1 He came to Derbe and Lystra; and
behold, a certain disciple was there,
named Timothy, the son of a Jewess who
believed, but his father was a Greek.
2 The brothers who were at Lystra and
Iconium gave a good testimony about him.
3 Paul wanted to have him go out with
him, and he took and circumcised him
because of the Jews who were in those
parts, for they all knew that his father was
a Greek.
4 As they went on their way through the
cities, they delivered the decrees to them
to keep which had been ordained by the

§ **15:22** The word for "brothers" here and where the context allows may also be correctly translated "brothers and sisters" or "siblings." † **15:34** Some manuscripts add: *But it seemed good to Silas to stay there.*

apostles and elders who were at Jerusalem.
5 So the assemblies were strengthened in the faith, and increased in number daily.
6 When they had gone through the region of Phrygia and Galatia, they were forbidden by the Holy Spirit to speak the word in Asia.
7 When they had come opposite Mysia, they tried to go into Bithynia, but the Spirit didn't allow them.
8 Passing by Mysia, they came down to Troas.
9 A vision appeared to Paul in the night. There was a man of Macedonia standing, begging him and saying, "Come over into Macedonia and help us."
10 When he had seen the vision, immediately we sought to go out to Macedonia, concluding that the Lord had called us to preach the Good News to them.
11 Setting sail therefore from Troas, we made a straight course to Samothrace, and the day following to Neapolis;
12 and from there to Philippi, which is a city of Macedonia, the foremost of the district, a Roman colony. We were staying some days in this city.
13 On the Sabbath day we went outside of the city by a riverside, where we supposed there was a place of prayer, and we sat down and spoke to the women who had come together.
14 A certain woman named Lydia, a seller of purple, of the city of Thyatira, one who worshiped God, heard us. The Lord opened her heart to listen to the things which were spoken by Paul.
15 When she and her household were baptized, she begged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come into my house and stay." So she persuaded us.
16 As we were going to prayer, a certain girl having a spirit of divination met us, who brought her masters much gain by fortune telling.
17 Following Paul and us, she cried out, "These men are servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to us a way of salvation!"
18 She was doing this for many days.

But Paul, becoming greatly annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, "I command you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her!" It came out that very hour.
19 But when her masters saw that the hope of their gain was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace before the rulers.
20 When they had brought them to the magistrates, they said, "These men, being Jews, are agitating our city
21 and advocate customs which it is not lawful for us to accept or to observe, being Romans."
22 The multitude rose up together against them and the magistrates tore their clothes from them, then commanded them to be beaten with rods.
23 When they had laid many stripes on them, they threw them into prison, charging the jailer to keep them safely.
24 Having received such a command, he threw them into the inner prison and secured their feet in the stocks.
25 But about midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them.
26 Suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened, and everyone's bonds were loosened.
27 The jailer, being roused out of sleep and seeing the prison doors open, drew his sword and was about to kill himself, supposing that the prisoners had escaped.
28 But Paul cried with a loud voice, saying, "Don't harm yourself, for we are all here!"
29 He called for lights, sprang in, fell down trembling before Paul and Silas,
30 brought them out, and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"
31 They said, "Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household."
32 They spoke the word of the Lord to him, and to all who were in his house.

33 He took them the same hour of the night and washed their stripes, and was immediately baptized, he and all his household.
34 He brought them up into his house and set food before them, and rejoiced greatly with all his household, having believed in God.
35 But when it was day, the magistrates sent the sergeants, saying, "Let those men go."
36 The jailer reported these words to Paul, saying, "The magistrates have sent to let you go; now therefore come out and go in peace."
37 But Paul said to them, "They have beaten us publicly without a trial, men who are Romans, and have cast us into prison! Do they now release us secretly? No, most certainly, but let them come themselves and bring us out!"
38 The sergeants reported these words to the magistrates, and they were afraid when they heard that they were Romans,
39 and they came and begged them. When they had brought them out, they asked them to depart from the city.
40 They went out of the prison and entered into Lydia's house. When they had seen the brothers, they encouraged them, then departed.

17

1 Now when they had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where there was a Jewish synagogue.
2 Paul, as was his custom, went in to them; and for three Sabbath days reasoned with them from the Scriptures,
3 explaining and demonstrating that the Christ had to suffer and rise again from the dead, and saying, "This Jesus, whom I proclaim to you, is the Christ."
4 Some of them were persuaded and joined Paul and Silas: of the devout Greeks a great multitude, and not a few of the chief women.
5 But the unpersuaded Jews took along† some wicked men from the marketplace and gathering a crowd, set the city in an uproar. Assaulting the house of Jason, they sought to bring them out to the people.
6 When they didn't find them, they dragged Jason and certain brothers‡ before the rulers of the city, crying, "These who have turned the world upside down have come here also,
7 whom Jason has received. These all act contrary to the decrees of Caesar, saying that there is another king, Jesus!"
8 The multitude and the rulers of the city were troubled when they heard these things.
9 When they had taken security from Jason and the rest, they let them go.

10 The brothers immediately sent Paul and Silas away by night to Beroea. When they arrived, they went into the Jewish synagogue.

11 Now these were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, examining the Scriptures daily to see whether these things were so.
12 Many of them therefore believed; also of the prominent Greek women, and not a few men.
13 But when the Jews of Thessalonica had knowledge that the word of God was proclaimed by Paul at Beroea also, they came there likewise, agitating the multitudes.
14 Then the brothers immediately sent out Paul to go as far as to the sea, and Silas and Timothy still stayed there.
15 But those who escorted Paul brought him as far as Athens. Receiving a commandment to Silas and Timothy that they should come to him very quickly, they departed.

16 Now while Paul waited for them at Athens, his spirit was provoked within him as he saw the city full of idols.

† **17:5** TR reads "And the Jews who were unpersuaded, becoming envious and taking along" instead of "But the unpersuaded Jews took along" ‡ **17:6** The word for "brothers" here and where the context allows may be also correctly translated "brothers and sisters" or "siblings."

17 So he reasoned in the synagogue with
the Jews and the devout persons, and in
the marketplace every day with those
who met him.
18 Some of the Epicurean and Stoic
philosophers also§ were conversing with
him. Some said, "What does this babbler
want to say?"
Others said, "He seems to be advocating
foreign deities," because he preached
Jesus and the resurrection.
19 They took hold of him and brought
him to the Areopagus, saying, "May we
know what this new teaching is, which
you are speaking about?
20 For you bring certain strange things
to our ears. We want to know therefore
what these things mean."
21 Now all the Athenians and the
strangers living there spent their time in
nothing else, but either to tell or to hear
some new thing.
22 Paul stood in the middle of the
Areopagus and said, "You men of Athens, I
perceive that you are very religious in all
things.
23 For as I passed along and observed
the objects of your worship, I also found
an altar with this inscription: 'TO AN
UNKNOWN GOD.' What therefore you
worship in ignorance, I announce to you.
24 The God who made the world and all
things in it, he, being Lord of heaven and
earth, doesn't dwell in temples made with
hands.
25 He isn't served by men's hands, as
though he needed anything, seeing he
himself gives to all life and breath and all
things.
26 He made from one blood every nation
of men to dwell on all the surface of the
earth, having determined appointed
seasons and the boundaries of their
dwellings,
27 that they should seek the Lord, if
perhaps they might reach out for him and
find him, though he is not far from each
one of us.
28 'For in him we live, move, and have
our being.' As some of your own poets
have said, 'For we are also his offspring.'
29 Being then the offspring of God, we
ought not to think that the Divine Nature
is like gold, or silver, or stone, engraved
by art and design of man.
30 The times of ignorance therefore God
overlooked. But now he commands that
all people everywhere should repent,
31 because he has appointed a day in
which he will judge the world in
righteousness by the man whom he has
ordained; of which he has given
assurance to all men, in that he has raised
him from the dead."
32 Now when they heard of the
resurrection of the dead, some mocked;
but others said, "We want to hear you
again concerning this."
33 Thus Paul went out from among
them.
34 But certain men joined with him and
believed, including Dionysius the
Areopagite, and a woman named
Damaris, and others with them.

18

1 After these things Paul departed from
Athens and came to Corinth.
2 He found a certain Jew named Aquila,
a man of Pontus by race, who had recently
come from Italy with his wife Priscilla,
because Claudius had commanded all the
Jews to depart from Rome. He came to
them,
3 and because he practiced the same
trade, he lived with them and worked, for
by trade they were tent makers.
4 He reasoned in the synagogue every
Sabbath and persuaded Jews and Greeks.
5 When Silas and Timothy came down
from Macedonia, Paul was compelled by
the Spirit, testifying to the Jews that Jesus
was the Christ.
6 When they opposed him and
blasphemed, he shook out his clothing
and said to them, "Your blood be on your
own heads! I am clean. From now on, I
will go to the Gentiles!"
7 He departed there and went into the
house of a certain man named Justus, one
who worshiped God, whose house was
next door to the synagogue.

§ **17:18** TR omits "also"

8 Crispus, the ruler of the synagogue, believed in the Lord with all his house. Many of the Corinthians, when they heard, believed and were baptized.
9 The Lord said to Paul in the night by a vision, "Don't be afraid, but speak and don't be silent;
10 for I am with you, and no one will attack you to harm you, for I have many people in this city."
11 He lived there a year and six months, teaching the word of God among them.
12 But when Gallio was proconsul of Achaia, the Jews with one accord rose up against Paul and brought him before the judgment seat,
13 saying, "This man persuades men to worship God contrary to the law."
14 But when Paul was about to open his mouth, Gallio said to the Jews, "If indeed it were a matter of wrong or of wicked crime, you Jews, it would be reasonable that I should bear with you;
15 but if they are questions about words and names and your own law, look to it yourselves. For I don't want to be a judge of these matters."
16 So he drove them from the judgment seat.
17 Then all the Greeks seized Sosthenes, the ruler of the synagogue, and beat him before the judgment seat. Gallio didn't care about any of these things.
18 Paul, having stayed after this many more days, took his leave of the brothers,† and sailed from there for Syria, together with Priscilla and Aquila. He shaved his head in Cenchreae, for he had a vow.
19 He came to Ephesus, and he left them there; but he himself entered into the synagogue and reasoned with the Jews.
20 When they asked him to stay with them a longer time, he declined;
21 but taking his leave of them, he said, "I must by all means keep this coming feast in Jerusalem, but I will return again to you if God wills." Then he set sail from Ephesus.
22 When he had landed at Caesarea, he went up and greeted the assembly, and went down to Antioch.
23 Having spent some time there, he departed and went through the region of Galatia and Phrygia, in order, establishing all the disciples.
24 Now a certain Jew named Apollos, an Alexandrian by race, an eloquent man, came to Ephesus. He was mighty in the Scriptures.
25 This man had been instructed in the way of the Lord; and being fervent in spirit, he spoke and taught accurately the things concerning Jesus, although he knew only the baptism of John.
26 He began to speak boldly in the synagogue. But when Priscilla and Aquila heard him, they took him aside, and explained to him the way of God more accurately.
27 When he had determined to pass over into Achaia, the brothers encouraged him; and wrote to the disciples to receive him. When he had come, he greatly helped those who had believed through grace;
28 for he powerfully refuted the Jews, publicly showing by the Scriptures that Jesus was the Christ.

19

1 While Apollos was at Corinth, Paul, having passed through the upper country, came to Ephesus and found certain disciples.
2 He said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?"
They said to him, "No, we haven't even heard that there is a Holy Spirit."
3 He said, "Into what then were you baptized?"
They said, "Into John's baptism."
4 Paul said, "John indeed baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying to the people that they should believe in the one who would come after him, that is, in Christ Jesus."†
5 When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.

† **18:18** The word for "brothers" here and where the context allows may also be correctly translated "brothers and sisters" or "siblings." † **19:4** NU omits Christ.

6 When Paul had laid his hands on
them, the Holy Spirit came on them and
they spoke with other languages and
prophesied.
7 They were about twelve men in all.

8 He entered into the synagogue and
spoke boldly for a period of three months,
reasoning and persuading about the
things concerning God's Kingdom.

9 But when some were hardened and
disobedient, speaking evil of the Way
before the multitude, he departed from
them and separated the disciples,
reasoning daily in the school of Tyrannus.
10 This continued for two years, so that
all those who lived in Asia heard the word
of the Lord Jesus, both Jews and Greeks.

11 God worked special miracles by the
hands of Paul,
12 so that even handkerchiefs or aprons
were carried away from his body to the
sick, and the diseases departed from
them, and the evil spirits went out.
13 But some of the itinerant Jews,
exorcists, took on themselves to invoke
over those who had the evil spirits the
name of the Lord Jesus, saying, "We
adjure you by Jesus whom Paul preaches."
14 There were seven sons of one Sceva, a
Jewish chief priest, who did this.

15 The evil spirit answered, "Jesus I
know, and Paul I know, but who are you?"
16 The man in whom the evil spirit was
leaped on them, overpowered them, and
prevailed against them, so that they fled
out of that house naked and wounded.
17 This became known to all, both Jews
and Greeks, who lived at Ephesus. Fear
fell on them all, and the name of the Lord
Jesus was magnified.
18 Many also of those who had believed
came, confessing and declaring their
deeds.
19 Many of those who practiced magical
arts brought their books together and
burned them in the sight of all. They
counted their price, and found it to be
fifty thousand pieces of silver.‡

20 So the word of the Lord was growing
and becoming mighty.

21 Now after these things had ended,
Paul determined in the Spirit, when he
had passed through Macedonia and
Achaia, to go to Jerusalem, saying, "After I
have been there, I must also see Rome."
22 Having sent into Macedonia two of
those who served him, Timothy and
Erastus, he himself stayed in Asia for a
while.
23 About that time there arose no small
disturbance concerning the Way.
24 For a certain man named Demetrius,
a silversmith who made silver shrines of
Artemis, brought no little business to the
craftsmen,
25 whom he gathered together with the
workmen of like occupation, and said,
"Sirs, you know that by this business we
have our wealth.
26 You see and hear that not at Ephesus
alone, but almost throughout all Asia, this
Paul has persuaded and turned away
many people, saying that they are no gods
that are made with hands.
27 Not only is there danger that this our
trade come into disrepute, but also that
the temple of the great goddess Artemis
will be counted as nothing and her
majesty destroyed, whom all Asia and the
world worships."

28 When they heard this they were filled
with anger, and cried out, saying, "Great is
Artemis of the Ephesians!"
29 The whole city was filled with
confusion, and they rushed with one
accord into the theater, having seized
Gaius and Aristarchus, men of
Macedonia, Paul's companions in travel.
30 When Paul wanted to enter in to the
people, the disciples didn't allow him.
31 Certain also of the Asiarchs, being his
friends, sent to him and begged him not to
venture into the theater.
32 Some therefore cried one thing, and
some another, for the assembly was in
confusion. Most of them didn't know why
they had come together.

‡ **19:19** The 50,000 pieces of silver here probably referred to 50,000 drachmas. If so, the value of the burned books was equivalent to about 160 man-years of wages for agricultural laborers

33 They brought Alexander out of the
multitude, the Jews putting him forward.
Alexander beckoned with his hand, and
would have made a defense to the people.
34 But when they perceived that he was
a Jew, all with one voice for a time of
about two hours cried out, “Great is
Artemis of the Ephesians!”
35 When the town clerk had quieted the
multitude, he said, “You men of Ephesus,
what man is there who doesn’t know that
the city of the Ephesians is temple keeper
of the great goddess Artemis, and of the
image which fell down from Zeus?
36 Seeing then that these things can’t be
denied, you ought to be quiet and to do
nothing rash.
37 For you have brought these men here,
who are neither robbers of temples nor
blasphemers of your goddess.
38 If therefore Demetrius and the
craftsmen who are with him have a
matter against anyone, the courts are
open and there are proconsuls. Let them
press charges against one another.
39 But if you seek anything about other
matters, it will be settled in the regular
assembly.
40 For indeed we are in danger of being
accused concerning today’s riot, there
being no cause. Concerning it, we
wouldn’t be able to give an account of this
commotion.”
41 When he had thus spoken, he
dismissed the assembly.

20

1 After the uproar had ceased, Paul sent
for the disciples, took leave of them, and
departed to go into Macedonia.
2 When he had gone through those parts
and had encouraged them with many
words, he came into Greece.
3 When he had spent three months
there, and a plot was made against him by
Jews as he was about to set sail for Syria,
he determined to return through
Macedonia.
4 These accompanied him as far as Asia:
Sopater of Beroea, Aristarchus and
Secundus of the Thessalonians, Gaius of
Derbe, Timothy, and Tychicus and
Trophimus of Asia.
5 But these had gone ahead, and were
waiting for us at Troas.
6 We sailed away from Philippi after the
days of Unleavened Bread, and came to
them at Troas in five days, where we
stayed seven days.
7 On the first day of the week, when the
disciples were gathered together to break
bread, Paul talked with them, intending to
depart on the next day; and continued his
speech until midnight.
8 There were many lights in the upper
room where we† were gathered together.
9 A certain young man named Eutychus
sat in the window, weighed down with
deep sleep. As Paul spoke still longer,
being weighed down by his sleep, he fell
down from the third floor and was taken
up dead.
10 Paul went down and fell upon him,
and embracing him said, “Don’t be
troubled, for his life is in him.”
11 When he had gone up, had broken
bread and eaten, and had talked with
them a long while, even until break of
day, he departed.
12 They brought the boy in alive, and
were greatly comforted.
13 But we, going ahead to the ship, set
sail for Assos, intending to take Paul
aboard there; for he had so arranged,
intending himself to go by land.
14 When he met us at Assos, we took him
aboard and came to Mitylene.
15 Sailing from there, we came the
following day opposite Chios. The next
day we touched at Samos and stayed at
Trogyllium, and the day after we came to
Miletus.
16 For Paul had determined to sail past
Ephesus, that he might not have to spend
time in Asia; for he was hastening, if it
were possible for him, to be in Jerusalem
on the day of Pentecost.
17 From Miletus he sent to Ephesus and
called to himself the elders of the
assembly.

† **20:8** TR reads “they” instead of “we”

18 When they had come to him, he said
to them, "You yourselves know, from the
first day that I set foot in Asia, how I was
with you all the time,
19 serving the Lord with all humility,
with many tears, and with trials which
happened to me by the plots of the Jews;
20 how I didn't shrink from declaring to
you anything that was profitable, teaching
you publicly and from house to house,
21 testifying both to Jews and to Greeks
repentance toward God and faith toward
our Lord Jesus.‡
22 Now, behold, I go bound by the Spirit
to Jerusalem, not knowing what will
happen to me there;
23 except that the Holy Spirit testifies in
every city, saying that bonds and
afflictions wait for me.
24 But these things don't count; nor do I
hold my life dear to myself, so that I may
finish my race with joy, and the ministry
which I received from the Lord Jesus, to
fully testify to the Good News of the grace
of God.
25 "Now, behold, I know that you all,
among whom I went about preaching
God's Kingdom, will see my face no more.
26 Therefore I testify to you today that I
am clean from the blood of all men,
27 for I didn't shrink from declaring to
you the whole counsel of God.
28 Take heed, therefore, to yourselves
and to all the flock, in which the Holy
Spirit has made you overseers, to
shepherd the assembly of the Lord and§
God which he purchased with his own
blood.
29 For I know that after my departure,
vicious wolves will enter in among you,
not sparing the flock.
30 Men will arise from among your own
selves, speaking perverse things, to draw
away the disciples after them.
31 Therefore watch, remembering that
for a period of three years I didn't cease to
admonish everyone night and day with
tears.
32 Now, brothers,† I entrust you to God
and to the word of his grace, which is able
to build up and to give you the inheritance
among all those who are sanctified.
33 I coveted no one's silver, gold, or
clothing.
34 You yourselves know that these
hands served my necessities, and those
who were with me.
35 In all things I gave you an example,
that so laboring you ought to help the
weak, and to remember the words of the
Lord Jesus, that he himself said, 'It is more
blessed to give than to receive.' "
36 When he had spoken these things, he
knelt down and prayed with them all.
37 They all wept freely, and fell on Paul's
neck and kissed him,
38 sorrowing most of all because of the
word which he had spoken, that they
should see his face no more. Then they
accompanied him to the ship.

21

1 When we had departed from them and
had set sail, we came with a straight
course to Cos, and the next day to Rhodes,
and from there to Patara.
2 Having found a ship crossing over to
Phoenicia, we went aboard and set sail.
3 When we had come in sight of Cyprus,
leaving it on the left hand, we sailed to
Syria and landed at Tyre, for the ship was
there to unload her cargo.
4 Having found disciples, we stayed
there seven days. These said to Paul
through the Spirit that he should not go
up to Jerusalem.
5 When those days were over, we
departed and went on our journey. They
all, with wives and children, brought us
on our way until we were out of the city.
Kneeling down on the beach, we prayed.
6 After saying goodbye to each other, we
went on board the ship, and they
returned home again.
7 When we had finished the voyage
from Tyre, we arrived at Ptolemais. We

‡ **20:21** TR adds "Christ" § **20:28** TR, NU omit "the Lord and" † **20:32** The word for "brothers" here and where the context allows may also be correctly translated "brothers and sisters" or "siblings."

greeted the brothers and stayed with
them one day.
8 On the next day, we who were Paul's
companions departed and came to
Caesarea.
We entered into the house of Philip the
evangelist, who was one of the seven, and
stayed with him.
9 Now this man had four virgin
daughters who prophesied.
10 As we stayed there some days, a
certain prophet named Agabus came
down from Judea.
11 Coming to us and taking Paul's belt,
he bound his own feet and hands, and
said, "The Holy Spirit says: 'So the Jews at
Jerusalem will bind the man who owns
this belt, and will deliver him into the
hands of the Gentiles.' "
12 When we heard these things, both we
and the people of that place begged him
not to go up to Jerusalem.
13 Then Paul answered, "What are you
doing, weeping and breaking my heart?
For I am ready not only to be bound, but
also to die at Jerusalem for the name of
the Lord Jesus."
14 When he would not be persuaded, we
ceased, saying, "The Lord's will be done."
15 After these days we took up our
baggage and went up to Jerusalem.
16 Some of the disciples from Caesarea
also went with us, bringing one Mnason
of Cyprus, an early disciple, with whom
we would stay.
17 When we had come to Jerusalem, the
brothers received us gladly.
18 The day following, Paul went in with
us to James; and all the elders were
present.
19 When he had greeted them, he
reported one by one the things which God
had worked among the Gentiles through
his ministry.
20 They, when they heard it, glorified
God. They said to him, "You see, brother,
how many thousands there are among the
Jews of those who have believed, and they
are all zealous for the law.
21 They have been informed about you,
that you teach all the Jews who are among
the Gentiles to forsake Moses, telling them
not to circumcise their children and not to
walk after the customs.
22 What then? The assembly must
certainly meet, for they will hear that you
have come.
23 Therefore do what we tell you. We
have four men who have taken a vow.
24 Take them and purify yourself with
them, and pay their expenses for them,
that they may shave their heads. Then all
will know that there is no truth in the
things that they have been informed
about you, but that you yourself also walk
keeping the law.
25 But concerning the Gentiles who
believe, we have written our decision that
they should observe no such thing, except
that they should keep themselves from
food offered to idols, from blood, from
strangled things, and from sexual
immorality."
26 Then Paul took the men, and the next
day purified himself and went with them
into the temple, declaring the fulfillment
of the days of purification, until the
offering was offered for every one of
them.
27 When the seven days were almost
completed, the Jews from Asia, when they
saw him in the temple, stirred up all the
multitude and laid hands on him,
28 crying out, "Men of Israel, help! This
is the man who teaches all men
everywhere against the people, and the
law, and this place. Moreover, he also
brought Greeks into the temple and has
defiled this holy place!"
29 For they had seen Trophimus the
Ephesian with him in the city, and they
supposed that Paul had brought him into
the temple.
30 All the city was moved and the people
ran together. They seized Paul and
dragged him out of the temple.
Immediately the doors were shut.
31 As they were trying to kill him, news
came up to the commanding officer of the
regiment that all Jerusalem was in an
uproar.
32 Immediately he took soldiers and
centurions and ran down to them. They,

when they saw the chief captain and the soldiers, stopped beating Paul.
33 Then the commanding officer came near, arrested him, commanded him to be bound with two chains, and inquired who he was and what he had done.
34 Some shouted one thing and some another, among the crowd. When he couldn't find out the truth because of the noise, he commanded him to be brought into the barracks.
35 When he came to the stairs, he was carried by the soldiers because of the violence of the crowd;
36 for the multitude of the people followed after, crying out, "Away with him!"
37 As Paul was about to be brought into the barracks, he asked the commanding officer, "May I speak to you?"

He said, "Do you know Greek?
38 Aren't you then the Egyptian who before these days stirred up to sedition and led out into the wilderness the four thousand men of the Assassins?"
39 But Paul said, "I am a Jew from Tarsus in Cilicia, a citizen of no insignificant city. I beg you, allow me to speak to the people."
40 When he had given him permission, Paul, standing on the stairs, beckoned with his hand to the people. When there was a great silence, he spoke to them in the Hebrew language, saying,

22

1 "Brothers and fathers, listen to the defense which I now make to you."
2 When they heard that he spoke to them in the Hebrew language, they were even more quiet.

He said,
3 "I am indeed a Jew, born in Tarsus of Cilicia, but brought up in this city at the feet of Gamaliel, instructed according to the strict tradition of the law of our fathers, being zealous for God, even as you all are today.
4 I persecuted this Way to the death, binding and delivering into prisons both men and women,
5 as also the high priest and all the council of the elders testify, from whom also I received letters to the brothers, and traveled to Damascus to bring them also who were there to Jerusalem in bonds to be punished.
6 "As I made my journey and came close to Damascus, about noon suddenly a great light shone around me from the sky.
7 I fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to me, 'Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?'
8 I answered, 'Who are you, Lord?' He said to me, 'I am Jesus of Nazareth, whom you persecute.'
9 "Those who were with me indeed saw the light and were afraid, but they didn't understand the voice of him who spoke to me.
10 I said, 'What shall I do, Lord?' The Lord said to me, 'Arise, and go into Damascus. There you will be told about all things which are appointed for you to do.'
11 When I couldn't see for the glory of that light, being led by the hand of those who were with me, I came into Damascus.
12 "One Ananias, a devout man according to the law, well reported of by all the Jews who lived in Damascus,
13 came to me, and standing by me said to me, 'Brother Saul, receive your sight!' In that very hour I looked up at him.
14 He said, 'The God of our fathers has appointed you to know his will, and to see the Righteous One, and to hear a voice from his mouth.
15 For you will be a witness for him to all men of what you have seen and heard.
16 Now why do you wait? Arise, be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord.'
17 "When I had returned to Jerusalem and while I prayed in the temple, I fell into a trance
18 and saw him saying to me, 'Hurry and get out of Jerusalem quickly, because they will not receive testimony concerning me from you.'
19 I said, 'Lord, they themselves know that I imprisoned and beat in every synagogue those who believed in you.

20 When the blood of Stephen, your
witness, was shed, I also was standing by,
consenting to his death, and guarding the
cloaks of those who killed him.'
21 "He said to me, 'Depart, for I will send
you out far from here to the Gentiles.' "
22 They listened to him until he said
that; then they lifted up their voice and
said, "Rid the earth of this fellow, for he
isn't fit to live!"
23 As they cried out, threw off their
cloaks, and threw dust into the air,
24 the commanding officer commanded
him to be brought into the barracks,
ordering him to be examined by
scourging, that he might know for what
crime they shouted against him like that.
25 When they had tied him up with
straps, Paul asked the centurion who
stood by, "Is it lawful for you to scourge a
man who is a Roman, and not found
guilty?"
26 When the centurion heard it, he went
to the commanding officer and told him,
"Watch what you are about to do, for this
man is a Roman!"
27 The commanding officer came and
asked him, "Tell me, are you a Roman?"
He said, "Yes."
28 The commanding officer answered, "I
bought my citizenship for a great price."
Paul said, "But I was born a Roman."
29 Immediately those who were about to
examine him departed from him, and the
commanding officer also was afraid when
he realized that he was a Roman, because
he had bound him.
30 But on the next day, desiring to know
the truth about why he was accused by
the Jews, he freed him from the bonds and
commanded the chief priests and all the
council to come together, and brought
Paul down and set him before them.

23

1 Paul, looking steadfastly at the council,
said, "Brothers, I have lived before God in
all good conscience until today."
2 The high priest, Ananias, commanded
those who stood by him to strike him on
the mouth.
3 Then Paul said to him, "God will strike
you, you whitewashed wall! Do you sit to
judge me according to the law, and
command me to be struck contrary to the
law?"
4 Those who stood by said, "Do you
malign God's high priest?"
5 Paul said, "I didn't know, brothers,
that he was high priest. For it is written,
'You shall not speak evil of a ruler of your
people.' "*
6 But when Paul perceived that the one
part were Sadducees and the other
Pharisees, he cried out in the council,
"Men and brothers, I am a Pharisee, a son
of Pharisees. Concerning the hope and
resurrection of the dead I am being
judged!"
7 When he had said this, an argument
arose between the Pharisees and
Sadducees, and the crowd was divided.
8 For the Sadducees say that there is no
resurrection, nor angel, nor spirit; but the
Pharisees confess all of these.
9 A great clamor arose, and some of the
scribes of the Pharisees' part stood up,
and contended, saying, "We find no evil in
this man. But if a spirit or angel has
spoken to him, let's not fight against God!"
10 When a great argument arose, the
commanding officer, fearing that Paul
would be torn in pieces by them,
commanded the soldiers to go down and
take him by force from among them and
bring him into the barracks.
11 The following night, the Lord stood by
him and said, "Cheer up, Paul, for as you
have testified about me at Jerusalem, so
you must testify also at Rome."
12 When it was day, some of the Jews
banded together and bound themselves
under a curse, saying that they would
neither eat nor drink until they had killed
Paul.
13 There were more than forty people
who had made this conspiracy.
14 They came to the chief priests and the
elders, and said, "We have bound
ourselves under a great curse to taste
nothing until we have killed Paul.

* **23:5** Exodus 22:28

15 Now therefore, you with the council
inform the commanding officer that he
should bring him down to you tomorrow,
as though you were going to judge his case
more exactly. We are ready to kill him
before he comes near."
16 But Paul's sister's son heard they
were lying in wait, and he came and
entered into the barracks and told Paul.
17 Paul summoned one of the centurions
and said, "Bring this young man to the
commanding officer, for he has
something to tell him."
18 So he took him and brought him to
the commanding officer and said, "Paul,
the prisoner, summoned me and asked
me to bring this young man to you. He has
something to tell you."
19 The commanding officer took him by
the hand, and going aside, asked him
privately, "What is it that you have to tell
me?"
20 He said, "The Jews have agreed to ask
you to bring Paul down to the council
tomorrow, as though intending to inquire
somewhat more accurately concerning
him.
21 Therefore don't yield to them, for
more than forty men lie in wait for him,
who have bound themselves under a
curse to neither eat nor drink until they
have killed him. Now they are ready,
looking for the promise from you."
22 So the commanding officer let the
young man go, charging him, "Tell no one
that you have revealed these things to
me."
23 He called to himself two of the
centurions, and said, "Prepare two
hundred soldiers to go as far as Caesarea,
with seventy horsemen and two hundred
men armed with spears, at the third hour
of the night."†
24 He asked them to provide mounts,
that they might set Paul on one, and bring
him safely to Felix the governor.
25 He wrote a letter like this:
26 "Claudius Lysias to the most excellent
governor Felix: Greetings.
27 "This man was seized by the Jews, and
was about to be killed by them when I
came with the soldiers and rescued him,
having learned that he was a Roman.
28 Desiring to know the cause why they
accused him, I brought him down to their
council.
29 I found him to be accused about
questions of their law, but not to be
charged with anything worthy of death or
of imprisonment.
30 When I was told that the Jews lay in
wait for the man, I sent him to you
immediately, charging his accusers also to
bring their accusations against him
before you. Farewell."
31 So the soldiers, carrying out their
orders, took Paul and brought him by
night to Antipatris.
32 But on the next day they left the
horsemen to go with him, and returned to
the barracks.
33 When they came to Caesarea and
delivered the letter to the governor, they
also presented Paul to him.
34 When the governor had read it, he
asked what province he was from. When
he understood that he was from Cilicia, he
said,
35 "I will hear you fully when your
accusers also arrive." He commanded
that he be kept in Herod's palace.

24

1 After five days, the high priest,
Ananias, came down with certain elders
and an orator, one Tertullus. They
informed the governor against Paul.
2 When he was called, Tertullus began
to accuse him, saying, "Seeing that by you
we enjoy much peace, and that prosperity
is coming to this nation by your foresight,
3 we accept it in all ways and in all
places, most excellent Felix, with all
thankfulness.
4 But that I don't delay you, I entreat you
to bear with us and hear a few words.
5 For we have found this man to be a
plague, an instigator of insurrections
among all the Jews throughout the world,

† **23:23** about 9:00 p.m. † **24:6** TR adds "We wanted to judge him according to our law,"

and a ringleader of the sect of the Nazarenes.
6 He even tried to profane the temple, and we arrested him.†
7 ‡
8 §By examining him yourself you may ascertain all these things of which we accuse him."
9 The Jews also joined in the attack, affirming that these things were so.
10 When the governor had beckoned to him to speak, Paul answered, "Because I know that you have been a judge of this nation for many years, I cheerfully make my defense,
11 seeing that you can verify that it is not more than twelve days since I went up to worship at Jerusalem.
12 In the temple they didn't find me disputing with anyone or stirring up a crowd, either in the synagogues or in the city.
13 Nor can they prove to you the things of which they now accuse me.
14 But this I confess to you, that according to the Way, which they call a sect, so I serve the God of our fathers, believing all things which are according to the law, and which are written in the prophets;
15 having hope toward God, which these also themselves look for, that there will be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and unjust.
16 In this I also practice always having a conscience void of offense toward God and men.
17 Now after some years, I came to bring gifts for the needy to my nation, and offerings;
18 amid which certain Jews from Asia found me purified in the temple, not with a mob, nor with turmoil.
19 They ought to have been here before you and to make accusation if they had anything against me.
20 Or else let these men themselves say what injustice they found in me when I stood before the council,
21 unless it is for this one thing that I cried standing among them, 'Concerning the resurrection of the dead I am being judged before you today!' "
22 But Felix, having more exact knowledge concerning the Way, deferred them, saying, "When Lysias, the commanding officer, comes down, I will decide your case."
23 He ordered the centurion that Paul should be kept in custody and should have some privileges, and not to forbid any of his friends to serve him or to visit him.
24 After some days, Felix came with Drusilla his wife, who was a Jewess, and sent for Paul and heard him concerning the faith in Christ Jesus.
25 As he reasoned about righteousness, self-control, and the judgment to come, Felix was terrified, and answered, "Go your way for this time, and when it is convenient for me, I will summon you."
26 Meanwhile, he also hoped that money would be given to him by Paul, that he might release him. Therefore also he sent for him more often and talked with him.
27 But when two years were fulfilled, Felix was succeeded by Porcius Festus, and desiring to gain favor with the Jews, Felix left Paul in bonds.

25

1 Festus therefore, having come into the province, after three days went up to Jerusalem from Caesarea.
2 Then the high priest and the principal men of the Jews informed him against Paul, and they begged him,
3 asking a favor against him, that he would summon him to Jerusalem, plotting to kill him on the way.
4 However Festus answered that Paul should be kept in custody at Caesarea, and that he himself was about to depart shortly.
5 "Let them therefore", he said, "that are in power among you go down with me, and if there is anything wrong in the man, let them accuse him."

‡ **24:7** TR adds "but the commanding officer, Lysias, came by and with great violence took him out of our hands,"
§ **24:8** TR adds "commanding his accusers to come to you."

6 When he had stayed among them
more than ten days, he went down to
Caesarea, and on the next day he sat on
the judgment seat, and commanded Paul
to be brought.
7 When he had come, the Jews who had
come down from Jerusalem stood around
him, bringing against him many and
grievous charges which they could not
prove,
8 while he said in his defense, "Neither
against the law of the Jews, nor against
the temple, nor against Caesar, have I
sinned at all."
9 But Festus, desiring to gain favor with
the Jews, answered Paul and said, "Are
you willing to go up to Jerusalem and be
judged by me there concerning these
things?"
10 But Paul said, "I am standing before
Caesar's judgment seat, where I ought to
be tried. I have done no wrong to the
Jews, as you also know very well.
11 For if I have done wrong and have
committed anything worthy of death, I
don't refuse to die; but if none of those
things is true that they accuse me of, no
one can give me up to them. I appeal to
Caesar!"
12 Then Festus, when he had conferred
with the council, answered, "You have
appealed to Caesar. To Caesar you shall
go."
13 Now when some days had passed,
King Agrippa and Bernice arrived at
Caesarea and greeted Festus.
14 As he stayed there many days, Festus
laid Paul's case before the king, saying,
"There is a certain man left a prisoner by
Felix;
15 about whom, when I was at
Jerusalem, the chief priests and the elders
of the Jews informed me, asking for a
sentence against him.
16 I answered them that it is not the
custom of the Romans to give up any man
to destruction before the accused has met
the accusers face to face and has had
opportunity to make his defense
concerning the matter laid against him.
17 When therefore they had come
together here, I didn't delay, but on the
next day sat on the judgment seat and
commanded the man to be brought.
18 When the accusers stood up, they
brought no charges against him of such
things as I supposed;
19 but had certain questions against him
about their own religion and about one
Jesus, who was dead, whom Paul affirmed
to be alive.
20 Being perplexed how to inquire
concerning these things, I asked whether
he was willing to go to Jerusalem and
there be judged concerning these matters.
21 But when Paul had appealed to be
kept for the decision of the emperor, I
commanded him to be kept until I could
send him to Caesar."
22 Agrippa said to Festus, "I also would
like to hear the man myself."
"Tomorrow," he said, "you shall hear
him."
23 So on the next day, when Agrippa and
Bernice had come with great pomp, and
they had entered into the place of hearing
with the commanding officers and the
principal men of the city, at the command
of Festus, Paul was brought in.
24 Festus said, "King Agrippa, and all
men who are here present with us, you
see this man about whom all the
multitude of the Jews petitioned me, both
at Jerusalem and here, crying that he
ought not to live any longer.
25 But when I found that he had
committed nothing worthy of death, and
as he himself appealed to the emperor, I
determined to send him,
26 of whom I have no certain thing to
write to my lord. Therefore I have
brought him out before you, and
especially before you, King Agrippa, that,
after examination I may have something
to write.
27 For it seems to me unreasonable, in
sending a prisoner, not to also specify the
charges against him."

26

1 Agrippa said to Paul, "You may speak
for yourself."
Then Paul stretched out his hand, and
made his defense.

2 “I think myself happy, King Agrippa,
that I am to make my defense before you
today concerning all the things the Jews
accuse me of,
3 especially because you are expert in
all customs and questions which are
among the Jews. Therefore I beg you to
hear me patiently.
4 “Indeed, all the Jews know my way of
life from my youth up, which was from
the beginning among my own nation and
at Jerusalem;
5 having known me from the first, if
they are willing to testify, that after the
strictest sect of our religion I lived a
Pharisee.
6 Now I stand here to be judged for the
hope of the promise made by God to our
fathers,
7 which our twelve tribes, earnestly
serving night and day, hope to attain.
Concerning this hope I am accused by the
Jews, King Agrippa!
8 Why is it judged incredible with you if
God does raise the dead?
9 “I myself most certainly thought that I
ought to do many things contrary to the
name of Jesus of Nazareth.
10 I also did this in Jerusalem. I both
shut up many of the saints in prisons,
having received authority from the chief
priests; and when they were put to death I
gave my vote against them.
11 Punishing them often in all the
synagogues, I tried to make them
blaspheme. Being exceedingly enraged
against them, I persecuted them even to
foreign cities.
12 “Whereupon as I traveled to
Damascus with the authority and
commission from the chief priests,
13 at noon, O king, I saw on the way a
light from the sky, brighter than the sun,
shining around me and those who
traveled with me.
14 When we had all fallen to the earth, I
heard a voice saying to me in the Hebrew
language, ‘Saul, Saul, why are you
persecuting me? It is hard for you to kick
against the goads.’
15 “I said, ‘Who are you, Lord?’

“He said, ‘I am Jesus, whom you are
persecuting.
16 But arise, and stand on your feet, for I
have appeared to you for this purpose: to
appoint you a servant and a witness both
of the things which you have seen and of
the things which I will reveal to you;
17 delivering you from the people and
from the Gentiles, to whom I send you,
18 to open their eyes, that they may turn
from darkness to light and from the
power of Satan to God, that they may
receive remission of sins and an
inheritance among those who are
sanctified by faith in me.’
19 “Therefore, King Agrippa, I was not
disobedient to the heavenly vision,
20 but declared first to them of
Damascus, at Jerusalem, and throughout
all the country of Judea, and also to the
Gentiles, that they should repent and turn
to God, doing works worthy of
repentance.
21 For this reason the Jews seized me in
the temple and tried to kill me.
22 Having therefore obtained the help
that is from God, I stand to this day
testifying both to small and great, saying
nothing but what the prophets and Moses
said would happen,
23 how the Christ must suffer, and how,
by the resurrection of the dead, he would
be first to proclaim light both to these
people and to the Gentiles.”
24 As he thus made his defense, Festus
said with a loud voice, “Paul, you are
crazy! Your great learning is driving you
insane!”
25 But he said, “I am not crazy, most
excellent Festus, but boldly declare words
of truth and reasonableness.
26 For the king knows of these things, to
whom also I speak freely. For I am
persuaded that none of these things is
hidden from him, for this has not been
done in a corner.
27 King Agrippa, do you believe the
prophets? I know that you believe.”
28 Agrippa said to Paul, “With a little
persuasion are you trying to make me a
Christian?”

29 Paul said, “I pray to God, that whether
with little or with much, not only you, but
also all that hear me today, might become
such as I am, except for these bonds.”
30 The king rose up with the governor
and Bernice, and those who sat with them.
31 When they had withdrawn, they
spoke to one another, saying, “This man
does nothing worthy of death or of
bonds.”
32 Agrippa said to Festus, “This man
might have been set free if he had not
appealed to Caesar.”

27

1 When it was determined that we
should sail for Italy, they delivered Paul
and certain other prisoners to a centurion
named Julius, of the Augustan band.
2 Embarking in a ship of Adramyttium,
which was about to sail to places on the
coast of Asia, we put to sea, Aristarchus, a
Macedonian of Thessalonica being with
us.
3 The next day, we touched at Sidon.
Julius treated Paul kindly and gave him
permission to go to his friends and refresh
himself.
4 Putting to sea from there, we sailed
under the lee of Cyprus, because the
winds were contrary.
5 When we had sailed across the sea
which is off Cilicia and Pamphylia, we
came to Myra, a city of Lycia.
6 There the centurion found a ship of
Alexandria sailing for Italy, and he put us
on board.
7 When we had sailed slowly many
days, and had come with difficulty
opposite Cnidus, the wind not allowing us
further, we sailed under the lee of Crete,
opposite Salmone.
8 With difficulty sailing along it we
came to a certain place called Fair
Havens, near the city of Lasea.
9 When much time had passed and the
voyage was now dangerous because the
Fast had now already gone by, Paul
admonished them
10 and said to them, “Sirs, I perceive that
the voyage will be with injury and much
loss, not only of the cargo and the ship,
but also of our lives.”
11 But the centurion gave more heed to
the master and to the owner of the ship
than to those things which were spoken
by Paul.
12 Because the haven was not suitable to
winter in, the majority advised going to
sea from there, if by any means they could
reach Phoenix and winter there, which is
a port of Crete, looking southwest and
northwest.
13 When the south wind blew softly,
supposing that they had obtained their
purpose, they weighed anchor and sailed
along Crete, close to shore.
14 But before long, a stormy wind beat
down from shore, which is called
Euroclydon.†
15 When the ship was caught and
couldn’t face the wind, we gave way to it
and were driven along.
16 Running under the lee of a small
island called Clauda, we were able, with
difficulty, to secure the boat.
17 After they had hoisted it up, they used
cables to help reinforce the ship. Fearing
that they would run aground on the Syrtis
sand bars, they lowered the sea anchor,
and so were driven along.
18 As we labored exceedingly with the
storm, the next day they began to throw
things overboard.
19 On the third day, they threw out the
ship’s tackle with their own hands.
20 When neither sun nor stars shone on
us for many days, and no small storm
pressed on us, all hope that we would be
saved was now taken away.
21 When they had been long without
food, Paul stood up in the middle of them
and said, “Sirs, you should have listened
to me, and not have set sail from Crete
and have gotten this injury and loss.
22 Now I exhort you to cheer up, for
there will be no loss of life among you, but
only of the ship.
23 For there stood by me this night an
angel, belonging to the God whose I am
and whom I serve,

† **27:14** Or, “a northeaster”.

24 saying, ‘Don’t be afraid, Paul. You must stand before Caesar. Behold, God has granted you all those who sail with you.’
25 Therefore, sirs, cheer up! For I believe God, that it will be just as it has been spoken to me.
26 But we must run aground on a certain island.”
27 But when the fourteenth night had come, as we were driven back and forth in the Adriatic Sea, about midnight the sailors surmised that they were drawing near to some land.
28 They took soundings and found twenty fathoms.‡ After a little while, they took soundings again, and found fifteen fathoms.§
29 Fearing that we would run aground on rocky ground, they let go four anchors from the stern, and wished for daylight.
30 As the sailors were trying to flee out of the ship and had lowered the boat into the sea, pretending that they would lay out anchors from the bow,
31 Paul said to the centurion and to the soldiers, “Unless these stay in the ship, you can’t be saved.”
32 Then the soldiers cut away the ropes of the boat and let it fall off.
33 While the day was coming on, Paul begged them all to take some food, saying, “Today is the fourteenth day that you wait and continue fasting, having taken nothing.
34 Therefore I beg you to take some food, for this is for your safety; for not a hair will perish from any of your heads.”
35 When he had said this and had taken bread, he gave thanks to God in the presence of all; then he broke it and began to eat.
36 Then they all cheered up, and they also took food.
37 In all, we were two hundred seventy-six souls on the ship.
38 When they had eaten enough, they lightened the ship, throwing out the wheat into the sea.
39 When it was day, they didn’t recognize the land, but they noticed a certain bay with a beach, and they decided to try to drive the ship onto it.
40 Casting off the anchors, they left them in the sea, at the same time untying the rudder ropes. Hoisting up the foresail to the wind, they made for the beach.
41 But coming to a place where two seas met, they ran the vessel aground. The bow struck and remained immovable, but the stern began to break up by the violence of the waves.
42 The soldiers’ counsel was to kill the prisoners, so that none of them would swim out and escape.
43 But the centurion, desiring to save Paul, stopped them from their purpose, and commanded that those who could swim should throw themselves overboard first to go toward the land;
44 and the rest should follow, some on planks and some on other things from the ship. So they all escaped safely to the land.

28

1 When we had escaped, then they† learned that the island was called Malta.
2 The natives showed us uncommon kindness; for they kindled a fire and received us all, because of the present rain and because of the cold.
3 But when Paul had gathered a bundle of sticks and laid them on the fire, a viper came out because of the heat and fastened on his hand.
4 When the natives saw the creature hanging from his hand, they said to one another, “No doubt this man is a murderer, whom, though he has escaped from the sea, yet Justice has not allowed to live.”
5 However he shook off the creature into the fire, and wasn’t harmed.
6 But they expected that he would have swollen or fallen down dead suddenly, but when they watched for a long time and saw nothing bad happen to him, they changed their minds and said that he was a god.

‡ **27:28** 20 fathoms = 120 feet = 36.6 meters § **27:28** 15 fathoms = 90 feet = 27.4 meters † **28:1** NU reads “we”

7 Now in the neighborhood of that place
were lands belonging to the chief man of
the island, named Publius, who received
us and courteously entertained us for
three days.
8 The father of Publius lay sick of fever
and dysentery. Paul entered in to him,
prayed, and laying his hands on him,
healed him.
9 Then when this was done, the rest also
who had diseases in the island came and
were cured.
10 They also honored us with many
honors; and when we sailed, they put on
board the things that we needed.

11 After three months, we set sail in a
ship of Alexandria which had wintered in
the island, whose figurehead was "The
Twin Brothers."
12 Touching at Syracuse, we stayed there
three days.
13 From there we circled around and
arrived at Rhegium. After one day, a
south wind sprang up, and on the second
day we came to Puteoli,
14 where we found brothers,‡ and were
entreated to stay with them for seven
days. So we came to Rome.
15 From there the brothers, when they
heard of us, came to meet us as far as The
Market of Appius and The Three Taverns.
When Paul saw them, he thanked God and
took courage.
16 When we entered into Rome, the
centurion delivered the prisoners to the
captain of the guard, but Paul was
allowed to stay by himself with the soldier
who guarded him.

17 After three days Paul called together
those who were the leaders of the Jews.
When they had come together, he said to
them, "I, brothers, though I had done
nothing against the people or the customs
of our fathers, still was delivered prisoner
from Jerusalem into the hands of the
Romans,
18 who, when they had examined me,
desired to set me free, because there was
no cause of death in me.
19 But when the Jews spoke against it, I
was constrained to appeal to Caesar, not
that I had anything about which to accuse
my nation.
20 For this cause therefore I asked to see
you and to speak with you. For because of
the hope of Israel I am bound with this
chain."
21 They said to him, "We neither
received letters from Judea concerning
you, nor did any of the brothers come
here and report or speak any evil of you.
22 But we desire to hear from you what
you think. For, as concerning this sect, it is
known to us that everywhere it is spoken
against."
23 When they had appointed him a day,
many people came to him at his lodging.
He explained to them, testifying about
God's Kingdom, and persuading them
concerning Jesus, both from the law of
Moses and from the prophets, from
morning until evening.
24 Some believed the things which were
spoken, and some disbelieved.
25 When they didn't agree among
themselves, they departed after Paul had
spoken one message: "The Holy Spirit
spoke rightly through Isaiah the prophet
to our fathers,
26 saying,
'Go to this people and say,
in hearing, you will hear,
but will in no way understand.
In seeing, you will see,
but will in no way perceive.
27 For this people's heart has grown
callous.
Their ears are dull of hearing.
Their eyes they have closed.
Lest they should see with their eyes,
hear with their ears,
understand with their heart,
and would turn again,
then I would heal them.'*
28 "Be it known therefore to you that the
salvation of God is sent to the nations, and
they will listen."

‡ **28:14** The word for "brothers" here and where context allows may also be correctly translated "brothers and sisters" or "siblings." * **28:27** Isaiah 6:9-10 § **28:29** NU omits verse 29.

29 When he had said these words, the
Jews departed, having a great dispute
among themselves.§
30 Paul stayed two whole years in his
own rented house and received all who
were coming to him,
31 preaching God's Kingdom and
teaching the things concerning the Lord
Jesus Christ with all boldness, without
hindrance.

Paul's Letter to the Romans

1 Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ,† called
to be an apostle, set apart for the Good
News of God,
2 which he promised before through his
prophets in the holy Scriptures,
3 concerning his Son, who was born of
the offspring‡ of David according to the
flesh,
4 who was declared to be the Son of God
with power according to the Spirit of
holiness, by the resurrection from the
dead, Jesus Christ our Lord,
5 through whom we received grace and
apostleship for obedience of faith among
all the nations for his name's sake;
6 among whom you are also called to
belong to Jesus Christ;
7 to all who are in Rome, beloved of God,
called to be saints: Grace to you and peace
from God our Father and the Lord Jesus
Christ.
8 First, I thank my God through Jesus
Christ for all of you, that your faith is
proclaimed throughout the whole world.
9 For God is my witness, whom I serve in
my spirit in the Good News of his Son,
how unceasingly I make mention of you
always in my prayers,
10 requesting, if by any means now at
last I may be prospered by the will of God
to come to you.
11 For I long to see you, that I may
impart to you some spiritual gift, to the
end that you may be established;
12 that is, that I with you may be
encouraged in you, each of us by the
other's faith, both yours and mine.
13 Now I don't desire to have you
unaware, brothers, that I often planned to
come to you (and was hindered so far),
that I might have some fruit among you
also, even as among the rest of the
Gentiles.
14 I am debtor both to Greeks and to
foreigners, both to the wise and to the
foolish.
15 So as much as is in me, I am eager to
preach the Good News to you also who are
in Rome.
16 For I am not ashamed of the Good
News of Christ, because it is the power of
God for salvation for everyone who
believes, for the Jew first, and also for the
Greek.
17 For in it is revealed God's
righteousness from faith to faith. As it is
written, "But the righteous shall live by
faith."*
18 For the wrath of God is revealed from
heaven against all ungodliness and
unrighteousness of men who suppress the
truth in unrighteousness,
19 because that which is known of God is
revealed in them, for God revealed it to
them.
20 For the invisible things of him since
the creation of the world are clearly seen,
being perceived through the things that
are made, even his everlasting power and
divinity, that they may be without excuse.
21 Because knowing God, they didn't
glorify him as God, and didn't give thanks,
but became vain in their reasoning, and
their senseless heart was darkened.
22 Professing themselves to be wise,
they became fools,
23 and traded the glory of the
incorruptible God for the likeness of an
image of corruptible man, and of birds,
four-footed animals, and creeping things.
24 Therefore God also gave them up in
the lusts of their hearts to uncleanness,
that their bodies should be dishonored
among themselves;
25 who exchanged the truth of God for a
lie, and worshiped and served the
creature rather than the Creator, who is
blessed forever. Amen.
26 For this reason, God gave them up to
vile passions. For their women changed
the natural function into that which is
against nature.
27 Likewise also the men, leaving the
natural function of the woman, burned in

† **1:1** "Christ" means "Anointed One". ‡ **1:3** or, seed * **1:17** Habakkuk 2:4

their lust toward one another, men doing what is inappropriate with men, and receiving in themselves the due penalty of their error.
28 Even as they refused to have God in their knowledge, God gave them up to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not fitting;
29 being filled with all unrighteousness, sexual immorality, wickedness, covetousness, malice; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, evil habits, secret slanderers,
30 backbiters, hateful to God, insolent, arrogant, boastful, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents,
31 without understanding, covenant breakers, without natural affection, unforgiving, unmerciful;
32 who, knowing the ordinance of God, that those who practice such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but also approve of those who practice them.

2

1 Therefore you are without excuse, O man, whoever you are who judge. For in that which you judge another, you condemn yourself. For you who judge practice the same things.
2 We know that the judgment of God is according to truth against those who practice such things.
3 Do you think this, O man who judges those who practice such things, and do the same, that you will escape the judgment of God?
4 Or do you despise the riches of his goodness, forbearance, and patience, not knowing that the goodness of God leads you to repentance?
5 But according to your hardness and unrepentant heart you are treasuring up for yourself wrath in the day of wrath, revelation, and of the righteous judgment of God,
6 who "will pay back to everyone according to their works:"*
7 to those who by perseverance in well-doing seek for glory, honor, and incorruptibility, eternal life;
8 but to those who are self-seeking and don't obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, will be wrath, indignation,
9 oppression, and anguish on every soul of man who does evil, to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.
10 But glory, honor, and peace go to every man who does good, to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.
11 For there is no partiality with God.
12 For as many as have sinned without the law will also perish without the law. As many as have sinned under the law will be judged by the law.
13 For it isn't the hearers of the law who are righteous before God, but the doers of the law will be justified
14 (for when Gentiles who don't have the law do by nature the things of the law, these, not having the law, are a law to themselves,
15 in that they show the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience testifying with them, and their thoughts among themselves accusing or else excusing them)
16 in the day when God will judge the secrets of men, according to my Good News, by Jesus Christ.
17 Indeed you bear the name of a Jew, rest on the law, glory in God,
18 know his will, and approve the things that are excellent, being instructed out of the law,
19 and are confident that you yourself are a guide of the blind, a light to those who are in darkness,
20 a corrector of the foolish, a teacher of babies, having in the law the form of knowledge and of the truth.
21 You therefore who teach another, don't you teach yourself? You who preach that a man shouldn't steal, do you steal?
22 You who say a man shouldn't commit adultery, do you commit adultery? You who abhor idols, do you rob temples?

* **2:6** Psalms 62:12; Proverbs 24:12

23 You who glory in the law, do you
dishonor God by disobeying the law?
24 For “the name of God is blasphemed
among the Gentiles because of you,”* just
as it is written.
25 For circumcision indeed profits, if
you are a doer of the law, but if you are a
transgressor of the law, your circumcision
has become uncircumcision.
26 If therefore the uncircumcised keep
the ordinances of the law, won’t his
uncircumcision be accounted as
circumcision?
27 Won’t those who are physically
uncircumcised, but fulfill the law, judge
you, who with the letter and circumcision
are a transgressor of the law?
28 For he is not a Jew who is one
outwardly, neither is that circumcision
which is outward in the flesh;
29 but he is a Jew who is one inwardly,
and circumcision is that of the heart, in
the spirit, not in the letter; whose praise is
not from men, but from God.

3

1 Then what advantage does the Jew
have? Or what is the profit of
circumcision?
2 Much in every way! Because first of
all, they were entrusted with the
revelations of God.
3 For what if some were without faith?
Will their lack of faith nullify the
faithfulness of God?
4 May it never be! Yes, let God be found
true, but every man a liar. As it is written,
“that you might be justified in your words,
and might prevail when you come
into judgment.”*
5 But if our unrighteousness commends
the righteousness of God, what will we
say? Is God unrighteous who inflicts
wrath? I speak like men do.
6 May it never be! For then how will God
judge the world?
7 For if the truth of God through my lie
abounded to his glory, why am I also still
judged as a sinner?
8 Why not (as we are slanderously
reported, and as some affirm that we say),
“Let’s do evil, that good may come?”
Those who say so are justly condemned.
9 What then? Are we better than they?
No, in no way. For we previously warned
both Jews and Greeks that they are all
under sin.
10 As it is written,
“There is no one righteous;
no, not one.
11 There is no one who understands.
There is no one who seeks after God.
12 They have all turned away.
They have together become
unprofitable.
There is no one who does good,
no, not so much as one.”*
13 “Their throat is an open tomb.
With their tongues they have used
deceit.”*
“The poison of vipers is under their lips.”*
14 “Their mouth is full of cursing and
bitterness.”*
15 “Their feet are swift to shed blood.
16 Destruction and misery are in their
ways.
17 The way of peace, they haven’t
known.”*
18 “There is no fear of God before their
eyes.”*
19 Now we know that whatever things
the law says, it speaks to those who are
under the law, that every mouth may be
closed, and all the world may be brought
under the judgment of God.
20 Because by the works of the law, no
flesh will be justified in his sight; for
through the law comes the knowledge of
sin.
21 But now apart from the law, a
righteousness of God has been revealed,
being testified by the law and the
prophets;
22 even the righteousness of God
through faith in Jesus Christ to all and on
all those who believe. For there is no
distinction,

* **2:24** Isaiah 52:5; Ezekiel 36:22 * **3:4** Psalms 51:4 * **3:12** Psalms 14:1-3; 53:1-3; Ecclesiastes 7:20 * **3:13** Psalms 5:9 * **3:13** Psalms 140:3 * **3:14** Psalms 10:7 * **3:17** Isaiah 59:7-8 * **3:18** Psalms 36:1

23 for all have sinned, and fall short of
the glory of God;
24 being justified freely by his grace
through the redemption that is in Christ
Jesus,
25 whom God sent to be an atoning
sacrifice† through faith in his blood, for a
demonstration of his righteousness
through the passing over of prior sins, in
God's forbearance;
26 to demonstrate his righteousness at
this present time, that he might himself be
just and the justifier of him who has faith
in Jesus.

27 Where then is the boasting? It is
excluded. By what kind of law? Of works?
No, but by a law of faith.
28 We maintain therefore that a man is
justified by faith apart from the works of
the law.
29 Or is God the God of Jews only? Isn't
he the God of Gentiles also? Yes, of
Gentiles also,
30 since indeed there is one God who
will justify the circumcised by faith and
the uncircumcised through faith.

31 Do we then nullify the law through
faith? May it never be! No, we establish
the law.

4

1 What then will we say that Abraham,
our forefather, has found according to the
flesh?
2 For if Abraham was justified by works,
he has something to boast about, but not
toward God.
3 For what does the Scripture say?
"Abraham believed God, and it was
accounted to him for righteousness."*
4 Now to him who works, the reward is
not counted as grace, but as something
owed.
5 But to him who doesn't work, but
believes in him who justifies the ungodly,
his faith is accounted for righteousness.
6 Even as David also pronounces
blessing on the man to whom God counts
righteousness apart from works:
7 "Blessed are they whose iniquities are
forgiven,
whose sins are covered.
8 Blessed is the man whom the Lord will
by no means charge with sin." *
9 Is this blessing then pronounced only
on the circumcised, or on the
uncircumcised also? For we say that faith
was accounted to Abraham for
righteousness.
10 How then was it counted? When he
was in circumcision, or in
uncircumcision? Not in circumcision, but
in uncircumcision.
11 He received the sign of circumcision,
a seal of the righteousness of the faith
which he had while he was in
uncircumcision, that he might be the
father of all those who believe, though
they might be in uncircumcision, that
righteousness might also be accounted to
them.
12 He is the father of circumcision to
those who not only are of the
circumcision, but who also walk in the
steps of that faith of our father Abraham,
which he had in uncircumcision.
13 For the promise to Abraham and to
his offspring that he would be heir of the
world wasn't through the law, but
through the righteousness of faith.
14 For if those who are of the law are
heirs, faith is made void, and the promise
is made of no effect.
15 For the law produces wrath; for
where there is no law, neither is there
disobedience.
16 For this cause it is of faith, that it may
be according to grace, to the end that the
promise may be sure to all the offspring,
not to that only which is of the law, but to
that also which is of the faith of Abraham,
who is the father of us all.
17 As it is written, "I have made you a
father of many nations."* This is in the
presence of him whom he believed: God,
who gives life to the dead, and calls the
things that are not, as though they were.
18 Against hope, Abraham in hope
believed, to the end that he might become
a father of many nations, according to

† **3:25** or, a propitiation * **4:3** Genesis 15:6 * **4:8** Psalms 32:1-2 * **4:17** Genesis 17:5 * **4:18** Genesis 15:5

that which had been spoken, “So will your offspring be.”*
19 Without being weakened in faith, he didn’t consider his own body, already having been worn out, (he being about a hundred years old), and the deadness of Sarah’s womb.
20 Yet, looking to the promise of God, he didn’t waver through unbelief, but grew strong through faith, giving glory to God,
21 and being fully assured that what he had promised, he was also able to perform.
22 Therefore it also was “credited to him for righteousness.”*
23 Now it was not written that it was accounted to him for his sake alone,
24 but for our sake also, to whom it will be accounted, who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead,
25 who was delivered up for our trespasses, and was raised for our justification.

5

1 Being therefore justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ;
2 through whom we also have our access by faith into this grace in which we stand. We rejoice in hope of the glory of God.
3 Not only this, but we also rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces perseverance;
4 and perseverance, proven character; and proven character, hope;
5 and hope doesn’t disappoint us, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.
6 For while we were yet weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly.
7 For one will hardly die for a righteous man. Yet perhaps for a good person someone would even dare to die.
8 But God commends his own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.
9 Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we will be saved from God’s wrath through him.
10 For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we will be saved by his life.
11 Not only so, but we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received the reconciliation.
12 Therefore, as sin entered into the world through one man, and death through sin, so death passed to all men because all sinned.
13 For until the law, sin was in the world; but sin is not charged when there is no law.
14 Nevertheless death reigned from Adam until Moses, even over those whose sins weren’t like Adam’s disobedience, who is a foreshadowing of him who was to come.
15 But the free gift isn’t like the trespass. For if by the trespass of the one the many died, much more did the grace of God and the gift by the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abound to the many.
16 The gift is not as through one who sinned; for the judgment came by one to condemnation, but the free gift followed many trespasses to justification.
17 For if by the trespass of the one, death reigned through the one; so much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one, Jesus Christ.
18 So then as through one trespass, all men were condemned; even so through one act of righteousness, all men were justified to life.
19 For as through the one man’s disobedience many were made sinners, even so through the obedience of the one, many will be made righteous.
20 The law came in that the trespass might abound; but where sin abounded, grace abounded more exceedingly,
21 that as sin reigned in death, even so grace might reign through righteousness

* **4:22** Genesis 15:6

to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

6

1 What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound?
2 May it never be! We who died to sin, how could we live in it any longer?
3 Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?
4 We were buried therefore with him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we also might walk in newness of life.
5 For if we have become united with him in the likeness of his death, we will also be part of his resurrection;
6 knowing this, that our old man was crucified with him, that the body of sin might be done away with, so that we would no longer be in bondage to sin.
7 For he who has died has been freed from sin.
8 But if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him,
9 knowing that Christ, being raised from the dead, dies no more. Death no longer has dominion over him!
10 For the death that he died, he died to sin one time; but the life that he lives, he lives to God.
11 Thus consider yourselves also to be dead to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord.
12 Therefore don't let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts.
13 Also, do not present your members to sin as instruments of unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God.
14 For sin will not have dominion over you, for you are not under law, but under grace.
15 What then? Shall we sin because we are not under law but under grace? May it never be!
16 Don't you know that when you present yourselves as servants and obey someone, you are the servants of whomever you obey, whether of sin to death, or of obedience to righteousness?
17 But thanks be to God that, whereas you were bondservants of sin, you became obedient from the heart to that form of teaching to which you were delivered.
18 Being made free from sin, you became bondservants of righteousness.
19 I speak in human terms because of the weakness of your flesh; for as you presented your members as servants to uncleanness and to wickedness upon wickedness, even so now present your members as servants to righteousness for sanctification.
20 For when you were servants of sin, you were free from righteousness.
21 What fruit then did you have at that time in the things of which you are now ashamed? For the end of those things is death.
22 But now, being made free from sin and having become servants of God, you have your fruit of sanctification and the result of eternal life.
23 For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

7

1 Or don't you know, brothers† (for I speak to men who know the law), that the law has dominion over a man for as long as he lives?
2 For the woman that has a husband is bound by law to the husband while he lives, but if the husband dies, she is discharged from the law of the husband.
3 So then if, while the husband lives, she is joined to another man, she would be called an adulteress. But if the husband dies, she is free from the law, so that she is no adulteress, though she is joined to another man.
4 Therefore, my brothers, you also were made dead to the law through the body of

† **7:1** The word for "brothers" here and where context allows may also be correctly translated "brothers and sisters" or "siblings."

Christ, that you would be joined to another, to him who was raised from the dead, that we might produce fruit to God.
5 For when we were in the flesh, the sinful passions which were through the law worked in our members to bring out fruit to death.
6 But now we have been discharged from the law, having died to that in which we were held; so that we serve in newness of the spirit, and not in oldness of the letter.
7 What shall we say then? Is the law sin? May it never be! However, I wouldn't have known sin except through the law. For I wouldn't have known coveting unless the law had said, "You shall not covet."*
8 But sin, finding occasion through the commandment, produced in me all kinds of coveting. For apart from the law, sin is dead.
9 I was alive apart from the law once, but when the commandment came, sin revived and I died.
10 The commandment which was for life, this I found to be for death;
11 for sin, finding occasion through the commandment, deceived me, and through it killed me.
12 Therefore the law indeed is holy, and the commandment holy, righteous, and good.
13 Did then that which is good become death to me? May it never be! But sin, that it might be shown to be sin, was producing death in me through that which is good; that through the commandment sin might become exceedingly sinful.
14 For we know that the law is spiritual, but I am fleshly, sold under sin.
15 For I don't understand what I am doing. For I don't practice what I desire to do; but what I hate, that I do.
16 But if what I don't desire, that I do, I consent to the law that it is good.
17 So now it is no more I that do it, but sin which dwells in me.
18 For I know that in me, that is, in my flesh, dwells no good thing. For desire is present with me, but I don't find it doing that which is good.
19 For the good which I desire, I don't do; but the evil which I don't desire, that I practice.
20 But if what I don't desire, that I do, it is no more I that do it, but sin which dwells in me.
21 I find then the law that, while I desire to do good, evil is present.
22 For I delight in God's law after the inward person,
23 but I see a different law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity under the law of sin which is in my members.
24 What a wretched man I am! Who will deliver me out of the body of this death?
25 I thank God through Jesus Christ, our Lord! So then with the mind, I myself serve God's law, but with the flesh, sin's law.

8

1 There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who don't walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit.†
2 For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus made me free from the law of sin and of death.
3 For what the law couldn't do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God did, sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh,
4 that the ordinance of the law might be fulfilled in us who don't walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit.
5 For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit.
6 For the mind of the flesh is death, but the mind of the Spirit is life and peace;
7 because the mind of the flesh is hostile toward God, for it is not subject to God's law, neither indeed can it be.
8 Those who are in the flesh can't please God.

* **7:7** Exodus 20:17; Deuteronomy 5:21 † **8:1** NU omits "who don't walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit"

9 But you are not in the flesh but in the
Spirit, if it is so that the Spirit of God
dwells in you. But if any man doesn't have
the Spirit of Christ, he is not his.
10 If Christ is in you, the body is dead
because of sin, but the spirit is alive
because of righteousness.
11 But if the Spirit of him who raised up
Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who
raised up Christ Jesus from the dead will
also give life to your mortal bodies
through his Spirit who dwells in you.
12 So then, brothers, we are debtors, not
to the flesh, to live after the flesh.
13 For if you live after the flesh, you
must die; but if by the Spirit you put to
death the deeds of the body, you will live.
14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of
God, these are children of God.
15 For you didn't receive the spirit of
bondage again to fear, but you received
the Spirit of adoption, by whom we cry,
"Abba!‡ Father!"
16 The Spirit himself testifies with our
spirit that we are children of God;
17 and if children, then heirs—heirs of
God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed
we suffer with him, that we may also be
glorified with him.
18 For I consider that the sufferings of
this present time are not worthy to be
compared with the glory which will be
revealed toward us.
19 For the creation waits with eager
expectation for the children of God to be
revealed.
20 For the creation was subjected to
vanity, not of its own will, but because of
him who subjected it, in hope
21 that the creation itself also will be
delivered from the bondage of decay into
the liberty of the glory of the children of
God.
22 For we know that the whole creation
groans and travails in pain together until
now.
23 Not only so, but ourselves also, who
have the first fruits of the Spirit, even we
ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting
for adoption, the redemption of our body.
24 For we were saved in hope, but hope
that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for
that which he sees?
25 But if we hope for that which we don't
see, we wait for it with patience.
26 In the same way, the Spirit also helps
our weaknesses, for we don't know how
to pray as we ought. But the Spirit himself
makes intercession for us with groanings
which can't be uttered.
27 He who searches the hearts knows
what is on the Spirit's mind, because he
makes intercession for the saints
according to God.
28 We know that all things work together
for good for those who love God, for those
who are called according to his purpose.
29 For whom he foreknew, he also
predestined to be conformed to the image
of his Son, that he might be the firstborn
among many brothers.§
30 Whom he predestined, those he also
called. Whom he called, those he also
justified. Whom he justified, those he also
glorified.
31 What then shall we say about these
things? If God is for us, who can be
against us?
32 He who didn't spare his own Son, but
delivered him up for us all, how would he
not also with him freely give us all things?
33 Who could bring a charge against
God's chosen ones? It is God who justifies.
34 Who is he who condemns? It is Christ
who died, yes rather, who was raised
from the dead, who is at the right hand of
God, who also makes intercession for us.
35 Who shall separate us from the love
of Christ? Could oppression, or anguish,
or persecution, or famine, or nakedness,
or peril, or sword?
36 Even as it is written,
"For your sake we are killed all day long.
We were accounted as sheep for the
slaughter."*

‡ **8:15** Abba is an Aramaic word for "Father" or "Daddy", which can be used affectionately and respectfully in prayer to our Father in heaven. § **8:29** The word for "brothers" here and where context allows may also be correctly translated "brothers and sisters" or "siblings." * **8:36** Psalms 44:22

37 No, in all these things we are more than
conquerors through him who loved us.
38 For I am persuaded that neither death,
nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor
things present, nor things to come, nor
powers,
39 nor height, nor depth, nor any other
created thing will be able to separate us
from God's love which is in Christ Jesus
our Lord.

9

1 I tell the truth in Christ. I am not lying,
my conscience testifying with me in the
Holy Spirit
2 that I have great sorrow and
unceasing pain in my heart.
3 For I could wish that I myself were
accursed from Christ for my brothers'
sake, my relatives according to the flesh
4 who are Israelites; whose is the
adoption, the glory, the covenants, the
giving of the law, the service, and the
promises;
5 of whom are the fathers, and from
whom is Christ as concerning the flesh,
who is over all, God, blessed forever.
Amen.
6 But it is not as though the word of God
has come to nothing. For they are not all
Israel that are of Israel.
7 Neither, because they are Abraham's
offspring, are they all children. But, "your
offspring will be accounted as from
Isaac."*
8 That is, it is not the children of the flesh
who are children of God, but the children
of the promise are counted as heirs.
9 For this is a word of promise: "At the
appointed time I will come, and Sarah will
have a son."*
10 Not only so, but Rebekah also
conceived by one, by our father Isaac.
11 For being not yet born, neither having
done anything good or bad, that the
purpose of God according to election
might stand, not of works, but of him who
calls,†
12 it was said to her, "The elder will
serve the younger."*
13 Even as it is written, "Jacob I loved,
but Esau I hated."*
14 What shall we say then? Is there
unrighteousness with God? May it never
be!
15 For he said to Moses, "I will have
mercy on whom I have mercy, and I will
have compassion on whom I have
compassion."*
16 So then it is not of him who wills, nor
of him who runs, but of God who has
mercy.
17 For the Scripture says to Pharaoh,
"For this very purpose I caused you to be
raised up, that I might show in you my
power, and that my name might be
proclaimed in all the earth."*
18 So then, he has mercy on whom he
desires, and he hardens whom he desires.
19 You will say then to me, "Why does he
still find fault? For who withstands his
will?"
20 But indeed, O man, who are you to
reply against God? Will the thing formed
ask him who formed it, "Why did you
make me like this?"*
21 Or hasn't the potter a right over the
clay, from the same lump to make one
part a vessel for honor, and another for
dishonor?
22 What if God, willing to show his
wrath and to make his power known,
endured with much patience vessels of
wrath prepared for destruction,
23 and that he might make known the
riches of his glory on vessels of mercy,
which he prepared beforehand for glory—
24 us, whom he also called, not from the
Jews only, but also from the Gentiles?
25 As he says also in Hosea,

"I will call them 'my people,' which were
not my people;
and her 'beloved,' who was not
beloved."*

* **9:7** Genesis 21:12 * **9:9** Genesis 18:10,14 † **9:11** NU puts the phrase "not of works, but of him who calls" at the beginning of verse 12 instead of the end of verse 11. * **9:12** Genesis 25:23 * **9:13** Malachi 1:2-3 * **9:15** Exodus 33:19 * **9:17** Exodus 9:16 * **9:20** Isaiah 29:16; 45:9 * **9:25** Hosea 2:23

26 “It will be that in the place where it was
said to them, ‘You are not my
people,’
there they will be called ‘children of
the living God.’ ”*
27 Isaiah cries concerning Israel,
“If the number of the children of Israel
are as the sand of the sea,
it is the remnant who will be saved;
28 for he will finish the work and cut it
short in righteousness,
because the Lord will make a short
work upon the earth.”*
29 As Isaiah has said before,
“Unless the Lord of Armies‡ had left us a
seed,
we would have become like Sodom,
and would have been made like
Gomorrah.”*
30 What shall we say then? That the Gentiles, who didn’t follow after righteousness, attained to righteousness, even the righteousness which is of faith;
31 but Israel, following after a law of righteousness, didn’t arrive at the law of righteousness.
32 Why? Because they didn’t seek it by faith, but as it were by works of the law. They stumbled over the stumbling stone,
33 even as it is written,
“Behold,§ I lay in Zion a stumbling stone
and a rock of offense;
and no one who believes in him will
be disappointed.”*

10

1 Brothers, my heart’s desire and my prayer to God is for Israel, that they may be saved.
2 For I testify about them that they have a zeal for God, but not according to knowledge.
3 For being ignorant of God’s righteousness, and seeking to establish their own righteousness, they didn’t subject themselves to the righteousness of God.
4 For Christ is the fulfillment† of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes.
5 For Moses writes about the righteousness of the law, “The one who does them will live by them.”*
6 But the righteousness which is of faith says this, “Don’t say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’* (that is, to bring Christ down);
7 or, ‘Who will descend into the abyss?’* (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead.)”
8 But what does it say? “The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart;”* that is, the word of faith which we preach:
9 that if you will confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.
10 For with the heart one believes resulting in righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made resulting in salvation.
11 For the Scripture says, “Whoever believes in him will not be disappointed.”*
12 For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, and is rich to all who call on him.
13 For, “Whoever will call on the name of the Lord will be saved.”*
14 How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? How will they believe in him whom they have not heard? How will they hear without a preacher?
15 And how will they preach unless they are sent? As it is written:
“How beautiful are the feet of those who
preach the Good News of peace,
who bring glad tidings of good
things!”*
16 But they didn’t all listen to the glad news. For Isaiah says, “Lord, who has believed our report?”*

* **9:26** Hosea 1:10 * **9:28** Isaiah 10:22-23 ‡ **9:29** Greek: Sabaoth (or Hebrew: Tze’va’ot) * **9:29** Isaiah 1:9 § **9:33** “Behold”, from “ἰδοὺ”, means look at, take notice, observe, see, or gaze at. It is often used as an interjection. * **9:33** Isaiah 8:14; 28:16 † **10:4** or, completion, or end * **10:5** Leviticus 18:5 * **10:6** Deuteronomy 30:12 * **10:7** Deuteronomy 30:13 * **10:8** Deuteronomy 30:14 * **10:11** Isaiah 28:16 * **10:13** Joel 2:32 * **10:15** Isaiah 52:7 * **10:16** Isaiah 53:1

17 So faith comes by hearing, and
hearing by the word of God.
18 But I say, didn't they hear? Yes, most
certainly,
"Their sound went out into all the earth,
their words to the ends of the world."*
19 But I ask, didn't Israel know? First
Moses says,
"I will provoke you to jealousy with that
which is no nation.
I will make you angry with a nation
void of understanding."*
20 Isaiah is very bold and says,
"I was found by those who didn't seek me.
I was revealed to those who didn't ask
for me."*
21 But about Israel he says, "All day long
I stretched out my hands to a disobedient
and contrary people."*

11

1 I ask then, did God reject his people?
May it never be! For I also am an Israelite,
a descendant of Abraham, of the tribe of
Benjamin.
2 God didn't reject his people, whom he
foreknew. Or don't you know what the
Scripture says about Elijah? How he
pleads with God against Israel:
3 "Lord, they have killed your prophets.
They have broken down your altars. I am
left alone, and they seek my life."*
4 But how does God answer him? "I have
reserved for myself seven thousand men
who have not bowed the knee to Baal."*
5 Even so too at this present time also
there is a remnant according to the
election of grace.
6 And if by grace, then it is no longer of
works; otherwise grace is no longer grace.
But if it is of works, it is no longer grace;
otherwise work is no longer work.
7 What then? That which Israel seeks
for, that he didn't obtain, but the chosen
ones obtained it, and the rest were
hardened.
8 According as it is written, "God gave
them a spirit of stupor, eyes that they
should not see, and ears that they should
not hear, to this very day." *
9 David says,
"Let their table be made a snare, a trap,
a stumbling block, and a retribution
to them.
10 Let their eyes be darkened, that they
may not see.
Always keep their backs bent."*
11 I ask then, did they stumble that they
might fall? May it never be! But by their
fall salvation has come to the Gentiles, to
provoke them to jealousy.
12 Now if their fall is the riches of the
world, and their loss the riches of the
Gentiles, how much more their fullness!
13 For I speak to you who are Gentiles.
Since then as I am an apostle to Gentiles, I
glorify my ministry,
14 if by any means I may provoke to
jealousy those who are my flesh, and may
save some of them.
15 For if the rejection of them is the
reconciling of the world, what would their
acceptance be, but life from the dead?
16 If the first fruit is holy, so is the lump.
If the root is holy, so are the branches.
17 But if some of the branches were
broken off, and you, being a wild olive,
were grafted in among them and became
partaker with them of the root and of the
richness of the olive tree,
18 don't boast over the branches. But if
you boast, remember that it is not you
who support the root, but the root
supports you.
19 You will say then, "Branches were
broken off, that I might be grafted in."
20 True; by their unbelief they were
broken off, and you stand by your faith.
Don't be conceited, but fear;
21 for if God didn't spare the natural
branches, neither will he spare you.
22 See then the goodness and severity of
God. Toward those who fell, severity; but
toward you, goodness, if you continue in
his goodness; otherwise you also will be
cut off.

* **10:18** Psalms 19:4 * **10:19** Deuteronomy 32:21 * **10:20** Isaiah 65:1 * **10:21** Isaiah 65:2 * **11:3** 1 Kings 19:10,14 * **11:4** 1 Kings 19:18 * **11:8** Deuteronomy 29:4; Isaiah 29:10 * **11:10** Psalms 69:22,23

23 They also, if they don't continue in
their unbelief, will be grafted in, for God
is able to graft them in again.
24 For if you were cut out of that which
is by nature a wild olive tree, and were
grafted contrary to nature into a good
olive tree, how much more will these,
which are the natural branches, be
grafted into their own olive tree?
25 For I don't desire you to be ignorant,
brothers,† of this mystery, so that you
won't be wise in your own conceits, that a
partial hardening has happened to Israel,
until the fullness of the Gentiles has come
in,
26 and so all Israel will be saved. Even as
it is written,
"There will come out of Zion the Deliverer,
and he will turn away ungodliness
from Jacob.
27 This is my covenant with them,
when I will take away their sins."*
28 Concerning the Good News, they are
enemies for your sake. But concerning the
election, they are beloved for the fathers'
sake.
29 For the gifts and the calling of God are
irrevocable.
30 For as you in time past were
disobedient to God, but now have
obtained mercy by their disobedience,
31 even so these also have now been
disobedient, that by the mercy shown to
you they may also obtain mercy.
32 For God has bound all to
disobedience, that he might have mercy
on all.
33 Oh the depth of the riches both of the
wisdom and the knowledge of God! How
unsearchable are his judgments, and his
ways past tracing out!
34 "For who has known the mind of the
Lord?
Or who has been his counselor?"*
35 "Or who has first given to him,
and it will be repaid to him again?"*
36 For of him and through him and to
him are all things. To him be the glory for
ever! Amen.

12

1 Therefore I urge you, brothers, by the
mercies of God, to present your bodies a
living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God,
which is your spiritual service.
2 Don't be conformed to this world, but
be transformed by the renewing of your
mind, so that you may prove what is the
good, well-pleasing, and perfect will of
God.
3 For I say through the grace that was
given me, to everyone who is among you,
not to think of yourself more highly than
you ought to think; but to think
reasonably, as God has apportioned to
each person a measure of faith.
4 For even as we have many members in
one body, and all the members don't have
the same function,
5 so we, who are many, are one body in
Christ, and individually members of one
another,
6 having gifts differing according to the
grace that was given to us: if prophecy,
let's prophesy according to the proportion
of our faith;
7 or service, let's give ourselves to
service; or he who teaches, to his teaching;
8 or he who exhorts, to his exhorting; he
who gives, let him do it with generosity;
he who rules, with diligence; he who
shows mercy, with cheerfulness.
9 Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor
that which is evil. Cling to that which is
good.
10 In love of the brothers be tenderly
affectionate to one another; in honor
prefer one another,
11 not lagging in diligence, fervent in
spirit, serving the Lord,
12 rejoicing in hope, enduring in
troubles, continuing steadfastly in prayer,
13 contributing to the needs of the
saints, and given to hospitality.
14 Bless those who persecute you; bless,
and don't curse.
15 Rejoice with those who rejoice. Weep
with those who weep.

† **11:25** The word for "brothers" here and where context allows may also be correctly translated "brothers and sisters" or "siblings." * **11:27** Isaiah 59:20-21; 27:9; Jeremiah 31:33-34 * **11:34** Isaiah 40:13 * **11:35** Job 41:11

16 Be of the same mind one toward
another. Don't set your mind on high
things, but associate with the humble.
Don't be wise in your own conceits.
17 Repay no one evil for evil. Respect
what is honorable in the sight of all men.
18 If it is possible, as much as it is up to
you, be at peace with all men.
19 Don't seek revenge yourselves,
beloved, but give place to God's wrath. For
it is written, "Vengeance belongs to me; I
will repay, says the Lord." *
20 Therefore
"If your enemy is hungry, feed him.
If he is thirsty, give him a drink;
for in doing so, you will heap coals of
fire on his head."*
21 Don't be overcome by evil, but
overcome evil with good.

13

1 Let every soul be in subjection to the
higher authorities, for there is no
authority except from God, and those who
exist are ordained by God.
2 Therefore he who resists the authority
withstands the ordinance of God; and
those who withstand will receive to
themselves judgment.
3 For rulers are not a terror to the good
work, but to the evil. Do you desire to
have no fear of the authority? Do that
which is good, and you will have praise
from the authority,
4 for he is a servant of God to you for
good. But if you do that which is evil, be
afraid, for he doesn't bear the sword in
vain; for he is a servant of God, an
avenger for wrath to him who does evil.
5 Therefore you need to be in
subjection, not only because of the wrath,
but also for conscience' sake.
6 For this reason you also pay taxes, for
they are servants of God's service,
continually doing this very thing.
7 Therefore give everyone what you
owe: if you owe taxes, pay taxes; if
customs, then customs; if respect, then
respect; if honor, then honor.
8 Owe no one anything, except to love
one another; for he who loves his
neighbor has fulfilled the law.
9 For the commandments, "You shall not
commit adultery," "You shall not murder,"
"You shall not steal,"† "You shall not
covet,"* and whatever other
commandments there are, are all
summed up in this saying, namely, "You
shall love your neighbor as yourself."*
10 Love doesn't harm a neighbor. Love
therefore is the fulfillment of the law.
11 Do this, knowing the time, that it is
already time for you to awaken out of
sleep, for salvation is now nearer to us
than when we first believed.
12 The night is far gone, and the day is
near. Let's therefore throw off the deeds
of darkness, and let's put on the armor of
light.
13 Let's walk properly, as in the day; not
in reveling and drunkenness, not in
sexual promiscuity and lustful acts, and
not in strife and jealousy.
14 But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and
make no provision for the flesh, for its
lusts.

14

1 Now accept one who is weak in faith,
but not for disputes over opinions.
2 One man has faith to eat all things, but
he who is weak eats only vegetables.
3 Don't let him who eats despise him
who doesn't eat. Don't let him who doesn't
eat judge him who eats, for God has
accepted him.
4 Who are you who judge another's
servant? To his own lord he stands or
falls. Yes, he will be made to stand, for
God has power to make him stand.
5 One man esteems one day as more
important. Another esteems every day
alike. Let each man be fully assured in his
own mind.
6 He who observes the day, observes it
to the Lord; and he who does not observe
the day, to the Lord he does not observe it.
He who eats, eats to the Lord, for he gives

* **12:19** Deuteronomy 32:35 * **12:20** Proverbs 25:21-22 † **13:9** TR adds "You shall not give false testimony,"
* **13:9** Exodus 20:13-15,17; Deuteronomy 5:17-19,21 * **13:9** Leviticus 19:18

God thanks. He who doesn't eat, to the
Lord he doesn't eat, and gives God thanks.
7 For none of us lives to himself, and
none dies to himself.
8 For if we live, we live to the Lord. Or if
we die, we die to the Lord. If therefore we
live or die, we are the Lord's.
9 For to this end Christ died, rose, and
lived again, that he might be Lord of both
the dead and the living.

10 But you, why do you judge your
brother? Or you again, why do you
despise your brother? For we will all
stand before the judgment seat of Christ.
11 For it is written,

" 'As I live,' says the Lord, 'to me every
knee will bow.
Every tongue will confess to God.' "*

12 So then each one of us will give
account of himself to God.

13 Therefore let's not judge one another
any more, but judge this rather, that no
man put a stumbling block in his brother's
way, or an occasion for falling.
14 I know and am persuaded in the Lord
Jesus that nothing is unclean of itself;
except that to him who considers
anything to be unclean, to him it is
unclean.
15 Yet if because of food your brother is
grieved, you walk no longer in love. Don't
destroy with your food him for whom
Christ died.
16 Then don't let your good be
slandered,
17 for God's Kingdom is not eating and
drinking, but righteousness, peace, and
joy in the Holy Spirit.
18 For he who serves Christ in these
things is acceptable to God and approved
by men.
19 So then, let's follow after things which
make for peace, and things by which we
may build one another up.
20 Don't overthrow God's work for
food's sake. All things indeed are clean,
however it is evil for that man who
creates a stumbling block by eating.
21 It is good to not eat meat, drink wine,
nor do anything by which your brother
stumbles, is offended, or is made weak.
22 Do you have faith? Have it to yourself
before God. Happy is he who doesn't
judge himself in that which he approves.
23 But he who doubts is condemned if he
eats, because it isn't of faith; and
whatever is not of faith is sin.
24 Now to him who is able to establish
you according to my Good News and the
preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the
revelation of the mystery which has been
kept secret through long ages,
25 but now is revealed, and by the
Scriptures of the prophets, according to
the commandment of the eternal God, is
made known for obedience of faith to all
the nations;
26 to the only wise God, through Jesus
Christ, to whom be the glory forever!
Amen.†

15

1 Now we who are strong ought to bear
the weaknesses of the weak, and not to
please ourselves.
2 Let each one of us please his neighbor
for that which is good, to be building him
up.
3 For even Christ didn't please himself.
But, as it is written, "The reproaches of
those who reproached you fell on me."*
4 For whatever things were written
before were written for our learning, that
through perseverance and through
encouragement of the Scriptures we
might have hope.
5 Now the God of perseverance and of
encouragement grant you to be of the
same mind with one another according to
Christ Jesus,
6 that with one accord you may with one
mouth glorify the God and Father of our
Lord Jesus Christ.
7 Therefore accept one another, even as
Christ also accepted you,† to the glory of
God.
8 Now I say that Christ has been made a
servant of the circumcision for the truth

* **14:11** Isaiah 45:23 † **14:26** TR places verses 24-26 after Romans 16:24 as verses 25-27. * **15:3** Psalms 69:9
† **15:7** TR reads "us" instead of "you"

of God, that he might confirm the
promises given to the fathers,
9 and that the Gentiles might glorify God
for his mercy. As it is written,
"Therefore I will give praise to you among
the Gentiles
and sing to your name."*
10 Again he says,
"Rejoice, you Gentiles, with his people."*
11 Again,
"Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles!
Let all the peoples praise him."*
12 Again, Isaiah says,
"There will be the root of Jesse,
he who arises to rule over the
Gentiles;
in him the Gentiles will hope."*
13 Now may the God of hope fill you
with all joy and peace in believing, that
you may abound in hope in the power of
the Holy Spirit.
14 I myself am also persuaded about
you, my brothers,‡ that you yourselves are
full of goodness, filled with all knowledge,
able also to admonish others.
15 But I write the more boldly to you in
part as reminding you, because of the
grace that was given to me by God,
16 that I should be a servant of Christ
Jesus to the Gentiles, serving as a priest of
the Good News of God, that the offering
up of the Gentiles might be made
acceptable, sanctified by the Holy Spirit.
17 I have therefore my boasting in Christ
Jesus in things pertaining to God.
18 For I will not dare to speak of any
things except those which Christ worked
through me for the obedience of the
Gentiles, by word and deed,
19 in the power of signs and wonders, in
the power of God's Spirit; so that from
Jerusalem and around as far as to
Illyricum, I have fully preached the Good
News of Christ;
20 yes, making it my aim to preach the
Good News, not where Christ was already
named, that I might not build on another's
foundation.
21 But, as it is written,
"They will see, to whom no news of him
came.
They who haven't heard will
understand."*
22 Therefore also I was hindered these
many times from coming to you,
23 but now, no longer having any place
in these regions, and having these many
years a longing to come to you,
24 whenever I travel to Spain, I will
come to you. For I hope to see you on my
journey, and to be helped on my way
there by you, if first I may enjoy your
company for a while.
25 But now, I say, I am going to
Jerusalem, serving the saints.
26 For it has been the good pleasure of
Macedonia and Achaia to make a certain
contribution for the poor among the
saints who are at Jerusalem.
27 Yes, it has been their good pleasure,
and they are their debtors. For if the
Gentiles have been made partakers of
their spiritual things, they owe it to them
also to serve them in material things.
28 When therefore I have accomplished
this, and have sealed to them this fruit, I
will go on by way of you to Spain.
29 I know that when I come to you, I will
come in the fullness of the blessing of the
Good News of Christ.
30 Now I beg you, brothers, by our Lord
Jesus Christ and by the love of the Spirit,
that you strive together with me in your
prayers to God for me,
31 that I may be delivered from those
who are disobedient in Judea, and that my
service which I have for Jerusalem may
be acceptable to the saints,
32 that I may come to you in joy through
the will of God, and together with you,
find rest.
33 Now the God of peace be with you all.
Amen.

* **15:9** 2 Samuel 22:50; Psalms 18:49 * **15:10** Deuteronomy 32:43 * **15:11** Psalms 117:1 * **15:12** Isaiah 11:10 ‡ **15:14** The word for "brothers" here and where context allows may also be correctly translated "brothers and sisters" or "siblings." * **15:21** Isaiah 52:15 † **16:1** or, deacon

16

1 I commend to you Phoebe, our sister,
who is a servant† of the assembly that is at
Cenchreae,
2 that you receive her in the Lord in a
way worthy of the saints, and that you
assist her in whatever matter she may
need from you, for she herself also has
been a helper of many, and of my own
self.
3 Greet Prisca and Aquila, my fellow
workers in Christ Jesus,
4 who risked their own necks for my life,
to whom not only I give thanks, but also
all the assemblies of the Gentiles.
5 Greet the assembly that is in their
house. Greet Epaenetus, my beloved, who
is the first fruits of Achaia to Christ.
6 Greet Mary, who labored much for us.
7 Greet Andronicus and Junia, my
relatives and my fellow prisoners, who
are notable among the apostles, who were
also in Christ before me.
8 Greet Amplias, my beloved in the Lord.
9 Greet Urbanus, our fellow worker in
Christ, and Stachys, my beloved.
10 Greet Apelles, the approved in Christ.
Greet those who are of the household of
Aristobulus.
11 Greet Herodion, my kinsman. Greet
them of the household of Narcissus, who
are in the Lord.
12 Greet Tryphaena and Tryphosa, who
labor in the Lord. Greet Persis, the
beloved, who labored much in the Lord.
13 Greet Rufus, the chosen in the Lord,
and his mother and mine.
14 Greet Asyncritus, Phlegon, Hermes,
Patrobas, Hermas, and the brothers‡ who
are with them.
15 Greet Philologus and Julia, Nereus
and his sister, and Olympas, and all the
saints who are with them.
16 Greet one another with a holy kiss.
The assemblies of Christ greet you.
17 Now I beg you, brothers, look out for
those who are causing the divisions and
occasions of stumbling, contrary to the
doctrine which you learned, and turn
away from them.
18 For those who are such don't serve
our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly;
and by their smooth and flattering speech
they deceive the hearts of the innocent.
19 For your obedience has become
known to all. I rejoice therefore over you.
But I desire to have you wise in that which
is good, but innocent in that which is evil.
20 And the God of peace will quickly
crush Satan under your feet.
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be
with you.
21 Timothy, my fellow worker, greets
you, as do Lucius, Jason, and Sosipater,
my relatives.
22 I, Tertius, who write the letter, greet
you in the Lord.
23 Gaius, my host and host of the whole
assembly, greets you. Erastus, the
treasurer of the city, greets you, as does
Quartus, the brother.
24 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be
with you all! Amen.
25 §

‡ **16:14** The word for "brothers" here and where context allows may also be correctly translated "brothers and sisters" or "siblings." § **16:25** TR places Romans 14:24-26 at the end of Romans instead of at the end of chapter 14, and numbers these verses 16:25-27.

Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians

1 Paul, called to be an apostle of Jesus Christ† through the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes,
2 to the assembly of God which is at Corinth—those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called saints, with all who call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ in every place, both theirs and ours:
3 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
4 I always thank my God concerning you for the grace of God which was given you in Christ Jesus,
5 that in everything you were enriched in him, in all speech and all knowledge—
6 even as the testimony of Christ was confirmed in you—
7 so that you come behind in no gift, waiting for the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ,
8 who will also confirm you until the end, blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.
9 God is faithful, through whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
10 Now I beg you, brothers,‡ through the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ, that you all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfected together in the same mind and in the same judgment.
11 For it has been reported to me concerning you, my brothers, by those who are from Chloe's household, that there are contentions among you.
12 Now I mean this, that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," "I follow Apollos," "I follow Cephas," and, "I follow Christ."
13 Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized into the name of Paul?
14 I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius,
15 so that no one should say that I had baptized you into my own name.
16 (I also baptized the household of Stephanas; besides them, I don't know whether I baptized any other.)
17 For Christ sent me not to baptize, but to preach the Good News—not in wisdom of words, so that the cross of Christ wouldn't be made void.
18 For the word of the cross is foolishness to those who are dying, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.
19 For it is written,
"I will destroy the wisdom of the wise.
I will bring the discernment of the discerning to nothing."*
20 Where is the wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Hasn't God made foolish the wisdom of this world?
21 For seeing that in the wisdom of God, the world through its wisdom didn't know God, it was God's good pleasure through the foolishness of the preaching to save those who believe.
22 For Jews ask for signs, Greeks seek after wisdom,
23 but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Greeks,
24 but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ is the power of God and the wisdom of God;
25 because the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.
26 For you see your calling, brothers, that not many are wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, and not many noble;
27 but God chose the foolish things of the world that he might put to shame those who are wise. God chose the weak things of the world that he might put to shame the things that are strong.
28 God chose the lowly things of the world, and the things that are despised, and the things that don't exist, that he

† **1:1** "Christ" means "Anointed One". ‡ **1:10** The word for "brothers" here and where context allows may also be correctly translated "brothers and sisters" or "siblings." * **1:19** Isaiah 29:14

might bring to nothing the things that exist,
29 that no flesh should boast before God.
30 Because of him, you are in Christ Jesus, who was made to us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification, and redemption,
31 that, as it is written, "He who boasts, let him boast in the Lord."*

2

1 When I came to you, brothers, I didn't come with excellence of speech or of wisdom, proclaiming to you the testimony of God.
2 For I determined not to know anything among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified.
3 I was with you in weakness, in fear, and in much trembling.
4 My speech and my preaching were not in persuasive words of human wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power,
5 that your faith wouldn't stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God.
6 We speak wisdom, however, among those who are full grown, yet a wisdom not of this world nor of the rulers of this world who are coming to nothing.
7 But we speak God's wisdom in a mystery, the wisdom that has been hidden, which God foreordained before the worlds for our glory,
8 which none of the rulers of this world has known. For had they known it, they wouldn't have crucified the Lord of glory.
9 But as it is written,
"Things which an eye didn't see, and an
ear didn't hear,
which didn't enter into the heart of
man,
these God has prepared for those who
love him."*
10 But to us, God revealed them through the Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God.
11 For who among men knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so, no one knows the things of God except God's Spirit.
12 But we received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit which is from God, that we might know the things that were freely given to us by God.
13 We also speak these things, not in words which man's wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual things.
14 Now the natural man doesn't receive the things of God's Spirit, for they are foolishness to him; and he can't know them, because they are spiritually discerned.
15 But he who is spiritual discerns all things, and he himself is to be judged by no one.
16 "For who has known the mind of the Lord that he should instruct him?"* But we have Christ's mind.

3

1 Brothers, I couldn't speak to you as to spiritual, but as to fleshly, as to babies in Christ.
2 I fed you with milk, not with solid food, for you weren't yet ready. Indeed, you aren't ready even now,
3 for you are still fleshly. For insofar as there is jealousy, strife, and factions among you, aren't you fleshly, and don't you walk in the ways of men?
4 For when one says, "I follow Paul," and another, "I follow Apollos," aren't you fleshly?
5 Who then is Apollos, and who is Paul, but servants through whom you believed, and each as the Lord gave to him?
6 I planted. Apollos watered. But God gave the increase.
7 So then neither he who plants is anything, nor he who waters, but God who gives the increase.
8 Now he who plants and he who waters are the same, but each will receive his own reward according to his own labor.
9 For we are God's fellow workers. You are God's farming, God's building.
10 According to the grace of God which was given to me, as a wise master builder I laid a foundation, and another builds on

* **1:31** Jeremiah 9:24 * **2:9** Isaiah 64:4 * **2:16** Isaiah 40:13

it. But let each man be careful how he builds on it.
11 For no one can lay any other foundation than that which has been laid, which is Jesus Christ.
12 But if anyone builds on the foundation with gold, silver, costly stones, wood, hay, or straw,
13 each man's work will be revealed. For the Day will declare it, because it is revealed in fire; and the fire itself will test what sort of work each man's work is.
14 If any man's work remains which he built on it, he will receive a reward.
15 If any man's work is burned, he will suffer loss, but he himself will be saved, but as through fire.
16 Don't you know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit lives in you?
17 If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy him; for God's temple is holy, which you are.
18 Let no one deceive himself. If anyone thinks that he is wise among you in this world, let him become a fool that he may become wise.
19 For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God. For it is written, "He has taken the wise in their craftiness."*
20 And again, "The Lord knows the reasoning of the wise, that it is worthless."*
21 Therefore let no one boast in men. For all things are yours,
22 whether Paul, or Apollos, or Cephas, or the world, or life, or death, or things present, or things to come. All are yours,
23 and you are Christ's, and Christ is God's.

4

1 So let a man think of us as Christ's servants and stewards of God's mysteries.
2 Here, moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found faithful.
3 But with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged by you, or by a human court. Yes, I don't even judge my own self.
4 For I know nothing against myself. Yet I am not justified by this, but he who judges me is the Lord.
5 Therefore judge nothing before the time, until the Lord comes, who will both bring to light the hidden things of darkness and reveal the counsels of the hearts. Then each man will get his praise from God.
6 Now these things, brothers, I have in a figure transferred to myself and Apollos for your sakes, that in us you might learn not to think beyond the things which are written, that none of you be puffed up against one another.
7 For who makes you different? And what do you have that you didn't receive? But if you did receive it, why do you boast as if you had not received it?
8 You are already filled. You have already become rich. You have come to reign without us. Yes, and I wish that you did reign, that we also might reign with you!
9 For I think that God has displayed us, the apostles, last of all, like men sentenced to death. For we are made a spectacle to the world, both to angels and men.
10 We are fools for Christ's sake, but you are wise in Christ. We are weak, but you are strong. You have honor, but we have dishonor.
11 Even to this present hour we hunger, thirst, are naked, are beaten, and have no certain dwelling place.
12 We toil, working with our own hands. When people curse us, we bless. Being persecuted, we endure.
13 Being defamed, we entreat. We are made as the filth of the world, the dirt wiped off by all, even until now.
14 I don't write these things to shame you, but to admonish you as my beloved children.
15 For though you have ten thousand tutors in Christ, you don't have many fathers. For in Christ Jesus, I became your father through the Good News.
16 I beg you therefore, be imitators of me.
17 Because of this I have sent Timothy to you, who is my beloved and faithful child in the Lord, who will remind you of my

* **3:19** Job 5:13 * **3:20** Psalms 94:11

ways which are in Christ, even as I teach everywhere in every assembly.
18 Now some are puffed up, as though I were not coming to you.
19 But I will come to you shortly, if the Lord is willing. And I will know, not the word of those who are puffed up, but the power.
20 For God's Kingdom is not in word, but in power.
21 What do you want? Shall I come to you with a rod, or in love and a spirit of gentleness?

5

1 It is actually reported that there is sexual immorality among you, and such sexual immorality as is not even named among the Gentiles, that one has his father's wife.
2 You are arrogant, and didn't mourn instead, that he who had done this deed might be removed from among you.
3 For I most certainly, as being absent in body but present in spirit, have already, as though I were present, judged him who has done this thing.
4 In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, when you are gathered together with my spirit with the power of our Lord Jesus Christ,
5 you are to deliver such a one to Satan for the destruction of the flesh, that the spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus.
6 Your boasting is not good. Don't you know that a little yeast leavens the whole lump?
7 Purge out the old yeast, that you may be a new lump, even as you are unleavened. For indeed Christ, our Passover, has been sacrificed in our place.
8 Therefore let's keep the feast, not with old yeast, neither with the yeast of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.
9 I wrote to you in my letter to have no company with sexual sinners;
10 yet not at all meaning with the sexual sinners of this world, or with the covetous and extortionists, or with idolaters, for then you would have to leave the world.
11 But as it is, I wrote to you not to associate with anyone who is called a brother who is a sexual sinner, or covetous, or an idolater, or a slanderer, or a drunkard, or an extortionist. Don't even eat with such a person.
12 For what do I have to do with also judging those who are outside? Don't you judge those who are within?
13 But those who are outside, God judges. "Put away the wicked man from among yourselves."*

6

1 Dare any of you, having a matter against his neighbor, go to law before the unrighteous, and not before the saints?
2 Don't you know that the saints will judge the world? And if the world is judged by you, are you unworthy to judge the smallest matters?
3 Don't you know that we will judge angels? How much more, things that pertain to this life?
4 If then you have to judge things pertaining to this life, do you set them to judge who are of no account in the assembly?
5 I say this to move you to shame. Isn't there even one wise man among you who would be able to decide between his brothers?
6 But brother goes to law with brother, and that before unbelievers!
7 Therefore it is already altogether a defect in you that you have lawsuits one with another. Why not rather be wronged? Why not rather be defrauded?
8 No, but you yourselves do wrong and defraud, and that against your brothers.

9 Or don't you know that the unrighteous will not inherit God's Kingdom? Don't be deceived. Neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor male prostitutes, nor homosexuals,

* **5:13** Deuteronomy 17:7; 19:19; 21:21; 22:21; 24:7

10 nor thieves, nor covetous, nor
drunkards, nor slanderers, nor
extortionists, will inherit God's Kingdom.
11 Some of you were such, but you were
washed. You were sanctified. You were
justified in the name of the Lord Jesus,
and in the Spirit of our God.
12 "All things are lawful for me," but not
all things are expedient. "All things are
lawful for me," but I will not be brought
under the power of anything.
13 "Foods for the belly, and the belly for
foods," but God will bring to nothing both
it and them. But the body is not for sexual
immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord
for the body.
14 Now God raised up the Lord, and will
also raise us up by his power.
15 Don't you know that your bodies are
members of Christ? Shall I then take the
members of Christ and make them
members of a prostitute? May it never be!
16 Or don't you know that he who is
joined to a prostitute is one body? For,
"The two", he says, "will become one
flesh."*
17 But he who is joined to the Lord is one
spirit.
18 Flee sexual immorality! "Every sin
that a man does is outside the body," but
he who commits sexual immorality sins
against his own body.
19 Or don't you know that your body is a
temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you,
whom you have from God? You are not
your own,
20 for you were bought with a price.
Therefore glorify God in your body and in
your spirit, which are God's.

7

1 Now concerning the things about
which you wrote to me: it is good for a
man not to touch a woman.
2 But, because of sexual immoralities,
let each man have his own wife, and let
each woman have her own husband.
3 Let the husband give his wife the
affection owed her,† and likewise also the
wife her husband.
4 The wife doesn't have authority over
her own body, but the husband does.
Likewise also the husband doesn't have
authority over his own body, but the wife
does.
5 Don't deprive one another, unless it is
by consent for a season, that you may give
yourselves to fasting and prayer, and may
be together again, that Satan doesn't
tempt you because of your lack of
self-control.
6 But this I say by way of concession, not
of commandment.
7 Yet I wish that all men were like me.
However, each man has his own gift from
God, one of this kind, and another of that
kind.
8 But I say to the unmarried and to
widows, it is good for them if they remain
even as I am.
9 But if they don't have self-control, let
them marry. For it's better to marry than
to burn with passion.
10 But to the married I command—not I,
but the Lord—that the wife not leave her
husband
11 (but if she departs, let her remain
unmarried, or else be reconciled to her
husband), and that the husband not leave
his wife.
12 But to the rest I—not the Lord—say, if
any brother has an unbelieving wife, and
she is content to live with him, let him not
leave her.
13 The woman who has an unbelieving
husband, and he is content to live with
her, let her not leave her husband.
14 For the unbelieving husband is
sanctified in the wife, and the unbelieving
wife is sanctified in the husband.
Otherwise your children would be
unclean, but now they are holy.
15 Yet if the unbeliever departs, let there
be separation. The brother or the sister is
not under bondage in such cases, but God
has called us in peace.
16 For how do you know, wife, whether
you will save your husband? Or how do
you know, husband, whether you will
save your wife?

* **6:16** Genesis 2:24 † **7:3** NU and TR have "what is owed her" instead of "the affection owed her".

17 Only, as the Lord has distributed to each man, as God has called each, so let him walk. So I command in all the assemblies.
18 Was anyone called having been circumcised? Let him not become uncircumcised. Has anyone been called in uncircumcision? Let him not be circumcised.
19 Circumcision is nothing, and uncircumcision is nothing, but what matters is keeping God's commandments.
20 Let each man stay in that calling in which he was called.
21 Were you called being a bondservant? Don't let that bother you, but if you get an opportunity to become free, use it.
22 For he who was called in the Lord being a bondservant is the Lord's free man. Likewise he who was called being free is Christ's bondservant.
23 You were bought with a price. Don't become bondservants of men.
24 Brothers, let each man, in whatever condition he was called, stay in that condition with God.
25 Now concerning virgins, I have no commandment from the Lord, but I give my judgment as one who has obtained mercy from the Lord to be trustworthy.
26 Therefore I think that because of the distress that is on us, it's good for a man to remain as he is.
27 Are you bound to a wife? Don't seek to be freed. Are you free from a wife? Don't seek a wife.
28 But if you marry, you have not sinned. If a virgin marries, she has not sinned. Yet such will have oppression in the flesh, and I want to spare you.
29 But I say this, brothers: the time is short. From now on, both those who have wives may be as though they had none;
30 and those who weep, as though they didn't weep; and those who rejoice, as though they didn't rejoice; and those who buy, as though they didn't possess;
31 and those who use the world, as not using it to the fullest. For the mode of this world passes away.
32 But I desire to have you to be free from cares. He who is unmarried is concerned for the things of the Lord, how he may please the Lord;
33 but he who is married is concerned about the things of the world, how he may please his wife.
34 There is also a difference between a wife and a virgin. The unmarried woman cares about the things of the Lord, that she may be holy both in body and in spirit. But she who is married cares about the things of the world—how she may please her husband.
35 This I say for your own benefit, not that I may ensnare you, but for that which is appropriate, and that you may attend to the Lord without distraction.
36 But if any man thinks that he is behaving inappropriately toward his virgin, if she is past the flower of her age, and if need so requires, let him do what he desires. He doesn't sin. Let them marry.
37 But he who stands steadfast in his heart, having no urgency, but has power over his own will, and has determined in his own heart to keep his own virgin, does well.
38 So then both he who gives his own virgin in marriage does well, and he who doesn't give her in marriage does better.
39 A wife is bound by law for as long as her husband lives; but if the husband is dead, she is free to be married to whomever she desires, only in the Lord.
40 But she is happier if she stays as she is, in my judgment, and I think that I also have God's Spirit.

8

1 Now concerning things sacrificed to idols: We know that we all have knowledge. Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up.
2 But if anyone thinks that he knows anything, he doesn't yet know as he ought to know.
3 But anyone who loves God is known by him.
4 Therefore concerning the eating of things sacrificed to idols, we know that no idol is anything in the world, and that there is no other God but one.
5 For though there are things that are called "gods", whether in the heavens or

on earth—as there are many “gods” and many “lords”—
6 yet to us there is one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we for him; and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things, and we live through him.
7 However, that knowledge isn’t in all men. But some, with consciousness of an idol until now, eat as of a thing sacrificed to an idol, and their conscience, being weak, is defiled.
8 But food will not commend us to God. For neither, if we don’t eat are we the worse, nor if we eat are we the better.
9 But be careful that by no means does this liberty of yours become a stumbling block to the weak.
10 For if a man sees you who have knowledge sitting in an idol’s temple, won’t his conscience, if he is weak, be emboldened to eat things sacrificed to idols?
11 And through your knowledge, he who is weak perishes, the brother for whose sake Christ died.
12 Thus, sinning against the brothers, and wounding their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ.
13 Therefore, if food causes my brother to stumble, I will eat no meat forever more, that I don’t cause my brother to stumble.

9

1 Am I not free? Am I not an apostle? Haven’t I seen Jesus Christ, our Lord? Aren’t you my work in the Lord?
2 If to others I am not an apostle, yet at least I am to you; for you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord.
3 My defense to those who examine me is this:
4 Have we no right to eat and to drink?
5 Have we no right to take along a wife who is a believer, even as the rest of the apostles, and the brothers of the Lord, and Cephas?
6 Or have only Barnabas and I no right to not work?
7 What soldier ever serves at his own expense? Who plants a vineyard, and doesn’t eat of its fruit? Or who feeds a flock, and doesn’t drink from the flock’s milk?
8 Do I speak these things according to the ways of men? Or doesn’t the law also say the same thing?
9 For it is written in the law of Moses, “You shall not muzzle an ox while it treads out the grain.”* Is it for the oxen that God cares,
10 or does he say it assuredly for our sake? Yes, it was written for our sake, because he who plows ought to plow in hope, and he who threshes in hope should partake of his hope.
11 If we sowed to you spiritual things, is it a great thing if we reap your fleshly things?
12 If others partake of this right over you, don’t we yet more?

Nevertheless we didn’t use this right, but we bear all things, that we may cause no hindrance to the Good News of Christ.
13 Don’t you know that those who serve around sacred things eat from the things of the temple, and those who wait on the altar have their portion with the altar?
14 Even so the Lord ordained that those who proclaim the Good News should live from the Good News.
15 But I have used none of these things, and I don’t write these things that it may be done so in my case; for I would rather die, than that anyone should make my boasting void.
16 For if I preach the Good News, I have nothing to boast about, for necessity is laid on me; but woe is to me if I don’t preach the Good News.
17 For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward. But if not of my own will, I have a stewardship entrusted to me.
18 What then is my reward? That when I preach the Good News, I may present the Good News of Christ without charge, so as not to abuse my authority in the Good News.
19 For though I was free from all, I brought myself under bondage to all, that I might gain the more.

* **9:9** Deuteronomy 25:4

20 To the Jews I became as a Jew, that I might gain Jews; to those who are under the law, as under the law,† that I might gain those who are under the law;
21 to those who are without law, as without law (not being without law toward God, but under law toward Christ), that I might win those who are without law.
22 To the weak I became as weak, that I might gain the weak. I have become all things to all men, that I may by all means save some.
23 Now I do this for the sake of the Good News, that I may be a joint partaker of it.
24 Don't you know that those who run in a race all run, but one receives the prize? Run like that, so that you may win.
25 Every man who strives in the games exercises self-control in all things. Now they do it to receive a corruptible crown, but we an incorruptible.
26 I therefore run like that, not aimlessly. I fight like that, not beating the air,
27 but I beat my body and bring it into submission, lest by any means, after I have preached to others, I myself should be disqualified.

10

1 Now I would not have you ignorant, brothers, that our fathers were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea;
2 and were all baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea;
3 and all ate the same spiritual food;
4 and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank of a spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ.
5 However with most of them, God was not well pleased, for they were overthrown in the wilderness.
6 Now these things were our examples, to the intent we should not lust after evil things as they also lusted.
7 Don't be idolaters, as some of them were. As it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play."*
8 Let's not commit sexual immorality, as some of them committed, and in one day twenty-three thousand fell.
9 Let's not test Christ,† as some of them tested, and perished by the serpents.
10 Don't grumble, as some of them also grumbled, and perished by the destroyer.
11 Now all these things happened to them by way of example, and they were written for our admonition, on whom the ends of the ages have come.
12 Therefore let him who thinks he stands be careful that he doesn't fall.
13 No temptation has taken you except what is common to man. God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted above what you are able, but will with the temptation also make the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.
14 Therefore, my beloved, flee from idolatry.
15 I speak as to wise men. Judge what I say.
16 The cup of blessing which we bless, isn't it a sharing of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, isn't it a sharing of the body of Christ?
17 Because there is one loaf of bread, we, who are many, are one body; for we all partake of the one loaf of bread.
18 Consider Israel according to the flesh. Don't those who eat the sacrifices participate in the altar?
19 What am I saying then? That a thing sacrificed to idols is anything, or that an idol is anything?
20 But I say that the things which the Gentiles sacrifice, they sacrifice to demons and not to God, and I don't desire that you would have fellowship with demons.
21 You can't both drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons. You can't both partake of the table of the Lord and of the table of demons.
22 Or do we provoke the Lord to jealousy? Are we stronger than he?
23 "All things are lawful for me," but not all things are profitable. "All things are lawful for me," but not all things build up.

† **9:20** NU adds: though I myself am not under the law of "Christ".

* **10:7** Exodus 32:6 † **10:9** NU reads "the Lord" instead

24 Let no one seek his own, but each one
his neighbor's good.
25 Whatever is sold in the butcher shop,
eat, asking no question for the sake of
conscience,
26 for "the earth is the Lord's, and its
fullness."*
27 But if one of those who don't believe
invites you to a meal, and you are inclined
to go, eat whatever is set before you,
asking no questions for the sake of
conscience.
28 But if anyone says to you, "This was
offered to idols," don't eat it for the sake of
the one who told you, and for the sake of
conscience. For "the earth is the Lord's,
with all its fullness."
29 Conscience, I say, not your own, but
the other's conscience. For why is my
liberty judged by another conscience?
30 If I partake with thankfulness, why
am I denounced for something I give
thanks for?
31 Whether therefore you eat or drink,
or whatever you do, do all to the glory of
God.
32 Give no occasion for stumbling,
whether to Jews, to Greeks, or to the
assembly of God;
33 even as I also please all men in all
things, not seeking my own profit, but the
profit of the many, that they may be saved.

11

1 Be imitators of me, even as I also am of
Christ.
2 Now I praise you, brothers, that you
remember me in all things, and hold firm
the traditions, even as I delivered them to
you.
3 But I would have you know that the
head† of every man is Christ, and the
head‡ of the woman is man, and the head§
of Christ is God.
4 Every man praying or prophesying,
having his head covered, dishonors his
head.
5 But every woman praying or
prophesying with her head uncovered
dishonors her head. For it is one and the
same thing as if she were shaved.
6 For if a woman is not covered, let her
hair also be cut off. But if it is shameful for
a woman to have her hair cut off or be
shaved, let her be covered.
7 For a man indeed ought not to have his
head covered, because he is the image and
glory of God, but the woman is the glory of
the man.
8 For man is not from woman, but
woman from man;
9 for man wasn't created for the woman,
but woman for the man.
10 For this cause the woman ought to
have authority over her own head,
because of the angels.
11 Nevertheless, neither is the woman
independent of the man, nor the man
independent of the woman, in the Lord.
12 For as woman came from man, so a
man also comes through a woman; but all
things are from God.
13 Judge for yourselves. Is it appropriate
that a woman pray to God unveiled?
14 Doesn't even nature itself teach you
that if a man has long hair, it is a dishonor
to him?
15 But if a woman has long hair, it is a
glory to her, for her hair is given to her for
a covering.
16 But if any man seems to be
contentious, we have no such custom,
neither do God's assemblies.
17 But in giving you this command I
don't praise you, because you come
together not for the better but for the
worse.
18 For first of all, when you come
together in the assembly, I hear that
divisions exist among you, and I partly
believe it.
19 For there also must be factions among
you, that those who are approved may be
revealed among you.
20 When therefore you assemble
yourselves together, it is not the Lord's
supper that you eat.
21 For in your eating each one takes his
own supper first. One is hungry, and
another is drunken.
22 What, don't you have houses to eat
and to drink in? Or do you despise God's

* **10:26** Psalms 24:1 † **11:3** or, origin ‡ **11:3** or, origin § **11:3** or, origin

assembly and put them to shame who
don't have enough? What shall I tell you?
Shall I praise you? In this I don't praise
you.
23 For I received from the Lord that
which also I delivered to you, that the
Lord Jesus on the night in which he was
betrayed took bread.
24 When he had given thanks, he broke
it and said, "Take, eat. This is my body,
which is broken for you. Do this in
memory of me."
25 In the same way he also took the cup
after supper, saying, "This cup is the new
covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as
you drink, in memory of me."
26 For as often as you eat this bread and
drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's
death until he comes.
27 Therefore whoever eats this bread or
drinks the Lord's cup in a way unworthy
of the Lord will be guilty of the body and
the blood of the Lord.
28 But let a man examine himself, and so
let him eat of the bread and drink of the
cup.
29 For he who eats and drinks in an
unworthy way eats and drinks judgment
to himself if he doesn't discern the Lord's
body.
30 For this cause many among you are
weak and sickly, and not a few sleep.
31 For if we discerned ourselves, we
wouldn't be judged.
32 But when we are judged, we are
disciplined by the Lord, that we may not
be condemned with the world.
33 Therefore, my brothers, when you
come together to eat, wait for one another.
34 But if anyone is hungry, let him eat at
home, lest your coming together be for
judgment. The rest I will set in order
whenever I come.

12

1 Now concerning spiritual things,
brothers, I don't want you to be ignorant.
2 You know that when you were
heathen,† you were led away to those
mute idols, however you might be led.
3 Therefore I make known to you that
no man speaking by God's Spirit says,
"Jesus is accursed." No one can say, "Jesus
is Lord," but by the Holy Spirit.

4 Now there are various kinds of gifts,
but the same Spirit.
5 There are various kinds of service, and
the same Lord.
6 There are various kinds of workings,
but the same God who works all things in
all.
7 But to each one is given the
manifestation of the Spirit for the profit of
all.
8 For to one is given through the Spirit
the word of wisdom, and to another the
word of knowledge according to the same
Spirit,
9 to another faith by the same Spirit, and
to another gifts of healings by the same
Spirit,
10 and to another workings of miracles,
and to another prophecy, and to another
discerning of spirits, to another different
kinds of languages, and to another the
interpretation of languages.
11 But the one and the same Spirit
produces all of these, distributing to each
one separately as he desires.

12 For as the body is one and has many
members, and all the members of the
body, being many, are one body; so also is
Christ.
13 For in one Spirit we were all baptized
into one body, whether Jews or Greeks,
whether bond or free; and were all given
to drink into one Spirit.

14 For the body is not one member, but
many.
15 If the foot would say, "Because I'm not
the hand, I'm not part of the body," it is
not therefore not part of the body.
16 If the ear would say, "Because I'm not
the eye, I'm not part of the body," it's not
therefore not part of the body.
17 If the whole body were an eye, where
would the hearing be? If the whole were
hearing, where would the smelling be?

† **12:2** or Gentiles

18 But now God has set the members,
each one of them, in the body, just as he
desired.
19 If they were all one member, where
would the body be?
20 But now they are many members, but
one body.
21 The eye can't tell the hand, "I have no
need for you," or again the head to the
feet, "I have no need for you."
22 No, much rather, those members of
the body which seem to be weaker are
necessary.
23 Those parts of the body which we
think to be less honorable, on those we
bestow more abundant honor; and our
unpresentable parts have more abundant
modesty,
24 while our presentable parts have no
such need. But God composed the body
together, giving more abundant honor to
the inferior part,
25 that there should be no division in the
body, but that the members should have
the same care for one another.
26 When one member suffers, all the
members suffer with it. When one
member is honored, all the members
rejoice with it.
27 Now you are the body of Christ, and
members individually.
28 God has set some in the assembly:
first apostles, second prophets, third
teachers, then miracle workers, then gifts
of healings, helps, governments, and
various kinds of languages.
29 Are all apostles? Are all prophets?
Are all teachers? Are all miracle workers?
30 Do all have gifts of healings? Do all
speak with various languages? Do all
interpret?
31 But earnestly desire the best gifts.
Moreover, I show a most excellent way to
you.

13

1 If I speak with the languages of men
and of angels, but don't have love, I have
become sounding brass or a clanging
cymbal.
2 If I have the gift of prophecy, and know
all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I
have all faith, so as to remove mountains,
but don't have love, I am nothing.
3 If I give away all my goods to feed the
poor, and if I give my body to be burned,
but don't have love, it profits me nothing.
4 Love is patient and is kind. Love
doesn't envy. Love doesn't brag, is not
proud,
5 doesn't behave itself inappropriately,
doesn't seek its own way, is not provoked,
takes no account of evil;
6 doesn't rejoice in unrighteousness, but
rejoices with the truth;
7 bears all things, believes all things,
hopes all things, and endures all things.
8 Love never fails. But where there are
prophecies, they will be done away with.
Where there are various languages, they
will cease. Where there is knowledge, it
will be done away with.
9 For we know in part and we prophesy
in part;
10 but when that which is complete has
come, then that which is partial will be
done away with.
11 When I was a child, I spoke as a child,
I felt as a child, I thought as a child. Now
that I have become a man, I have put
away childish things.
12 For now we see in a mirror, dimly,
but then face to face. Now I know in part,
but then I will know fully, even as I was
also fully known.
13 But now faith, hope, and love
remain—these three. The greatest of these
is love.

14

1 Follow after love and earnestly desire
spiritual gifts, but especially that you may
prophesy.
2 For he who speaks in another
language speaks not to men, but to God,
for no one understands, but in the Spirit
he speaks mysteries.
3 But he who prophesies speaks to men
for their edification, exhortation, and
consolation.
4 He who speaks in another language
edifies himself, but he who prophesies
edifies the assembly.

5 Now I desire to have you all speak with
other languages, but even more that you
would prophesy. For he is greater who
prophesies than he who speaks with other
languages, unless he interprets, that the
assembly may be built up.
6 But now, brothers,† if I come to you
speaking with other languages, what
would I profit you unless I speak to you
either by way of revelation, or of
knowledge, or of prophesying, or of
teaching?
7 Even lifeless things that make a sound,
whether pipe or harp, if they didn't give a
distinction in the sounds, how would it be
known what is piped or harped?
8 For if the trumpet gave an uncertain
sound, who would prepare himself for
war?
9 So also you, unless you uttered by the
tongue words easy to understand, how
would it be known what is spoken? For
you would be speaking into the air.
10 There are, it may be, so many kinds of
languages in the world, and none of them
is without meaning.
11 If then I don't know the meaning of
the language, I would be to him who
speaks a foreigner, and he who speaks
would be a foreigner to me.
12 So also you, since you are zealous for
spiritual gifts, seek that you may abound
to the building up of the assembly.
13 Therefore let him who speaks in
another language pray that he may
interpret.
14 For if I pray in another language, my
spirit prays, but my understanding is
unfruitful.
15 What should I do? I will pray with the
spirit, and I will pray with the
understanding also. I will sing with the
spirit, and I will sing with the
understanding also.
16 Otherwise, if you bless with the spirit,
how will he who fills the place of the
unlearned say the "Amen" at your giving
of thanks, seeing he doesn't know what
you say?
17 For you most certainly give thanks
well, but the other person is not built up.
18 I thank my God, I speak with other
languages more than you all.
19 However, in the assembly I would
rather speak five words with my
understanding, that I might instruct
others also, than ten thousand words in
another language.
20 Brothers, don't be children in
thoughts, yet in malice be babies, but in
thoughts be mature.
21 In the law it is written, "By men of
strange languages and by the lips of
strangers I will speak to this people. They
won't even listen to me that way, says the
Lord."*
22 Therefore other languages are for a
sign, not to those who believe, but to the
unbelieving; but prophesying is for a sign,
not to the unbelieving, but to those who
believe.
23 If therefore the whole assembly is
assembled together and all speak with
other languages, and unlearned or
unbelieving people come in, won't they
say that you are crazy?
24 But if all prophesy, and someone
unbelieving or unlearned comes in, he is
reproved by all, and he is judged by all.
25 And thus the secrets of his heart are
revealed. So he will fall down on his face
and worship God, declaring that God is
among you indeed.
26 What is it then, brothers? When you
come together, each one of you has a
psalm, has a teaching, has a revelation,
has another language, or has an
interpretation. Let all things be done to
build each other up.
27 If any man speaks in another
language, let there be two, or at the most
three, and in turn; and let one interpret.
28 But if there is no interpreter, let him
keep silent in the assembly, and let him
speak to himself and to God.
29 Let two or three of the prophets
speak, and let the others discern.

† **14:6** The word for "brothers" here and where context allows may also be correctly translated "brothers and sisters" or "siblings." * **14:21** Isaiah 28:11-12

30 But if a revelation is made to another
sitting by, let the first keep silent.
31 For you all can prophesy one by one,
that all may learn and all may be
exhorted.
32 The spirits of the prophets are subject
to the prophets,
33 for God is not a God of confusion but
of peace, as in all the assemblies of the
saints.
34 Let the wives be quiet in the
assemblies, for it has not been permitted
for them to be talking except in
submission, as the law also says,*
35 if they desire to learn anything. "Let
them ask their own husbands at home, for
it is shameful for a wife to be talking in
the assembly."
36 What!? Was it from you that the word
of God went out? Or did it come to you
alone?
37 If any man thinks himself to be a
prophet or spiritual, let him recognize the
things which I write to you, that they are
the commandment of the Lord.
38 But if anyone is ignorant, let him be
ignorant.
39 Therefore, brothers, desire earnestly
to prophesy, and don't forbid speaking
with other languages.
40 Let all things be done decently and in
order.

15

1 Now I declare to you, brothers, the
Good News which I preached to you,
which also you received, in which you
also stand,
2 by which also you are saved, if you
hold firmly the word which I preached to
you—unless you believed in vain.
3 For I delivered to you first of all that
which I also received: that Christ died for
our sins according to the Scriptures,
4 that he was buried, that he was raised
on the third day according to the
Scriptures,
5 and that he appeared to Cephas, then
to the twelve.
6 Then he appeared to over five
hundred brothers at once, most of whom
remain until now, but some have also
fallen asleep.
7 Then he appeared to James, then to all
the apostles,
8 and last of all, as to the child born at
the wrong time, he appeared to me also.
9 For I am the least of the apostles, who
is not worthy to be called an apostle,
because I persecuted the assembly of God.
10 But by the grace of God I am what I
am. His grace which was given to me was
not futile, but I worked more than all of
them; yet not I, but the grace of God which
was with me.
11 Whether then it is I or they, so we
preach, and so you believed.
12 Now if Christ is preached, that he has
been raised from the dead, how do some
among you say that there is no
resurrection of the dead?
13 But if there is no resurrection of the
dead, neither has Christ been raised.
14 If Christ has not been raised, then our
preaching is in vain and your faith also is
in vain.
15 Yes, we are also found false witnesses
of God, because we testified about God
that he raised up Christ, whom he didn't
raise up if it is true that the dead are not
raised.
16 For if the dead aren't raised, neither
has Christ been raised.
17 If Christ has not been raised, your
faith is vain; you are still in your sins.
18 Then they also who are fallen asleep
in Christ have perished.
19 If we have only hoped in Christ in this
life, we are of all men most pitiable.
20 But now Christ has been raised from
the dead. He became the first fruit of
those who are asleep.
21 For since death came by man, the
resurrection of the dead also came by
man.
22 For as in Adam all die, so also in
Christ all will be made alive.
23 But each in his own order: Christ the
first fruits, then those who are Christ's at
his coming.
24 Then the end comes, when he will
deliver up the Kingdom to God the Father,

* **14:34** Deuteronomy 27:9

when he will have abolished all rule and all authority and power.
25 For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet.
26 The last enemy that will be abolished is death.
27 For, “He put all things in subjection under his feet.”* But when he says, “All things are put in subjection”, it is evident that he is excepted who subjected all things to him.
28 When all things have been subjected to him, then the Son will also himself be subjected to him who subjected all things to him, that God may be all in all.
29 Or else what will they do who are baptized for the dead? If the dead aren’t raised at all, why then are they baptized for the dead?
30 Why do we also stand in jeopardy every hour?
31 I affirm, by the boasting in you which I have in Christ Jesus our Lord, I die daily.
32 If I fought with animals at Ephesus for human purposes, what does it profit me? If the dead are not raised, then “let’s eat and drink, for tomorrow we die.”*
33 Don’t be deceived! “Evil companionships corrupt good morals.”
34 Wake up righteously and don’t sin, for some have no knowledge of God. I say this to your shame.
35 But someone will say, “How are the dead raised?” and, “With what kind of body do they come?”
36 You foolish one, that which you yourself sow is not made alive unless it dies.
37 That which you sow, you don’t sow the body that will be, but a bare grain, maybe of wheat, or of some other kind.
38 But God gives it a body even as it pleased him, and to each seed a body of its own.
39 All flesh is not the same flesh, but there is one flesh of men, another flesh of animals, another of fish, and another of birds.
40 There are also celestial bodies and terrestrial bodies; but the glory of the celestial differs from that of the terrestrial.
41 There is one glory of the sun, another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars; for one star differs from another star in glory.
42 So also is the resurrection of the dead. The body is sown perishable; it is raised imperishable.
43 It is sown in dishonor; it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness; it is raised in power.
44 It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body and there is also a spiritual body.
45 So also it is written, “The first man Adam became a living soul.”* The last Adam became a life-giving spirit.
46 However, that which is spiritual isn’t first, but that which is natural, then that which is spiritual.
47 The first man is of the earth, made of dust. The second man is the Lord from heaven.
48 As is the one made of dust, such are those who are also made of dust; and as is the heavenly, such are they also that are heavenly.
49 As we have borne the image of those made of dust, let’s† also bear the image of the heavenly.
50 Now I say this, brothers,‡ that flesh and blood can’t inherit God’s Kingdom; neither does the perishable inherit imperishable.
51 Behold,§ I tell you a mystery. We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed,
52 in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we will be changed.
53 For this perishable body must become imperishable, and this mortal must put on immortality.
54 But when this perishable body will have become imperishable, and this

* **15:27** Psalms 8:6 * **15:32** Isaiah 22:13 * **15:45** Genesis 2:7 † **15:49** NU, TR read “we will” instead of “let’s” ‡ **15:50** The word for “brothers” here and where context allows may also be correctly translated “brothers and sisters” or “siblings.” § **15:51** “Behold”, from “ἰδοὺ”, means look at, take notice, observe, see, or gaze at. It is often used as an interjection.

mortal will have put on immortality, then what is written will happen: “Death is swallowed up in victory.”*
55 “Death, where is your sting?
Hades,† where is your victory?”*
56 The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law.
57 But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.
58 Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the Lord’s work, because you know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.

16

1 Now concerning the collection for the saints: as I commanded the assemblies of Galatia, you do likewise.
2 On the first day of every week, let each one of you save as he may prosper, that no collections are made when I come.
3 When I arrive, I will send whoever you approve with letters to carry your gracious gift to Jerusalem.
4 If it is appropriate for me to go also, they will go with me.
5 I will come to you when I have passed through Macedonia, for I am passing through Macedonia.
6 But with you it may be that I will stay with you, or even winter with you, that you may send me on my journey wherever I go.
7 For I do not wish to see you now in passing, but I hope to stay a while with you, if the Lord permits.
8 But I will stay at Ephesus until Pentecost,
9 for a great and effective door has opened to me, and there are many adversaries.
10 Now if Timothy comes, see that he is with you without fear, for he does the work of the Lord, as I also do.
11 Therefore let no one despise him. But set him forward on his journey in peace, that he may come to me; for I expect him with the brothers.
12 Now concerning Apollos the brother, I strongly urged him to come to you with the brothers, but it was not at all his desire to come now; but he will come when he has an opportunity.
13 Watch! Stand firm in the faith! Be courageous! Be strong!
14 Let all that you do be done in love.
15 Now I beg you, brothers—you know the house of Stephanas, that it is the first fruits of Achaia, and that they have set themselves to serve the saints—
16 that you also be in subjection to such, and to everyone who helps in the work and labors.
17 I rejoice at the coming of Stephanas, Fortunatus, and Achaicus; for that which was lacking on your part, they supplied.
18 For they refreshed my spirit and yours. Therefore acknowledge those who are like that.
19 The assemblies of Asia greet you. Aquila and Priscilla greet you warmly in the Lord, together with the assembly that is in their house.
20 All the brothers greet you. Greet one another with a holy kiss.
21 This greeting is by me, Paul, with my own hand.
22 If any man doesn’t love the Lord Jesus Christ, let him be cursed.† Come, Lord!‡
23 The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
24 My love to all of you in Christ Jesus. Amen.

* **15:54** Isaiah 25:8 † **15:55** or, Hell * **15:55** See Hosea 13:14 † **16:22** Greek: anathema. ‡ **16:22** Aramaic: Maranatha!

Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians

1 Paul, an apostle of Christ† Jesus through the will of God, and Timothy our brother, to the assembly of God which is at Corinth, with all the saints who are in the whole of Achaia:
2 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort,
4 who comforts us in all our affliction, that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, through the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.
5 For as the sufferings of Christ abound to us, even so our comfort also abounds through Christ.
6 But if we are afflicted, it is for your comfort and salvation. If we are comforted, it is for your comfort, which produces in you the patient enduring of the same sufferings which we also suffer.
7 Our hope for you is steadfast, knowing that, since you are partakers of the sufferings, so you are also of the comfort.

8 For we don't desire to have you uninformed, brothers,‡ concerning our affliction which happened to us in Asia: that we were weighed down exceedingly, beyond our power, so much that we despaired even of life.
9 Yes, we ourselves have had the sentence of death within ourselves, that we should not trust in ourselves, but in God who raises the dead,
10 who delivered us out of so great a death, and does deliver, on whom we have set our hope that he will also still deliver us,
11 you also helping together on our behalf by your supplication; that, for the gift given to us by means of many, thanks may be given by many persons on your§ behalf.
12 For our boasting is this: the testimony of our conscience that in holiness and sincerity of God, not in fleshly wisdom but in the grace of God, we behaved ourselves in the world, and more abundantly toward you.
13 For we write no other things to you than what you read or even acknowledge, and I hope you will acknowledge to the end—
14 as also you acknowledged us in part—that we are your boasting, even as you also are ours, in the day of our Lord Jesus.

15 In this confidence, I was determined to come first to you, that you might have a second benefit,
16 and by you to pass into Macedonia, and again from Macedonia to come to you, and to be sent forward by you on my journey to Judea.
17 When I therefore planned this, did I show fickleness? Or the things that I plan, do I plan according to the flesh, that with me there should be the "Yes, yes" and the "No, no?"
18 But as God is faithful, our word toward you was not "Yes and no."
19 For the Son of God, Jesus Christ, who was preached among you by us—by me, Silvanus, and Timothy—was not "Yes and no," but in him is "Yes."
20 For however many are the promises of God, in him is the "Yes." Therefore also through him is the "Amen", to the glory of God through us.

21 Now he who establishes us with you in Christ and anointed us is God,
22 who also sealed us and gave us the down payment of the Spirit in our hearts.

23 But I call God for a witness to my soul, that to spare you, I didn't come to Corinth.
24 We don't control your faith, but are fellow workers with you for your joy. For you stand firm in faith.

† **1:1** "Christ" means "Anointed One". ‡ **1:8** The word for "brothers" here and where context allows may also be correctly translated "brothers and sisters" or "siblings." § **1:11** + MT: your; TR and NU: our

2

1 But I determined this for myself, that I
would not come to you again in sorrow.
2 For if I make you grieve, then who will
make me glad but he who is made to
grieve by me?
3 And I wrote this very thing to you, so
that when I came, I wouldn't have sorrow
from them of whom I ought to rejoice;
having confidence in you all that my joy
would be shared by all of you.
4 For out of much affliction and anguish
of heart I wrote to you with many tears,
not that you should be made to grieve, but
that you might know the love that I have
so abundantly for you.

5 But if any has caused sorrow, he has
caused sorrow not to me, but in part (that
I not press too heavily) to you all.
6 This punishment which was inflicted
by the many is sufficient for such a one;
7 so that, on the contrary, you should
rather forgive him and comfort him, lest
by any means such a one should be
swallowed up with his excessive sorrow.
8 Therefore I beg you to confirm your
love toward him.
9 For to this end I also wrote, that I
might know the proof of you, whether you
are obedient in all things.
10 Now I also forgive whomever you
forgive anything. For if indeed I have
forgiven anything, I have forgiven that
one for your sakes in the presence of
Christ,
11 that no advantage may be gained
over us by Satan, for we are not ignorant
of his schemes.

12 Now when I came to Troas for the
Good News of Christ, and when a door
was opened to me in the Lord,
13 I had no relief for my spirit, because I
didn't find Titus my brother, but taking
my leave of them, I went out into
Macedonia.

14 Now thanks be to God who always
leads us in triumph in Christ, and reveals
through us the sweet aroma of his
knowledge in every place.
15 For we are a sweet aroma of Christ to
God in those who are being saved and in
those who perish:
16 to the one a stench from death to
death, to the other a sweet aroma from life
to life. Who is sufficient for these things?
17 For we are not as so many, peddling
the word of God. But as of sincerity, but as
of God, in the sight of God, we speak in
Christ.

3

1 Are we beginning again to commend
ourselves? Or do we need, as do some,
letters of commendation to you or from
you?
2 You are our letter, written in our
hearts, known and read by all men,
3 being revealed that you are a letter of
Christ, served by us, written not with ink,
but with the Spirit of the living God; not in
tablets of stone, but in tablets that are
hearts of flesh.
4 Such confidence we have through
Christ toward God,
5 not that we are sufficient of ourselves
to account anything as from ourselves;
but our sufficiency is from God,
6 who also made us sufficient as
servants of a new covenant, not of the
letter but of the Spirit. For the letter kills,
but the Spirit gives life.

7 But if the service of death, written
engraved on stones, came with glory, so
that the children of Israel could not look
steadfastly on the face of Moses for the
glory of his face, which was passing away,
8 won't service of the Spirit be with
much more glory?
9 For if the service of condemnation has
glory, the service of righteousness
exceeds much more in glory.
10 For most certainly that which has
been made glorious has not been made
glorious in this respect, by reason of the
glory that surpasses.
11 For if that which passes away was
with glory, much more that which
remains is in glory.

12 Having therefore such a hope, we use
great boldness of speech,

13 and not as Moses, who put a veil on
his face so that the children of Israel
wouldn't look steadfastly on the end of
that which was passing away.
14 But their minds were hardened, for
until this very day at the reading of the old
covenant the same veil remains, because
in Christ it passes away.
15 But to this day, when Moses is read, a
veil lies on their heart.
16 But whenever someone turns to the
Lord, the veil is taken away.
17 Now the Lord is the Spirit; and where
the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty.
18 But we all, with unveiled face seeing
the glory of the Lord as in a mirror, are
transformed into the same image from
glory to glory, even as from the Lord, the
Spirit.

4

1 Therefore, seeing we have this
ministry, even as we obtained mercy, we
don't faint.
2 But we have renounced the hidden
things of shame, not walking in craftiness
nor handling the word of God deceitfully,
but by the manifestation of the truth
commending ourselves to every man's
conscience in the sight of God.
3 Even if our Good News is veiled, it is
veiled in those who are dying,
4 in whom the god of this world has
blinded the minds of the unbelieving, that
the light of the Good News of the glory of
Christ, who is the image of God, should
not dawn on them.
5 For we don't preach ourselves, but
Christ Jesus as Lord, and ourselves as
your servants for Jesus' sake,
6 seeing it is God who said, "Light will
shine out of darkness,"* who has shone in
our hearts to give the light of the
knowledge of the glory of God in the face
of Jesus Christ.
7 But we have this treasure in clay
vessels, that the exceeding greatness of
the power may be of God and not from
ourselves.
8 We are pressed on every side, yet not
crushed; perplexed, yet not to despair;
9 pursued, yet not forsaken; struck
down, yet not destroyed;
10 always carrying in the body the
putting to death of the Lord Jesus, that the
life of Jesus may also be revealed in our
body.
11 For we who live are always delivered
to death for Jesus' sake, that the life also of
Jesus may be revealed in our mortal flesh.
12 So then death works in us, but life in
you.
13 But having the same spirit of faith,
according to that which is written, "I
believed, and therefore I spoke."* We also
believe, and therefore we also speak,
14 knowing that he who raised the Lord
Jesus will raise us also through† Jesus, and
will present us with you.
15 For all things are for your sakes, that
the grace, being multiplied through the
many, may cause the thanksgiving to
abound to the glory of God.
16 Therefore we don't faint, but though
our outward person is decaying, yet our
inward person is renewed day by day.
17 For our light affliction, which is for
the moment, works for us more and more
exceedingly an eternal weight of glory,
18 while we don't look at the things
which are seen, but at the things which
are not seen. For the things which are
seen are temporal, but the things which
are not seen are eternal.

5

1 For we know that if the earthly house
of our tent is dissolved, we have a
building from God, a house not made with
hands, eternal, in the heavens.
2 For most certainly in this we groan,
longing to be clothed with our habitation
which is from heaven,
3 if indeed being clothed, we will not be
found naked.
4 For indeed we who are in this tent do
groan, being burdened, not that we desire
to be unclothed, but that we desire to be

* **4:6** Genesis 1:3 * **4:13** Psalms 116:10 † **4:14** NU reads *with* instead of *through*.

clothed, that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life.
5 Now he who made us for this very thing is God, who also gave to us the down payment of the Spirit.
6 Therefore we are always confident and know that while we are at home in the body, we are absent from the Lord;
7 for we walk by faith, not by sight.
8 We are courageous, I say, and are willing rather to be absent from the body and to be at home with the Lord.
9 Therefore also we make it our aim, whether at home or absent, to be well pleasing to him.
10 For we must all be revealed before the judgment seat of Christ that each one may receive the things in the body according to what he has done, whether good or bad.
11 Knowing therefore the fear of the Lord, we persuade men, but we are revealed to God, and I hope that we are revealed also in your consciences.
12 For we are not commending ourselves to you again, but speak as giving you occasion of boasting on our behalf, that you may have something to answer those who boast in appearance and not in heart.
13 For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God. Or if we are of sober mind, it is for you.
14 For the love of Christ compels us; because we judge thus: that one died for all, therefore all died.
15 He died for all, that those who live should no longer live to themselves, but to him who for their sakes died and rose again.
16 Therefore we know no one according to the flesh from now on. Even though we have known Christ according to the flesh, yet now we know him so no more.
17 Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old things have passed away. Behold,† all things have become new.
18 But all things are of God, who reconciled us to himself through Jesus Christ, and gave to us the ministry of reconciliation;
19 namely, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to himself, not reckoning to them their trespasses, and having committed to us the word of reconciliation.
20 We are therefore ambassadors on behalf of Christ, as though God were entreating by us: we beg you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.
21 For him who knew no sin he made to be sin on our behalf, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

6

1 Working together, we entreat also that you do not receive the grace of God in vain.
2 For he says,
"At an acceptable time I listened to you.
In a day of salvation I helped you."*
Behold, now is the acceptable time.
Behold, now is the day of salvation.
3 We give no occasion of stumbling in anything, that our service may not be blamed,
4 but in everything commending ourselves as servants of God: in great endurance, in afflictions, in hardships, in distresses,
5 in beatings, in imprisonments, in riots, in labors, in watchings, in fastings,
6 in pureness, in knowledge, in perseverance, in kindness, in the Holy Spirit, in sincere love,
7 in the word of truth, in the power of God, by the armor of righteousness on the right hand and on the left,
8 by glory and dishonor, by evil report and good report, as deceivers and yet true,
9 as unknown and yet well known, as dying and behold—we live, as punished and not killed,
10 as sorrowful yet always rejoicing, as poor yet making many rich, as having nothing and yet possessing all things.
11 Our mouth is open to you, Corinthians. Our heart is enlarged.

† **5:17** "Behold", from "ἰδοὺ", means look at, take notice, observe, see, or gaze at. It is often used as an interjection.
* **6:2** Isaiah 49:8

12 You are not restricted by us, but you
are restricted by your own affections.
13 Now in return—I speak as to my
children—you also open your hearts.
14 Don't be unequally yoked with
unbelievers, for what fellowship do
righteousness and iniquity have? Or what
fellowship does light have with darkness?
15 What agreement does Christ have
with Belial? Or what portion does a
believer have with an unbeliever?
16 What agreement does a temple of God
have with idols? For you are a temple of
the living God. Even as God said, "I will
dwell in them and walk in them. I will be
their God and they will be my people."*
17 Therefore
" 'Come out from among them,
and be separate,' says the Lord.
'Touch no unclean thing.
I will receive you.*
18 I will be to you a Father.
You will be to me sons and daughters,'
says the Lord Almighty."*

7

1 Having therefore these promises,
beloved, let's cleanse ourselves from all
defilement of flesh and spirit, perfecting
holiness in the fear of God.
2 Open your hearts to us. We wronged
no one. We corrupted no one. We took
advantage of no one.
3 I say this not to condemn you, for I
have said before that you are in our
hearts to die together and live together.
4 Great is my boldness of speech toward
you. Great is my boasting on your behalf.
I am filled with comfort. I overflow with
joy in all our affliction.
5 For even when we had come into
Macedonia, our flesh had no relief, but we
were afflicted on every side. Fightings
were outside. Fear was inside.
6 Nevertheless, he who comforts the
lowly, God, comforted us by the coming of
Titus,
7 and not by his coming only, but also by
the comfort with which he was comforted
in you while he told us of your longing,
your mourning, and your zeal for me, so
that I rejoiced still more.
8 For though I grieved you with my
letter, I do not regret it, though I did regret
it. For I see that my letter made you
grieve, though just for a while.
9 I now rejoice, not that you were
grieved, but that you were grieved to
repentance. For you were grieved in a
godly way, that you might suffer loss by us
in nothing.
10 For godly sorrow produces
repentance leading to salvation, which
brings no regret. But the sorrow of the
world produces death.
11 For behold, this same thing, that you
were grieved in a godly way, what earnest
care it worked in you. Yes, what defense,
indignation, fear, longing, zeal, and
vindication! In everything you
demonstrated yourselves to be pure in the
matter.
12 So although I wrote to you, I wrote
not for his cause that did the wrong, nor
for his cause that suffered the wrong, but
that your earnest care for us might be
revealed in you in the sight of God.
13 Therefore we have been comforted.
In our comfort we rejoiced the more
exceedingly for the joy of Titus, because
his spirit has been refreshed by you all.
14 For if in anything I have boasted to
him on your behalf, I was not
disappointed. But as we spoke all things to
you in truth, so our glorying also which I
made before Titus was found to be truth.
15 His affection is more abundantly
toward you, while he remembers all of
your obedience, how with fear and
trembling you received him.
16 I rejoice that in everything I am
confident concerning you.

8

1 Moreover, brothers, we make known
to you the grace of God which has been
given in the assemblies of Macedonia,
2 how in a severe ordeal of affliction, the
abundance of their joy and their deep

* **6:16** Leviticus 26:12; Jeremiah 32:38; Ezekiel 37:27 * **6:17** Isaiah 52:11; Ezekiel 20:34,41 * **6:18** 2 Samuel 7:14; 7:8

poverty abounded to the riches of their generosity.
3 For according to their power, I testify, yes and beyond their power, they gave of their own accord,
4 begging us with much entreaty to receive this grace and the fellowship in the service to the saints.
5 This was not as we had expected, but first they gave their own selves to the Lord, and to us through the will of God.
6 So we urged Titus, that as he had made a beginning before, so he would also complete in you this grace.
7 But as you abound in everything—in faith, utterance, knowledge, all earnestness, and in your love to us—see that you also abound in this grace.

8 I speak not by way of commandment, but as proving through the earnestness of others the sincerity also of your love.
9 For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that you through his poverty might become rich.
10 I give advice in this: it is expedient for you who were the first to start a year ago, not only to do, but also to be willing.
11 But now complete the doing also, that as there was the readiness to be willing, so there may be the completion also out of your ability.
12 For if the readiness is there, it is acceptable according to what you have, not according to what you don't have.
13 For this is not that others may be eased and you distressed,
14 but for equality. Your abundance at this present time supplies their lack, that their abundance also may become a supply for your lack, that there may be equality.
15 As it is written, "He who gathered much had nothing left over, and he who gathered little had no lack."*

16 But thanks be to God, who puts the same earnest care for you into the heart of Titus.
17 For he indeed accepted our exhortation, but being himself very earnest, he went out to you of his own accord.
18 We have sent together with him the brother whose praise in the Good News is known throughout all the assemblies.
19 Not only so, but he was also appointed by the assemblies to travel with us in this grace, which is served by us to the glory of the Lord himself, and to show our readiness.
20 We are avoiding this, that any man should blame us concerning this abundance which is administered by us.
21 Having regard for honorable things, not only in the sight of the Lord, but also in the sight of men.
22 We have sent with them our brother whom we have many times proved earnest in many things, but now much more earnest, by reason of the great confidence which he has in you.
23 As for Titus, he is my partner and fellow worker for you. As for our brothers, they are the apostles of the assemblies, the glory of Christ.
24 Therefore show the proof of your love to them before the assemblies, and of our boasting on your behalf.

9

1 It is indeed unnecessary for me to write to you concerning the service to the saints,
2 for I know your readiness, of which I boast on your behalf to those of Macedonia, that Achaia has been prepared for the past year. Your zeal has stirred up very many of them.
3 But I have sent the brothers so that our boasting on your behalf may not be in vain in this respect, that, just as I said, you may be prepared,
4 lest by any means, if anyone from Macedonia comes there with me and finds you unprepared, we (to say nothing of you) would be disappointed in this confident boasting.

* **8:15** Exodus 16:18

5 I thought it necessary therefore to
entreat the brothers that they would go
before to you and arrange ahead of time
the generous gift that you promised
before, that the same might be ready as a
matter of generosity, and not of
greediness.
6 Remember this: he who sows
sparingly will also reap sparingly. He who
sows bountifully will also reap
bountifully.
7 Let each man give according as he has
determined in his heart, not grudgingly or
under compulsion, for God loves a
cheerful giver.
8 And God is able to make all grace
abound to you, that you, always having all
sufficiency in everything, may abound to
every good work.
9 As it is written,
"He has scattered abroad. He has given to
the poor.
His righteousness remains forever."*
10 Now may he who supplies seed to the
sower and bread for food, supply and
multiply your seed for sowing, and
increase the fruits of your righteousness,
11 you being enriched in everything for
all generosity, which produces
thanksgiving to God through us.
12 For this service of giving that you
perform not only makes up for lack
among the saints, but abounds also
through much giving of thanks to God,
13 seeing that through the proof given
by this service, they glorify God for the
obedience of your confession to the Good
News of Christ and for the generosity of
your contribution to them and to all,
14 while they themselves also, with
supplication on your behalf, yearn for you
by reason of the exceeding grace of God in
you.
15 Now thanks be to God for his
unspeakable gift!

10

1 Now I Paul, myself, entreat you by the
humility and gentleness of Christ, I who in
your presence am lowly among you, but
being absent am bold toward you.
2 Yes, I beg you that I may not, when
present, show courage with the
confidence with which I intend to be bold
against some, who consider us to be
walking according to the flesh.
3 For though we walk in the flesh, we
don't wage war according to the flesh;
4 for the weapons of our warfare are not
of the flesh, but mighty before God to the
throwing down of strongholds,
5 throwing down imaginations and
every high thing that is exalted against
the knowledge of God and bringing every
thought into captivity to the obedience of
Christ,
6 and being in readiness to avenge all
disobedience when your obedience is
made full.
7 Do you look at things only as they
appear in front of your face? If anyone
trusts in himself that he is Christ's, let him
consider this again with himself, that even
as he is Christ's, so we also are Christ's.
8 For even if I boast somewhat
abundantly concerning our authority,
which the Lord gave for building you up
and not for casting you down, I will not be
ashamed,
9 that I may not seem as if I desire to
terrify you by my letters.
10 For, "His letters", they say, "are
weighty and strong, but his bodily
presence is weak, and his speech is
despised."
11 Let such a person consider this, that
what we are in word by letters when we
are absent, such are we also in deed when
we are present.
12 For we are not bold to number or
compare ourselves with some of those
who commend themselves. But they
themselves, measuring themselves by
themselves, and comparing themselves
with themselves, are without
understanding.
13 But we will not boast beyond proper
limits, but within the boundaries with
which God appointed to us, which reach
even to you.

* **9:9** Psalms 112:9

14 For we don't stretch ourselves too
much, as though we didn't reach to you.
For we came even as far as to you with the
Good News of Christ,
15 not boasting beyond proper limits in
other men's labors, but having hope that
as your faith grows, we will be
abundantly enlarged by you in our sphere
of influence,
16 so as to preach the Good News even to
the parts beyond you, not to boast in what
someone else has already done.
17 But "he who boasts, let him boast in
the Lord."*
18 For it isn't he who commends himself
who is approved, but whom the Lord
commends.

11

1 I wish that you would bear with me in
a little foolishness, but indeed you do bear
with me.
2 For I am jealous over you with a godly
jealousy. For I promised you in marriage
to one husband, that I might present you
as a pure virgin to Christ.
3 But I am afraid that somehow, as the
serpent deceived Eve in his craftiness, so
your minds might be corrupted from the
simplicity that is in Christ.
4 For if he who comes preaches another
Jesus whom we didn't preach, or if you
receive a different spirit which you didn't
receive, or a different "good news" which
you didn't accept, you put up with that
well enough.
5 For I reckon that I am not at all behind
the very best apostles.
6 But though I am unskilled in speech,
yet I am not unskilled in knowledge. No,
in every way we have been revealed to
you in all things.
7 Or did I commit a sin in humbling
myself that you might be exalted, because
I preached to you God's Good News free of
charge?
8 I robbed other assemblies, taking
wages from them that I might serve you.
9 When I was present with you and was
in need, I wasn't a burden on anyone, for
the brothers, when they came from
Macedonia, supplied the measure of my
need. In everything I kept myself from
being burdensome to you, and I will
continue to do so.
10 As the truth of Christ is in me, no one
will stop me from this boasting in the
regions of Achaia.
11 Why? Because I don't love you? God
knows.
12 But what I do, that I will continue to
do, that I may cut off opportunity from
those who desire an opportunity, that in
which they boast, they may be recognized
just like us.
13 For such men are false apostles,
deceitful workers, masquerading as
Christ's apostles.
14 And no wonder, for even Satan
masquerades as an angel of light.
15 It is no great thing therefore if his
servants also masquerade as servants of
righteousness, whose end will be
according to their works.
16 I say again, let no one think me
foolish. But if so, yet receive me as foolish,
that I also may boast a little.
17 That which I speak, I don't speak
according to the Lord, but as in
foolishness, in this confidence of boasting.
18 Seeing that many boast after the flesh,
I will also boast.
19 For you bear with the foolish gladly,
being wise.
20 For you bear with a man if he brings
you into bondage, if he devours you, if he
takes you captive, if he exalts himself, or if
he strikes you on the face.
21 To my shame, I speak as though we
had been weak. Yet in whatever way
anyone is bold (I speak in foolishness), I
am bold also.
22 Are they Hebrews? So am I. Are they
Israelites? So am I. Are they the offspring†
of Abraham? So am I.
23 Are they servants of Christ? (I speak
as one beside himself.) I am more so: in
labors more abundantly, in prisons more
abundantly, in stripes above measure,
and in deaths often.

* **10:17** Jeremiah 9:24 † **11:22** or, seed

24 Five times I received forty stripes
minus one from the Jews.
25 Three times I was beaten with rods.
Once I was stoned. Three times I suffered
shipwreck. I have been a night and a day
in the deep.
26 I have been in travels often, perils of
rivers, perils of robbers, perils from my
countrymen, perils from the Gentiles,
perils in the city, perils in the wilderness,
perils in the sea, perils among false
brothers;
27 in labor and travail, in watchings
often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings
often, and in cold and nakedness.
28 Besides those things that are outside,
there is that which presses on me daily:
anxiety for all the assemblies.
29 Who is weak, and I am not weak?
Who is caused to stumble, and I don't
burn with indignation?
30 If I must boast, I will boast of the
things that concern my weakness.
31 The God and Father of the Lord Jesus
Christ, he who is blessed forever more,
knows that I don't lie.
32 In Damascus the governor under
King Aretas guarded the Damascenes'
city, desiring to arrest me.
33 I was let down in a basket through a
window by the wall, and escaped his
hands.

12

1 It is doubtless not profitable for me to
boast, but I will come to visions and
revelations of the Lord.
2 I know a man in Christ who was
caught up into the third heaven fourteen
years ago—whether in the body, I don't
know, or whether out of the body, I don't
know; God knows.
3 I know such a man (whether in the
body, or outside of the body, I don't know;
God knows),
4 how he was caught up into Paradise
and heard unspeakable words, which it is
not lawful for a man to utter.
5 On behalf of such a one I will boast,
but on my own behalf I will not boast,
except in my weaknesses.
6 For if I would desire to boast, I will not
be foolish; for I will speak the truth. But I
refrain, so that no man may think more of
me than that which he sees in me or hears
from me.
7 By reason of the exceeding greatness
of the revelations, that I should not be
exalted excessively, a thorn in the flesh
was given to me: a messenger of Satan to
torment me, that I should not be exalted
excessively.
8 Concerning this thing, I begged the
Lord three times that it might depart from
me.
9 He has said to me, "My grace is
sufficient for you, for my power is made
perfect in weakness." Most gladly
therefore I will rather glory in my
weaknesses, that the power of Christ may
rest on me.
10 Therefore I take pleasure in
weaknesses, in injuries, in necessities, in
persecutions, and in distresses, for
Christ's sake. For when I am weak, then
am I strong.
11 I have become foolish in boasting.
You compelled me, for I ought to have
been commended by you, for I am in no
way inferior to the very best apostles,
though I am nothing.
12 Truly the signs of an apostle were
worked among you in all perseverance, in
signs and wonders and mighty works.
13 For what is there in which you were
made inferior to the rest of the
assemblies, unless it is that I myself was
not a burden to you? Forgive me this
wrong!
14 Behold, this is the third time I am
ready to come to you, and I will not be a
burden to you; for I seek not your
possessions, but you. For the children
ought not to save up for the parents, but
the parents for the children.
15 I will most gladly spend and be spent
for your souls. If I love you more
abundantly, am I loved the less?
16 Even so, I myself didn't burden you.
But you might say that being crafty, I
caught you with deception.
17 Did I take advantage of you by anyone
of those whom I have sent to you?
18 I exhorted Titus, and I sent the
brother with him. Did Titus take any

advantage of you? Didn't we walk in the same spirit? Didn't we walk in the same steps?
19 Again, do you think that we are excusing ourselves to you? In the sight of God we speak in Christ. But all things, beloved, are for your edifying.
20 For I am afraid that perhaps when I come, I might find you not the way I want to, and that I might be found by you as you don't desire, that perhaps there would be strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, factions, slander, whisperings, proud thoughts, or riots,
21 that again when I come my God would humble me before you, and I would mourn for many of those who have sinned before now, and not repented of the uncleanness, sexual immorality, and lustfulness which they committed.

13

1 This is the third time I am coming to you. "At the mouth of two or three witnesses shall every word be established."*
2 I have warned previously, and I warn again, as when I was present the second time, so now, being absent, I write to those who have sinned before now and to all the rest that if I come again, I will not spare,
3 seeing that you seek a proof of Christ who speaks in me who is not weak, but is powerful in you.
4 For he was crucified through weakness, yet he lives through the power of God. For we also are weak in him, but we will live with him through the power of God toward you.
5 Examine your own selves, whether you are in the faith. Test your own selves. Or don't you know about your own selves, that Jesus Christ is in you?—unless indeed you are disqualified.
6 But I hope that you will know that we aren't disqualified.
7 Now I pray to God that you do no evil; not that we may appear approved, but that you may do that which is honorable, though we may seem to have failed.
8 For we can do nothing against the truth, but for the truth.
9 For we rejoice when we are weak and you are strong. We also pray for this: your becoming perfect.
10 For this cause I write these things while absent, that I may not deal sharply when present, according to the authority which the Lord gave me for building up and not for tearing down.
11 Finally, brothers, rejoice! Be perfected. Be comforted. Be of the same mind. Live in peace, and the God of love and peace will be with you.
12 Greet one another with a holy kiss.
13 All the saints greet you.
14 The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, God's love, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Amen.

* **13:1** Deuteronomy 19:15

Paul's Letter to the Galatians

1 Paul, an apostle—not from men, nor
through man, but through Jesus Christ,†
and God the Father, who raised him from
the dead—
2 and all the brothers‡ who are with me,
to the assemblies of Galatia:
3 Grace to you and peace from God the
Father and our Lord Jesus Christ,
4 who gave himself for our sins, that he
might deliver us out of this present evil
age, according to the will of our God and
Father—
5 to whom be the glory forever and ever.
Amen.
6 I marvel that you are so quickly
deserting him who called you in the grace
of Christ to a different "good news",
7 but there isn't another "good news."
Only there are some who trouble you and
want to pervert the Good News of Christ.
8 But even though we, or an angel from
heaven, should preach to you any "good
news" other than that which we preached
to you, let him be cursed.
9 As we have said before, so I now say
again: if any man preaches to you any
"good news" other than that which you
received, let him be cursed.
10 For am I now seeking the favor of
men, or of God? Or am I striving to please
men? For if I were still pleasing men, I
wouldn't be a servant of Christ.
11 But I make known to you, brothers,
concerning the Good News which was
preached by me, that it is not according to
man.
12 For I didn't receive it from man, nor
was I taught it, but it came to me through
revelation of Jesus Christ.
13 For you have heard of my way of
living in time past in the Jews' religion,
how that beyond measure I persecuted
the assembly of God and ravaged it.
14 I advanced in the Jews' religion
beyond many of my own age among my
countrymen, being more exceedingly
zealous for the traditions of my fathers.
15 But when it was the good pleasure of
God, who separated me from my mother's
womb and called me through his grace,
16 to reveal his Son in me, that I might
preach him among the Gentiles, I didn't
immediately confer with flesh and blood,
17 nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those
who were apostles before me, but I went
away into Arabia. Then I returned to
Damascus.
18 Then after three years I went up to
Jerusalem to visit Peter, and stayed with
him fifteen days.
19 But of the other apostles I saw no one
except James, the Lord's brother.
20 Now about the things which I write to
you, behold,§ before God, I'm not lying.
21 Then I came to the regions of Syria
and Cilicia.
22 I was still unknown by face to the
assemblies of Judea which were in Christ,
23 but they only heard, "He who once
persecuted us now preaches the faith that
he once tried to destroy."
24 So they glorified God in me.

2

1 Then after a period of fourteen years I
went up again to Jerusalem with
Barnabas, taking Titus also with me.
2 I went up by revelation, and I laid
before them the Good News which I
preach among the Gentiles, but privately
before those who were respected, for fear
that I might be running, or had run, in
vain.
3 But not even Titus, who was with me,
being a Greek, was compelled to be
circumcised.
4 This was because of the false brothers
secretly brought in, who stole in to spy out
our liberty which we have in Christ Jesus,
that they might bring us into bondage,

† **1:1** "Christ" means "Anointed One". ‡ **1:2** The word for "brothers" here and where context allows may also be correctly translated "brothers and sisters" or "siblings." § **1:20** "Behold", from "ἰδοὺ", means look at, take notice, observe, see, or gaze at. It is often used as an interjection.

5 to whom we gave no place in the way
of subjection, not for an hour, that the
truth of the Good News might continue
with you.
6 But from those who were reputed to
be important—whatever they were, it
makes no difference to me; God doesn't
show partiality to man—they, I say, who
were respected imparted nothing to me,
7 but to the contrary, when they saw
that I had been entrusted with the Good
News for the uncircumcised, even as Peter
with the Good News for the circumcised—
8 for he who worked through Peter in
the apostleship with the circumcised also
worked through me with the Gentiles—
9 and when they perceived the grace
that was given to me, James and Cephas
and John, those who were reputed to be
pillars, gave to Barnabas and me the right
hand of fellowship, that we should go to
the Gentiles, and they to the circumcision.
10 They only asked us to remember the
poor—which very thing I was also zealous
to do.
11 But when Peter came to Antioch, I
resisted him to his face, because he stood
condemned.
12 For before some people came from
James, he ate with the Gentiles. But when
they came, he drew back and separated
himself, fearing those who were of the
circumcision.
13 And the rest of the Jews joined him in
his hypocrisy, so that even Barnabas was
carried away with their hypocrisy.
14 But when I saw that they didn't walk
uprightly according to the truth of the
Good News, I said to Peter before them all,
"If you, being a Jew, live as the Gentiles
do, and not as the Jews do, why do you
compel the Gentiles to live as the Jews do?
15 "We, being Jews by nature and not
Gentile sinners,
16 yet knowing that a man is not
justified by the works of the law but
through faith in Jesus Christ, even we
believed in Christ Jesus, that we might be
justified by faith in Christ and not by the
works of the law, because no flesh will be
justified by the works of the law.
17 But if while we sought to be justified
in Christ, we ourselves also were found
sinners, is Christ a servant of sin?
Certainly not!
18 For if I build up again those things
which I destroyed, I prove myself a
law-breaker.
19 For I through the law died to the law,
that I might live to God.
20 I have been crucified with Christ, and
it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in
me. That life which I now live in the flesh,
I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved
me and gave himself up for me.
21 I don't reject the grace of God. For if
righteousness is through the law, then
Christ died for nothing!"

3

1 Foolish Galatians, who has bewitched
you not to obey the truth, before whose
eyes Jesus Christ was openly portrayed
among you as crucified?
2 I just want to learn this from you: Did
you receive the Spirit by the works of the
law, or by hearing of faith?
3 Are you so foolish? Having begun in
the Spirit, are you now completed in the
flesh?
4 Did you suffer so many things in vain,
if it is indeed in vain?
5 He therefore who supplies the Spirit to
you and does miracles among you, does
he do it by the works of the law, or by
hearing of faith?
6 Even so, Abraham "believed God, and
it was counted to him for righteousness."*
7 Know therefore that those who are of
faith are children of Abraham.
8 The Scripture, foreseeing that God
would justify the Gentiles by faith,
preached the Good News beforehand to
Abraham, saying, "In you all the nations
will be blessed."*
9 So then, those who are of faith are
blessed with the faithful Abraham.
10 For as many as are of the works of the
law are under a curse. For it is written,

* **3:6** Genesis 15:6 * **3:8** Genesis 12:3; 18:18; 22:18 * **3:10** Deuteronomy 27:26

"Cursed is everyone who doesn't continue in all things that are written in the book of the law, to do them."*
11 Now that no man is justified by the law before God is evident, for, "The righteous will live by faith."*
12 The law is not of faith, but, "The man who does them will live by them."*
13 Christ 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,"*
14 that the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.
15 Brothers, speaking of human terms, though it is only a man's covenant, yet when it has been confirmed, no one makes it void or adds to it.
16 Now the promises were spoken to Abraham and to his offspring.† He doesn't say, "To descendants‡", as of many, but as of one, "To your offspring",* which is Christ.
17 Now I say this: A covenant confirmed beforehand by God in Christ, the law, which came four hundred thirty years after, does not annul, so as to make the promise of no effect.
18 For if the inheritance is of the law, it is no more of promise; but God has granted it to Abraham by promise.
19 Then why is there the law? It was added because of transgressions, until the offspring should come to whom the promise has been made. It was ordained through angels by the hand of a mediator.
20 Now a mediator is not between one, but God is one.
21 Is the law then against the promises of God? Certainly not! For if there had been a law given which could make alive, most certainly righteousness would have been of the law.
22 But the Scripture imprisoned all things under sin, that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe.
23 But before faith came, we were kept in custody under the law, confined for the faith which should afterwards be revealed.
24 So that the law has become our tutor to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith.
25 But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a tutor.
26 For you are all children of God, through faith in Christ Jesus.
27 For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.
28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free man, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.
29 If you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring and heirs according to promise.

4

1 But I say that so long as the heir is a child, he is no different from a bondservant, though he is lord of all,
2 but is under guardians and stewards until the day appointed by the father.
3 So we also, when we were children, were held in bondage under the elemental principles of the world.
4 But when the fullness of the time came, God sent out his Son, born to a woman, born under the law,
5 that he might redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as children.
6 And because you are children, God sent out the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, "Abba,† Father!"
7 So you are no longer a bondservant, but a son; and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.
8 However at that time, not knowing God, you were in bondage to those who by nature are not gods.
9 But now that you have come to know God, or rather to be known by God, why

* **3:11** Habakkuk 2:4 * **3:12** Leviticus 18:5 * **3:13** Deuteronomy 21:23 † **3:16** or, seed ‡ **3:16** or, seeds
* **3:16** Genesis 12:7; 13:15; 24:7 † **4:6** Abba is a Greek spelling for the Aramaic word for "Father" or "Daddy" used in a familiar, respectful, and loving way.

do you turn back again to the weak and
miserable elemental principles, to which
you desire to be in bondage all over again?
10 You observe days, months, seasons,
and years.
11 I am afraid for you, that I might have
wasted my labor for you.
12 I beg you, brothers, become as I am,
for I also have become as you are. You did
me no wrong,
13 but you know that because of
weakness in the flesh I preached the Good
News to you the first time.
14 That which was a temptation to you
in my flesh, you didn't despise nor reject;
but you received me as an angel of God,
even as Christ Jesus.
15 What was the blessing you enjoyed?
For I testify to you that, if possible, you
would have plucked out your eyes and
given them to me.
16 So then, have I become your enemy
by telling you the truth?
17 They zealously seek you in no good
way. No, they desire to alienate you, that
you may seek them.
18 But it is always good to be zealous in a
good cause, and not only when I am
present with you.
19 My little children, of whom I am again
in travail until Christ is formed in you—
20 but I could wish to be present with
you now, and to change my tone, for I am
perplexed about you.
21 Tell me, you that desire to be under
the law, don't you listen to the law?
22 For it is written that Abraham had
two sons, one by the servant, and one by
the free woman.
23 However, the son by the servant was
born according to the flesh, but the son by
the free woman was born through
promise.
24 These things contain an allegory, for
these are two covenants. One is from
Mount Sinai, bearing children to bondage,
which is Hagar.
25 For this Hagar is Mount Sinai in
Arabia, and answers to the Jerusalem that
exists now, for she is in bondage with her
children.
26 But the Jerusalem that is above is
free, which is the mother of us all.
27 For it is written,
"Rejoice, you barren who don't bear.
Break out and shout, you who don't
travail.
For the desolate women have more
children than her who has a
husband." *
28 Now we, brothers, as Isaac was, are
children of promise.
29 But as then, he who was born
according to the flesh persecuted him
who was born according to the Spirit, so
also it is now.
30 However, what does the Scripture
say? "Throw out the servant and her son,
for the son of the servant will not inherit
with the son of the free woman."*
31 So then, brothers, we are not children
of a servant, but of the free woman.

5

1 Stand firm therefore in the liberty by
which Christ has made us free, and don't
be entangled again with a yoke of
bondage.
2 Behold, I, Paul, tell you that if you
receive circumcision, Christ will profit
you nothing.
3 Yes, I testify again to every man who
receives circumcision that he is a debtor
to do the whole law.
4 You are alienated from Christ, you
who desire to be justified by the law. You
have fallen away from grace.
5 For we through the Spirit, by faith wait
for the hope of righteousness.
6 For in Christ Jesus neither
circumcision nor uncircumcision
amounts to anything, but faith working
through love.
7 You were running well! Who
interfered with you that you should not
obey the truth?
8 This persuasion is not from him who
calls you.
9 A little yeast grows through the whole
lump.

* **4:27** Isaiah 54:1 * **4:30** Genesis 21:10

10 I have confidence toward you in the
Lord that you will think no other way. But
he who troubles you will bear his
judgment, whoever he is.
11 But I, brothers, if I still preach
circumcision, why am I still persecuted?
Then the stumbling block of the cross has
been removed.
12 I wish that those who disturb you
would cut themselves off.
13 For you, brothers, were called for
freedom. Only don't use your freedom as
an opportunity for the flesh, but through
love be servants to one another.
14 For the whole law is fulfilled in one
word, in this: "You shall love your
neighbor as yourself."*
15 But if you bite and devour one
another, be careful that you don't
consume one another.
16 But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you
won't fulfill the lust of the flesh.
17 For the flesh lusts against the Spirit,
and the Spirit against the flesh; and these
are contrary to one another, that you may
not do the things that you desire.
18 But if you are led by the Spirit, you
are not under the law.
19 Now the deeds of the flesh are
obvious, which are: adultery, sexual
immorality, uncleanness, lustfulness,
20 idolatry, sorcery, hatred, strife,
jealousies, outbursts of anger, rivalries,
divisions, heresies,
21 envy, murders, drunkenness, orgies,
and things like these; of which I forewarn
you, even as I also forewarned you, that
those who practice such things will not
inherit God's Kingdom.
22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy,
peace, patience, kindness, goodness,
faith,†
23 gentleness, and self-control. Against
such things there is no law.
24 Those who belong to Christ have
crucified the flesh with its passions and
lusts.
25 If we live by the Spirit, let's also walk
by the Spirit.
26 Let's not become conceited,
provoking one another, and envying one
another.

6

1 Brothers, even if a man is caught in
some fault, you who are spiritual must
restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness,
looking to yourself so that you also aren't
tempted.
2 Bear one another's burdens, and so
fulfill the law of Christ.
3 For if a man thinks himself to be
something when he is nothing, he
deceives himself.
4 But let each man examine his own
work, and then he will have reason to
boast in himself, and not in someone else.
5 For each man will bear his own
burden.
6 But let him who is taught in the word
share all good things with him who
teaches.
7 Don't be deceived. God is not mocked,
for whatever a man sows, that he will also
reap.
8 For he who sows to his own flesh will
from the flesh reap corruption. But he
who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit
reap eternal life.
9 Let's not be weary in doing good, for
we will reap in due season if we don't give
up.
10 So then, as we have opportunity, let's
do what is good toward all men, and
especially toward those who are of the
household of the faith.
11 See with what large letters I write to
you with my own hand.
12 As many as desire to make a good
impression in the flesh compel you to be
circumcised, just so they may not be
persecuted for the cross of Christ.
13 For even they who receive
circumcision don't keep the law
themselves, but they desire to have you
circumcised, so that they may boast in
your flesh.
14 But far be it from 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.

* **5:14** Leviticus 19:18 † **5:22** or, faithfulness

15 For in Christ Jesus neither is
circumcision anything, nor
uncircumcision, but a new creation.
16 As many as walk by this rule, peace
and mercy be on them, and on God's
Israel.
17 From now on, let no one cause me
any trouble, for I bear the marks of the
Lord Jesus branded on my body.
18 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be
with your spirit, brothers. Amen.

Paul's Letter to the Ephesians

1 Paul, an apostle of Christ† Jesus
through the will of God, to the saints who
are at Ephesus, and the faithful in Christ
Jesus:
2 Grace to you and peace from God our
Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
3 Blessed be the God and Father of our
Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with
every spiritual blessing in the heavenly
places in Christ,
4 even as he chose us in him before the
foundation of the world, that we would be
holy and without defect before him in
love,
5 having predestined us for adoption as
children through Jesus Christ to himself,
according to the good pleasure of his
desire,
6 to the praise of the glory of his grace,
by which he freely gave us favor in the
Beloved.
7 In him we have our redemption
through his blood, the forgiveness of our
trespasses, according to the riches of his
grace
8 which he made to abound toward us in
all wisdom and prudence,
9 making known to us the mystery of his
will, according to his good pleasure which
he purposed in him
10 to an administration of the fullness of
the times, to sum up all things in Christ,
the things in the heavens and the things
on the earth, in him.
11 We were also assigned an inheritance
in him, having been foreordained
according to the purpose of him who does
all things after the counsel of his will,
12 to the end that we should be to the
praise of his glory, we who had before
hoped in Christ.
13 In him you also, having heard the
word of the truth, the Good News of your
salvation—in whom, having also believed,
you were sealed with the promised Holy
Spirit,
14 who is a pledge of our inheritance, to
the redemption of God's own possession,
to the praise of his glory.
15 For this cause I also, having heard of
the faith in the Lord Jesus which is among
you and the love which you have toward
all the saints,
16 don't cease to give thanks for you,
making mention of you in my prayers,
17 that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the Father of glory, may give to you a
spirit of wisdom and revelation in the
knowledge of him,
18 having the eyes of your hearts‡
enlightened, 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,
19 and what is the exceeding greatness
of his power toward us who believe,
according to that working of the strength
of his might
20 which he worked in Christ when he
raised him from the dead and made him
to sit at his right hand in the heavenly
places,
21 far above all rule, authority, power,
dominion, and every name that is named,
not only in this age, but also in that which
is to come.
22 He put all things in subjection under
his feet, and gave him to be head over all
things for the assembly,
23 which is his body, the fullness of him
who fills all in all.

2

1 You were made alive when you were
dead in transgressions and sins,
2 in which you once walked according to
the course of this world, according to the
prince of the power of the air, the spirit
who now works in the children of
disobedience.
3 We also all once lived among them in
the lusts of our flesh, doing the desires of
the flesh and of the mind, and were by
nature children of wrath, even as the rest.

† **1:1** "Christ" means "Anointed One". ‡ **1:18** TR reads "understanding" instead of "hearts"

4 But God, being rich in mercy, for his
great love with which he loved us,
5 even when we were dead through our
trespasses, made us alive together with
Christ—by grace you have been saved—
6 and raised us up with him, and made
us to sit with him in the heavenly places in
Christ Jesus,
7 that in the ages to come he might show
the exceeding riches of his grace in
kindness toward us in Christ Jesus;
8 for by grace you have been saved
through faith, and that not of yourselves;
it is the gift of God,
9 not of works, that no one would boast.
10 For we are his workmanship, created
in Christ Jesus for good works, which God
prepared before that we would walk in
them.
11 Therefore remember that once you,
the Gentiles in the flesh, who are called
“uncircumcision” by that which is called
“circumcision” (in the flesh, made by
hands),
12 that you were at that time separate
from Christ, alienated from the
commonwealth of Israel, and strangers
from the covenants of the promise, having
no hope and without God in the world.
13 But now in Christ Jesus you who once
were far off are made near in the blood of
Christ.
14 For he is our peace, who made both
one, and broke down the middle wall of
separation,
15 having abolished in his flesh the
hostility, the law of commandments
contained in ordinances, that he might
create in himself one new man of the two,
making peace,
16 and might reconcile them both in one
body to God through the cross, having
killed the hostility through it.
17 He came and preached peace to you
who were far off and to those who were
near.
18 For through him we both have our
access in one Spirit to the Father.
19 So then you are no longer strangers
and foreigners, but you are fellow citizens
with the saints and of the household of
God,
20 being built on the foundation of the
apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus
himself being the chief cornerstone;
21 in whom the whole building, fitted
together, grows into a holy temple in the
Lord;
22 in whom you also are built together
for a habitation of God in the Spirit.

3

1 For this cause I, Paul, am the prisoner
of Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles,
2 if it is so that you have heard of the
administration of that grace of God which
was given me toward you,
3 how that by revelation the mystery
was made known to me, as I wrote before
in few words,
4 by which, when you read, you can
perceive my understanding in the
mystery of Christ,
5 which in other generations was not
made known to the children of men, as it
has now been revealed to his holy
apostles and prophets in the Spirit,
6 that the Gentiles are fellow heirs and
fellow members of the body, and fellow
partakers of his promise in Christ Jesus
through the Good News,
7 of which I was made a servant
according to the gift of that grace of God
which was given me according to the
working of his power.
8 To me, the very least of all saints, was
this grace given, to preach to the Gentiles
the unsearchable riches of Christ,
9 and to make all men see what is the
administration† of the mystery which for
ages has been hidden in God, who created
all things through Jesus Christ,
10 to the intent that now through the
assembly the manifold wisdom of God
might be made known to the principalities
and the powers in the heavenly places,
11 according to the eternal purpose
which he accomplished in Christ Jesus our
Lord.

† **3:9** TR reads “fellowship” instead of “administration”

12 In him we have boldness and access
in confidence through our faith in him.
13 Therefore I ask that you may not lose
heart at my troubles for you, which are
your glory.
14 For this cause, I bow my knees to the
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
15 from whom every family in heaven
and on earth is named,
16 that he would grant you, according to
the riches of his glory, that you may be
strengthened with power through his
Spirit in the inner person,
17 that Christ may dwell in your hearts
through faith, to the end that you, being
rooted and grounded in love,
18 may be strengthened to comprehend
with all the saints what is the width and
length and height and depth,
19 and to know Christ's love which
surpasses knowledge, that you may be
filled with all the fullness of God.
20 Now to him who is able to do
exceedingly abundantly above all that we
ask or think, according to the power that
works in us,
21 to him be the glory in the assembly
and in Christ Jesus to all generations,
forever and ever. Amen.

4

1 I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord,
beg you to walk worthily of the calling
with which you were called,
2 with all lowliness and humility, with
patience, bearing with one another in
love,
3 being eager to keep the unity of the
Spirit in the bond of peace.
4 There is one body and one Spirit, even
as you also were called in one hope of
your calling,
5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism,
6 one God and Father of all, who is over
all and through all and in us all.
7 But to each one of us, the grace was
given according to the measure of the gift
of Christ.
8 Therefore he says,
"When he ascended on high,
he led captivity captive,
and gave gifts to people."*
9 Now this, "He ascended", what is it but
that he also first descended into the lower
parts of the earth?
10 He who descended is the one who also
ascended far above all the heavens, that
he might fill all things.

11 He gave some to be apostles; and
some, prophets; and some, evangelists;
and some, shepherds† and teachers;
12 for the perfecting of the saints, to the
work of serving, to the building up of the
body of Christ,
13 until we all attain to the unity of the
faith and of the knowledge of the Son of
God, to a full grown man, to the measure
of the stature of the fullness of Christ,
14 that we may no longer be children,
tossed back and forth and carried about
with every wind of doctrine, by the
trickery of men, in craftiness, after the
wiles of error;
15 but speaking truth in love, we may
grow up in all things into him who is the
head, Christ,
16 from whom all the body, being fitted
and knit together through that which
every joint supplies, according to the
working in measure of each individual
part, makes the body increase to the
building up of itself in love.

17 This I say therefore, and testify in the
Lord, that you no longer walk as the rest
of the Gentiles also walk, in the futility of
their mind,
18 being darkened in their
understanding, alienated from the life of
God because of the ignorance that is in
them, because of the hardening of their
hearts.
19 They, having become callous, gave
themselves up to lust, to work all
uncleanness with greediness.
20 But you didn't learn Christ that way,
21 if indeed you heard him and were
taught in him, even as truth is in Jesus:
22 that you put away, as concerning
your former way of life, the old man that
grows corrupt after the lusts of deceit,

* **4:8** Psalms 68:18 † **4:11** or, pastors

23 and that you be renewed in the spirit
of your mind,
24 and put on the new man, who in the
likeness of God has been created in
righteousness and holiness of truth.
25 Therefore, putting away falsehood,
speak truth each one with his neighbor,
for we are members of one another.
26 "Be angry, and don't sin."* Don't let
the sun go down on your wrath,
27 and don't give place‡ to the devil.
28 Let him who stole steal no more; but
rather let him labor, producing with his
hands something that is good, that he may
have something to give to him who has
need.
29 Let no corrupt speech proceed out of
your mouth, but only what is good for
building others up as the need may be,
that it may give grace to those who hear.
30 Don't grieve the Holy Spirit of God, in
whom you were sealed for the day of
redemption.
31 Let all bitterness, wrath, anger,
outcry, and slander be put away from
you, with all malice.
32 And be kind to one another, tender
hearted, forgiving each other, just as God
also in Christ forgave you.

5

1 Be therefore imitators of God, as
beloved children.
2 Walk in love, even as Christ also loved
us and gave himself up for us, an offering
and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling
fragrance.
3 But sexual immorality, and all
uncleanness or covetousness, let it not
even be mentioned among you, as
becomes saints;
4 nor filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor
jesting, which are not appropriate, but
rather giving of thanks.
5 Know this for sure, that no sexually
immoral person, nor unclean person, nor
covetous man (who is an idolater), has
any inheritance in the Kingdom of Christ
and God.
6 Let no one deceive you with empty
words, for because of these things the
wrath of God comes on the children of
disobedience.
7 Therefore don't be partakers with
them.
8 For you were once darkness, but are
now light in the Lord. Walk as children of
light,
9 for the fruit of the Spirit is in all
goodness and righteousness and truth,
10 proving what is well pleasing to the
Lord.
11 Have no fellowship with the
unfruitful deeds of darkness, but rather
even reprove them.
12 For it is a shame even to speak of the
things which are done by them in secret.
13 But all things, when they are
reproved, are revealed by the light, for
everything that reveals is light.
14 Therefore he says, "Awake, you who
sleep, and arise from the dead, and Christ
will shine on you."

15 Therefore watch carefully how you
walk, not as unwise, but as wise,
16 redeeming the time, because the days
are evil.
17 Therefore, don't be foolish, but
understand what the will of the Lord is.
18 Don't be drunken with wine, in which
is dissipation, but be filled with the Spirit,
19 speaking to one another in psalms,
hymns, and spiritual songs; singing and
making melody in your heart to the Lord;
20 giving thanks always concerning all
things in the name of our Lord Jesus
Christ to God, even the Father;
21 subjecting yourselves to one another
in the fear of Christ.

22 Wives, be subject to your own
husbands, as to the Lord.
23 For the husband is the head of the
wife, as Christ also is the head of the
assembly, being himself the savior of the
body.
24 But as the assembly is subject to
Christ, so let the wives also be to their own
husbands in everything.

* **4:26** Psalms 4:4 ‡ **4:27** or, opportunity

25 Husbands, love your wives, even as
Christ also loved the assembly and gave
himself up for her,
26 that he might sanctify her, having
cleansed her by the washing of water with
the word,
27 that he might present the assembly to
himself gloriously, not having spot or
wrinkle or any such thing, but that she
should be holy and without defect.
28 Even so husbands also ought to love
their own wives as their own bodies. He
who loves his own wife loves himself.
29 For no man ever hated his own flesh,
but nourishes and cherishes it, even as
the Lord also does the assembly,
30 because we are members of his body,
of his flesh and bones.
31 "For this cause a man will leave his
father and mother and will be joined to
his wife. Then the two will become one
flesh."*
32 This mystery is great, but I speak
concerning Christ and the assembly.
33 Nevertheless each of you must also
love his own wife even as himself; and let
the wife see that she respects her
husband.

6

1 Children, obey your parents in the
Lord, for this is right.
2 "Honor your father and mother,"
which is the first commandment with a
promise:
3 "that it may be well with you, and you
may live long on the earth." *
4 You fathers, don't provoke your
children to wrath, but nurture them in the
discipline and instruction of the Lord.
5 Servants, be obedient to those who
according to the flesh are your masters,
with fear and trembling, in singleness of
your heart, as to Christ,
6 not in the way of service only when
eyes are on you, as men pleasers, but as
servants of Christ, doing the will of God
from the heart,
7 with good will doing service as to the
Lord and not to men,
8 knowing that whatever good thing
each one does, he will receive the same
good again from the Lord, whether he is
bound or free.
9 You masters, do the same things to
them, and give up threatening, knowing
that he who is both their Master and
yours is in heaven, and there is no
partiality with him.
10 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in
the strength of his might.
11 Put on the whole armor of God, that
you may be able to stand against the wiles
of the devil.
12 For our wrestling is not against flesh
and blood, but against the principalities,
against the powers, against the world's
rulers of the darkness of this age, and
against the spiritual forces of wickedness
in the heavenly places.
13 Therefore put on the whole armor of
God, that you may be able to withstand in
the evil day, and having done all, to stand.
14 Stand therefore, having the utility
belt of truth buckled around your waist,
and having put on the breastplate of
righteousness,
15 and having fitted your feet with the
preparation of the Good News of peace,
16 above all, taking up the shield of faith,
with which you will be able to quench all
the fiery darts of the evil one.
17 And take the helmet of salvation, and
the sword of the Spirit, which is the word†
of God;
18 with all prayer and requests, praying
at all times in the Spirit, and being
watchful to this end in all perseverance
and requests for all the saints.
19 Pray for me, that utterance may be
given to me in opening my mouth, to
make known with boldness the mystery of
the Good News,
20 for which I am an ambassador in
chains; that in it I may speak boldly, as I
ought to speak.
21 But that you also may know my
affairs, how I am doing, Tychicus, the
beloved brother and faithful servant in

* **5:31** Genesis 2:24 * **6:3** Deuteronomy 5:16 † **6:17** from the Greek "ῥῆμα" (rhema), which means "spoken word"

the Lord, will make known to you all
things.
22 I have sent him to you for this very
purpose, that you may know our state and
that he may comfort your hearts.
23 Peace be to the brothers, and love
with faith, from God the Father and the
Lord Jesus Christ.
24 Grace be with all those who love our
Lord Jesus Christ with incorruptible love.
Amen.

Paul's Letter to the Philippians

1 Paul and Timothy, servants of Jesus Christ,† to all the saints in Christ Jesus who are at Philippi, with the overseers‡ and servants:§
2 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
3 I thank my God whenever I remember you,
4 always in every request of mine on behalf of you all, making my requests with joy,
5 for your partnership† in furtherance of the Good News from the first day until now;
6 being confident of this very thing, that he who began a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ.
7 It is even right for me to think this way on behalf of all of you, because I have you in my heart, because both in my bonds and in the defense and confirmation of the Good News, you all are partakers with me of grace.
8 For God is my witness, how I long after all of you in the tender mercies of Christ Jesus.
9 This I pray, that your love may abound yet more and more in knowledge and all discernment,
10 so that you may approve the things that are excellent, that you may be sincere and without offense to the day of Christ,
11 being filled with the fruits of righteousness which are through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.
12 Now I desire to have you know, brothers,‡ that the things which happened to me have turned out rather to the progress of the Good News,
13 so that it became evident to the whole palace§ guard, and to all the rest, that my bonds are in Christ,
14 and that most of the brothers in the Lord, being confident through my bonds, are more abundantly bold to speak the word of God without fear.
15 Some indeed preach Christ even out of envy and strife, and some also out of good will.
16 The former insincerely preach Christ from selfish ambition, thinking that they add affliction to my chains;
17 but the latter out of love, knowing that I am appointed for the defense of the Good News.
18 What does it matter? Only that in every way, whether in pretense or in truth, Christ is proclaimed. I rejoice in this, yes, and will rejoice.
19 For I know that this will turn out to my salvation through your prayers and the supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ,
20 according to my earnest expectation and hope, that I will in no way be disappointed, but with all boldness, as always, now also Christ will be magnified in my body, whether by life or by death.
21 For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.
22 But if I live on in the flesh, this will bring fruit from my work; yet I don't know what I will choose.
23 But I am hard pressed between the two, having the desire to depart and be with Christ, which is far better.
24 Yet to remain in the flesh is more needful for your sake.
25 Having this confidence, I know that I will remain, yes, and remain with you all for your progress and joy in the faith,
26 that your boasting† may abound in Christ Jesus in me through my presence with you again.

27 Only let your way of life be worthy of the Good News of Christ, that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of your state, that you stand firm in one spirit, with one soul striving for the faith of the Good News;

† **1:1** "Christ" means "Anointed One". ‡ **1:1** or, superintendents, or bishops § **1:1** Or, deacons † **1:5** The word translated "partnership" (κοινωνίᾳ) also means "fellowship" and "sharing". ‡ **1:12** The word for "brothers" here and where context allows may also be correctly translated "brothers and sisters" or "siblings." § **1:13** or, praetorian † **1:26** or, rejoicing

28 and in nothing frightened by the adversaries, which is for them a proof of destruction, but to you of salvation, and that from God.
29 Because it has been granted to you on behalf of Christ, not only to believe in him, but also to suffer on his behalf,
30 having the same conflict which you saw in me and now hear is in me.

2

1 If therefore there is any exhortation in Christ, if any consolation of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any tender mercies and compassion,
2 make my joy full by being like-minded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind;
3 doing nothing through rivalry or through conceit, but in humility, each counting others better than himself;
4 each of you not just looking to his own things, but each of you also to the things of others.
5 Have this in your mind, which was also in Christ Jesus,
6 who, existing in the form of God, didn't consider equality with God a thing to be grasped,
7 but emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, being made in the likeness of men.
8 And being found in human form, he humbled himself, becoming obedient to the point of death, yes, the death of the cross.
9 Therefore God also highly exalted him, and gave to him the name which is above every name,
10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, those on earth, and those under the earth,
11 and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.
12 So then, my beloved, even as you have always obeyed, not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.
13 For it is God who works in you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.
14 Do all things without complaining and arguing,
15 that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without defect in the middle of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you are seen as lights in the world,
16 holding up the word of life, that I may have something to boast in the day of Christ that I didn't run in vain nor labor in vain.
17 Yes, and if I am poured out on the sacrifice and service of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all.
18 In the same way, you also should be glad and rejoice with me.
19 But I hope in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you soon, that I also may be cheered up when I know how you are doing.
20 For I have no one else like-minded, who will truly care about you.
21 For they all seek their own, not the things of Jesus Christ.
22 But you know that he has proved himself. As a child serves a father, so he served with me in furtherance of the Good News.
23 Therefore I hope to send him at once, as soon as I see how it will go with me.
24 But I trust in the Lord that I myself also will come shortly.
25 But I thought it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus, my brother, fellow worker, fellow soldier, and your apostle and servant of my need,
26 since he longed for you all, and was very troubled because you had heard that he was sick.
27 For indeed he was sick nearly to death, but God had mercy on him, and not on him only, but on me also, that I might not have sorrow on sorrow.
28 I have sent him therefore the more diligently, that when you see him again, you may rejoice, and that I may be the less sorrowful.
29 Receive him therefore in the Lord with all joy, and hold such people in honor,
30 because for the work of Christ he came near to death, risking his life to

supply that which was lacking in your service toward me.

3

1 Finally, my brothers, rejoice in the Lord! To write the same things to you, to me indeed is not tiresome, but for you it is safe.
2 Beware of the dogs; beware of the evil workers; beware of the false circumcision.
3 For we are the circumcision, who worship God in the Spirit, and rejoice in Christ Jesus, and have no confidence in the flesh;
4 though I myself might have confidence even in the flesh. If any other man thinks that he has confidence in the flesh, I yet more:
5 circumcised the eighth day, of the stock of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; concerning the law, a Pharisee;
6 concerning zeal, persecuting the assembly; concerning the righteousness which is in the law, found blameless.
7 However, I consider those things that were gain to me as a loss for Christ.
8 Yes most certainly, and I count all things to be a loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus, my Lord, for whom I suffered the loss of all things, and count them nothing but refuse, that I may gain Christ
9 and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own, that which is of the law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith,
10 that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, becoming conformed to his death,
11 if by any means I may attain to the resurrection from the dead.
12 Not that I have already obtained, or am already made perfect; but I press on, that I may take hold of that for which also I was taken hold of by Christ Jesus.
13 Brothers, I don't regard myself as yet having taken hold, but one thing I do: forgetting the things which are behind and stretching forward to the things which are before,
14 I press on toward the goal for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.
15 Let us therefore, as many as are perfect, think this way. If in anything you think otherwise, God will also reveal that to you.
16 Nevertheless, to the extent that we have already attained, let's walk by the same rule. Let's be of the same mind.
17 Brothers, be imitators together of me, and note those who walk this way, even as you have us for an example.
18 For many walk, of whom I told you often, and now tell you even weeping, as the enemies of the cross of Christ,
19 whose end is destruction, whose god is the belly, and whose glory is in their shame, who think about earthly things.
20 For our citizenship is in heaven, from where we also wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ,
21 who will change the body of our humiliation to be conformed to the body of his glory, according to the working by which he is able even to subject all things to himself.

4

1 Therefore, my brothers, beloved and longed for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.
2 I exhort Euodia, and I exhort Syntyche, to think the same way in the Lord.
3 Yes, I beg you also, true partner, help these women, for they labored with me in the Good News with Clement also, and the rest of my fellow workers, whose names are in the book of life.
4 Rejoice in the Lord always! Again I will say, "Rejoice!"
5 Let your gentleness be known to all men. The Lord is at hand.
6 In nothing be anxious, but in everything, by prayer and petition with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God.
7 And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your thoughts in Christ Jesus.

8 Finally, brothers, whatever things are
true, whatever things are honorable,
whatever things are just, whatever things
are pure, whatever things are lovely,
whatever things are of good report: if
there is any virtue and if there is anything
worthy of praise, think about these things.
9 Do the things which you learned,
received, heard, and saw in me, and the
God of peace will be with you.
10 But I rejoice in the Lord greatly that
now at length you have revived your
thought for me; in which you did indeed
take thought, but you lacked opportunity.
11 Not that I speak because of lack, for I
have learned in whatever state I am, to be
content in it.
12 I know how to be humbled, and I also
know how to abound. In any and all
circumstances I have learned the secret
both to be filled and to be hungry, both to
abound and to be in need.
13 I can do all things through Christ who
strengthens me.
14 However you did well that you
shared in my affliction.
15 You yourselves also know, you
Philippians, that in the beginning of the
Good News, when I departed from
Macedonia, no assembly shared with me
in the matter of giving and receiving but
you only.
16 For even in Thessalonica you sent
once and again to my need.
17 Not that I seek for the gift, but I seek
for the fruit that increases to your
account.
18 But I have all things and abound. I am
filled, having received from Epaphroditus
the things that came from you, a
sweet-smelling fragrance, an acceptable
and well-pleasing sacrifice to God.
19 My God will supply every need of
yours according to his riches in glory in
Christ Jesus.
20 Now to our God and Father be the
glory forever and ever! Amen.
21 Greet every saint in Christ Jesus. The
brothers who are with me greet you.
22 All the saints greet you, especially
those who are of Caesar's household.
23 The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be
with you all. Amen.

Paul's Letter to the Colossians

1 Paul, an apostle of Christ† Jesus
through the will of God, and Timothy our
brother,
2 to the saints and faithful brothers‡ in
Christ at Colossae: Grace to you and peace
from God our Father and the Lord Jesus
Christ.
3 We give thanks to God the Father of
our Lord Jesus Christ, praying always for
you,
4 having heard of your faith in Christ
Jesus and of the love which you have
toward all the saints,
5 because of the hope which is laid up
for you in the heavens, of which you
heard before in the word of the truth of
the Good News
6 which has come to you, even as it is in
all the world and is bearing fruit and
growing, as it does in you also, since the
day you heard and knew the grace of God
in truth,
7 even as you learned from Epaphras
our beloved fellow servant, who is a
faithful servant of Christ on your§ behalf,
8 who also declared to us your love in
the Spirit.

9 For this cause, we also, since the day
we heard this, don't cease praying and
making requests for you, that you may be
filled with the knowledge of his will in all
spiritual wisdom and understanding,
10 that you may walk worthily of the
Lord, to please him in all respects, bearing
fruit in every good work and increasing in
the knowledge of God,
11 strengthened with all power,
according to the might of his glory, for all
endurance and perseverance with joy,
12 giving thanks to the Father, who
made us fit to be partakers of the
inheritance of the saints in light,
13 who delivered us out of the power of
darkness, and translated us into the
Kingdom of the Son of his love,
14 in whom we have our redemption,†
the forgiveness of our sins.

15 He is the image of the invisible God,
the firstborn of all creation.
16 For by him all things were created in
the heavens and on the earth, visible
things and invisible things, whether
thrones or dominions or principalities or
powers. All things have been created
through him and for him.
17 He is before all things, and in him all
things are held together.
18 He is the head of the body, the
assembly, who is the beginning, the
firstborn from the dead, that in all things
he might have the preeminence.
19 For all the fullness was pleased to
dwell in him,
20 and through him to reconcile all
things to himself by him, whether things
on the earth or things in the heavens,
having made peace through the blood of
his cross.

21 You, being in past times alienated and
enemies in your mind in your evil deeds,
22 yet now he has reconciled in the body
of his flesh through death, to present you
holy and without defect and blameless
before him,
23 if it is so that you continue in the
faith, grounded and steadfast, and not
moved away from the hope of the Good
News which you heard, which was
proclaimed in all creation under heaven,
of which I, Paul, was made a servant.

24 Now I rejoice in my sufferings for
your sake, and fill up on my part that
which is lacking of the afflictions of Christ
in my flesh for his body's sake, which is
the assembly,
25 of which I was made a servant
according to the stewardship of God
which was given me toward you to fulfill
the word of God,

† **1:1** "Christ" means "Anointed One". ‡ **1:2** The word for "brothers" here and where context allows may also be correctly translated "brothers and sisters" or "siblings." § **1:7** NU reads *our* † **1:14** TR adds "through his blood,"

26 the mystery which has been hidden
for ages and generations. But now it has
been revealed to his saints,
27 to whom God was pleased to make
known what are the riches of the glory of
this mystery among the Gentiles, which is
Christ in you, the hope of glory.
28 We proclaim him, admonishing every
man and teaching every man in all
wisdom, that we may present every man
perfect in Christ Jesus;
29 for which I also labor, striving
according to his working, which works in
me mightily.

2

1 For I desire to have you know how
greatly I struggle for you and for those at
Laodicea, and for as many as have not
seen my face in the flesh;
2 that their hearts may be comforted,
they being knit together in love, and
gaining all riches of the full assurance of
understanding, that they may know the
mystery of God, both of the Father and of
Christ,
3 in whom all the treasures of wisdom
and knowledge are hidden.
4 Now I say this that no one may delude
you with persuasiveness of speech.
5 For though I am absent in the flesh, yet
I am with you in the spirit, rejoicing and
seeing your order, and the steadfastness
of your faith in Christ.
6 As therefore you received Christ Jesus
the Lord, walk in him,
7 rooted and built up in him and
established in the faith, even as you were
taught, abounding in it in thanksgiving.
8 Be careful that you don't let anyone
rob you through his philosophy and vain
deceit, after the tradition of men, after the
elemental spirits of the world, and not
after Christ.
9 For in him all the fullness of the Deity
dwells bodily,
10 and in him you are made full, who is
the head of all principality and power.
11 In him you were also circumcised
with a circumcision not made with hands,
in the putting off of the body of the sins of
the flesh, in the circumcision of Christ,
12 having been buried with him in
baptism, in which you were also raised
with him through faith in the working of
God, who raised him from the dead.
13 You were dead through your
trespasses and the uncircumcision of your
flesh. He made you alive together with
him, having forgiven us all our trespasses,
14 wiping out the handwriting in
ordinances which was against us. He has
taken it out of the way, nailing it to the
cross.
15 Having stripped the principalities
and the powers, he made a show of them
openly, triumphing over them in it.
16 Let no one therefore judge you in
eating or drinking, or with respect to a
feast day or a new moon or a Sabbath day,
17 which are a shadow of the things to
come; but the body is Christ's.
18 Let no one rob you of your prize by
self-abasement and worshiping of the
angels, dwelling in the things which he
has not seen, vainly puffed up by his
fleshly mind,
19 and not holding firmly to the Head,
from whom all the body, being supplied
and knit together through the joints and
ligaments, grows with God's growth.
20 If you died with Christ from the
elemental spirits of the world, why, as
though living in the world, do you subject
yourselves to ordinances,
21 "Don't handle, nor taste, nor touch"
22 (all of which perish with use),
according to the precepts and doctrines of
men?
23 These things indeed appear like
wisdom in self-imposed worship,
humility, and severity to the body, but
aren't of any value against the indulgence
of the flesh.

3

1 If then you were raised together with
Christ, seek the things that are above,
where Christ is, seated on the right hand
of God.

2 Set your mind on the things that are above, not on the things that are on the earth.
3 For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.
4 When Christ, our life, is revealed, then you will also be revealed with him in glory.
5 Put to death therefore your members which are on the earth: sexual immorality, uncleanness, depraved passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry.
6 For these things' sake the wrath of God comes on the children of disobedience.
7 You also once walked in those, when you lived in them,
8 but now you must put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and shameful speaking out of your mouth.
9 Don't lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old man with his doings,
10 and have put on the new man, who is being renewed in knowledge after the image of his Creator,
11 where there can't be Greek and Jew, circumcision and uncircumcision, barbarian, Scythian, bondservant, or free person; but Christ is all, and in all.
12 Put on therefore, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, a heart of compassion, kindness, lowliness, humility, and perseverance;
13 bearing with one another, and forgiving each other, if any man has a complaint against any; even as Christ forgave you, so you also do.
14 Above all these things, walk in love, which is the bond of perfection.
15 And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in one body, and be thankful.
16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; in all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your heart to the Lord.
17 Whatever you do, in word or in deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.
18 Wives, be in subjection to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord.
19 Husbands, love your wives, and don't be bitter against them.
20 Children, obey your parents in all things, for this pleases the Lord.
21 Fathers, don't provoke your children, so that they won't be discouraged.
22 Servants, obey in all things those who are your masters according to the flesh, not just when they are looking, as men pleasers, but in singleness of heart, fearing God.
23 And whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men,
24 knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ.
25 But he who does wrong will receive again for the wrong that he has done, and there is no partiality.

4

1 Masters, give to your servants that which is just and equal, knowing that you also have a Master in heaven.
2 Continue steadfastly in prayer, watching in it with thanksgiving,
3 praying together for us also, that God may open to us a door for the word, to speak the mystery of Christ, for which I am also in bonds,
4 that I may reveal it as I ought to speak.
5 Walk in wisdom toward those who are outside, redeeming the time.
6 Let your speech always be with grace, seasoned with salt, that you may know how you ought to answer each one.
7 All my affairs will be made known to you by Tychicus, the beloved brother, faithful servant, and fellow bondservant in the Lord.
8 I am sending him to you for this very purpose, that he may know your circumstances and comfort your hearts,
9 together with Onesimus, the faithful and beloved brother, who is one of you. They will make known to you everything that is going on here.
10 Aristarchus, my fellow prisoner, greets you, and Mark the cousin of

Barnabas (concerning whom you
received instructions, “if he comes to you,
receive him”),
11 and Jesus who is called Justus. These
are my only fellow workers for God’s
Kingdom who are of the circumcision,
men who have been a comfort to me.
12 Epaphras, who is one of you, a servant
of Christ, salutes you, always striving for
you in his prayers, that you may stand
perfect and complete in all the will of God.
13 For I testify about him that he has
great zeal for you, and for those in
Laodicea, and for those in Hierapolis.
14 Luke the beloved physician and
Demas greet you.
15 Greet the brothers who are in
Laodicea, with Nymphas and the
assembly that is in his house.
16 When this letter has been read among
you, cause it to be read also in the
assembly of the Laodiceans, and that you
also read the letter from Laodicea.
17 Tell Archippus, “Take heed to the
ministry which you have received in the
Lord, that you fulfill it.”
18 I, Paul, write this greeting with my
own hand. Remember my chains. Grace
be with you. Amen.

Paul's First Letter to the Thessalonians

1 Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, to the
assembly of the Thessalonians in God the
Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:† Grace
to you and peace from God our Father and
the Lord Jesus Christ.
2 We always give thanks to God for all of
you, mentioning you in our prayers,
3 remembering without ceasing your
work of faith and labor of love and
perseverance of hope in our Lord Jesus
Christ, before our God and Father.
4 We know, brothers‡ loved by God, that
you are chosen,
5 and that our Good News came to you
not in word only, but also in power, and in
the Holy Spirit and with much assurance.
You know what kind of men we showed
ourselves to be among you for your sake.
6 You became imitators of us and of the
Lord, having received the word in much
affliction, with joy of the Holy Spirit,
7 so that you became an example to all
who believe in Macedonia and in Achaia.
8 For from you the word of the Lord has
been declared, not only in Macedonia and
Achaia, but also in every place your faith
toward God has gone out, so that we need
not say anything.
9 For they themselves report concerning
us what kind of a reception we had from
you, and how you turned to God from
idols to serve a living and true God,
10 and to wait for his Son from heaven,
whom he raised from the dead: Jesus,
who delivers us from the wrath to come.

2

1 For you yourselves know, brothers,
our visit to you wasn't in vain,
2 but having suffered before and been
shamefully treated, as you know, at
Philippi, we grew bold in our God to tell
you the Good News of God in much
conflict.
3 For our exhortation is not of error, nor
of uncleanness, nor in deception.
4 But even as we have been approved by
God to be entrusted with the Good News,
so we speak—not as pleasing men, but
God, who tests our hearts.
5 For neither were we at any time found
using words of flattery, as you know, nor
a cloak of covetousness (God is witness),
6 nor seeking glory from men (neither
from you nor from others), when we
might have claimed authority as apostles
of Christ.
7 But we were gentle among you, like a
nursing mother cherishes her own
children.
8 Even so, affectionately longing for you,
we were well pleased to impart to you not
the Good News of God only, but also our
own souls, because you had become very
dear to us.
9 For you remember, brothers, our labor
and travail; for working night and day,
that we might not burden any of you, we
preached to you the Good News of God.
10 You are witnesses with God how holy,
righteously, and blamelessly we behaved
ourselves toward you who believe.
11 As you know, we exhorted,
comforted, and implored every one of
you, as a father does his own children,
12 to the end that you should walk
worthily of God, who calls you into his
own Kingdom and glory.
13 For this cause we also thank God
without ceasing that when you received
from us the word of the message of God,
you accepted it not as the word of men,
but as it is in truth, God's word, which also
works in you who believe.
14 For you, brothers, became imitators
of the assemblies of God which are in
Judea in Christ Jesus; for you also suffered
the same things from your own
countrymen, even as they did from the
Jews
15 who killed both the Lord Jesus and
their own prophets, and drove us out, and

† **1:1** "Christ" means "Anointed One". ‡ **1:4** The word for "brothers" here and where context allows may also be correctly translated "brothers and sisters" or "siblings."

don't please God, and are contrary to all men,
16 forbidding us to speak to the Gentiles that they may be saved, to fill up their sins always. But wrath has come on them to the uttermost.
17 But we, brothers, being bereaved of you for a short season in presence, not in heart, tried even harder to see your face with great desire,
18 because we wanted to come to you—indeed, I, Paul, once and again—but Satan hindered us.
19 For what is our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? Isn't it even you, before our Lord Jesus† at his coming?
20 For you are our glory and our joy.

3

1 Therefore when we couldn't stand it any longer, we thought it good to be left behind at Athens alone,
2 and sent Timothy, our brother and God's servant in the Good News of Christ, to establish you and to comfort you concerning your faith,
3 that no one would be moved by these afflictions. For you know that we are appointed to this task.
4 For most certainly, when we were with you, we told you beforehand that we are to suffer affliction, even as it happened, and you know.
5 For this cause I also, when I couldn't stand it any longer, sent that I might know your faith, for fear that by any means the tempter had tempted you, and our labor would have been in vain.
6 But Timothy has just now come to us from you, and brought us glad news of your faith and love, and that you have good memories of us always, longing to see us, even as we also long to see you.
7 For this cause, brothers, we were comforted over you in all our distress and affliction through your faith.
8 For now we live, if you stand fast in the Lord.
9 For what thanksgiving can we give again to God for you, for all the joy with which we rejoice for your sakes before our God,
10 night and day praying exceedingly that we may see your face and may perfect that which is lacking in your faith?
11 Now may our God and Father himself, and our Lord Jesus Christ, direct our way to you.
12 May the Lord make you to increase and abound in love toward one another and toward all men, even as we also do toward you,
13 to the end he may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

4

1 Finally then, brothers, we beg and exhort you in the Lord Jesus, that as you received from us how you ought to walk and to please God, that you abound more and more.
2 For you know what instructions we gave you through the Lord Jesus.
3 For this is the will of God: your sanctification, that you abstain from sexual immorality,
4 that each one of you know how to control his own body† in sanctification and honor,
5 not in the passion of lust, even as the Gentiles who don't know God,
6 that no one should take advantage of and wrong a brother or sister in this matter; because the Lord is an avenger in all these things, as also we forewarned you and testified.
7 For God called us not for uncleanness, but in sanctification.
8 Therefore he who rejects this doesn't reject man, but God, who has also given his Holy Spirit to you.
9 But concerning brotherly love, you have no need that one write to you. For you yourselves are taught by God to love one another,
10 for indeed you do it toward all the brothers who are in all Macedonia. But

† **2:19** TR adds "Christ" † **4:4** literally, possess his own vessel

we exhort you, brothers, that you abound more and more;
11 and that you make it your ambition to lead a quiet life, and to do your own business, and to work with your own hands, even as we instructed you,
12 that you may walk properly toward those who are outside, and may have need of nothing.
13 But we don't want you to be ignorant, brothers, concerning those who have fallen asleep, so that you don't grieve like the rest, who have no hope.
14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep in Jesus.
15 For this we tell you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will in no way precede those who have fallen asleep.
16 For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel and with God's trumpet. The dead in Christ will rise first,
17 then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. So we will be with the Lord forever.
18 Therefore comfort one another with these words.

5

1 But concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need that anything be written to you.
2 For you yourselves know well that the day of the Lord comes like a thief in the night.
3 For when they are saying, "Peace and safety," then sudden destruction will come on them, like birth pains on a pregnant woman. Then they will in no way escape.
4 But you, brothers, aren't in darkness, that the day should overtake you like a thief.
5 You are all children of light and children of the day. We don't belong to the night, nor to darkness,
6 so then let's not sleep, as the rest do, but let's watch and be sober.
7 For those who sleep, sleep in the night; and those who are drunk are drunk in the night.
8 But since we belong to the day, let's be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet, the hope of salvation.
9 For God didn't appoint us to wrath, but to the obtaining of salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ,
10 who died for us, that, whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with him.
11 Therefore exhort one another, and build each other up, even as you also do.
12 But we beg you, brothers, to know those who labor among you, and are over you in the Lord and admonish you,
13 and to respect and honor them in love for their work's sake.
Be at peace among yourselves.
14 We exhort you, brothers: Admonish the disorderly; encourage the faint-hearted; support the weak; be patient toward all.
15 See that no one returns evil for evil to anyone, but always follow after that which is good for one another and for all.
16 Always rejoice.
17 Pray without ceasing.
18 In everything give thanks, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus toward you.
19 Don't quench the Spirit.
20 Don't despise prophecies.
21 Test all things, and hold firmly that which is good.
22 Abstain from every form of evil.
23 May the God of peace himself sanctify you completely. May your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.
24 He who calls you is faithful, who will also do it.
25 Brothers, pray for us.
26 Greet all the brothers with a holy kiss.
27 I solemnly command you by the Lord that this letter be read to all the holy brothers.
28 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. Amen.

Paul's Second Letter to the Thessalonians

1 Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, to the
assembly of the Thessalonians in God our
Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:
2 Grace to you and peace from God our
Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
3 We are bound to always give thanks to
God for you, brothers,† even as it is
appropriate, because your faith grows
exceedingly, and the love of each and
every one of you toward one another
abounds,
4 so that we ourselves boast about you
in the assemblies of God for your
perseverance and faith in all your
persecutions and in the afflictions which
you endure.
5 This is an obvious sign of the righteous
judgment of God, to the end that you may
be counted worthy of God's Kingdom, for
which you also suffer.
6 For it is a righteous thing with God to
repay affliction to those who afflict you,
7 and to give relief to you who are
afflicted with us when the Lord Jesus is
revealed from heaven with his mighty
angels in flaming fire,
8 punishing those who don't know God,
and to those who don't obey the Good
News of our Lord Jesus,
9 who will pay the penalty: eternal
destruction from the face of the Lord and
from the glory of his might,
10 when he comes in that day to be
glorified in his saints and to be admired
among all those who have believed,
because our testimony to you was
believed.
11 To this end we also pray always for
you that our God may count you worthy of
your calling, and fulfill every desire of
goodness and work of faith with power,
12 that the name of our Lord Jesus‡ may
be glorified in you, and you in him,
according to the grace of our God and the
Lord Jesus Christ.

2

1 Now, brothers, concerning the coming
of our Lord Jesus Christ and our gathering
together to him, we ask you
2 not to be quickly shaken in your mind
or troubled, either by spirit or by word or
by letter as if from us, saying that the day
of Christ has already come.
3 Let no one deceive you in any way. For
it will not be unless the rebellion† comes
first, and the man of sin is revealed, the
son of destruction.
4 He opposes and exalts himself against
all that is called God or that is worshiped,
so that he sits as God in the temple of God,
setting himself up as God.
5 Don't you remember that when I was
still with you, I told you these things?
6 Now you know what is restraining
him, to the end that he may be revealed in
his own season.
7 For the mystery of lawlessness already
works. Only there is one who restrains
now, until he is taken out of the way.
8 Then the lawless one will be revealed,
whom the Lord will kill with the breath of
his mouth and destroy by the
manifestation of his coming;
9 even he whose coming is according to
the working of Satan with all power and
signs and lying wonders,
10 and with all deception of wickedness
for those who are being lost, because they
didn't receive the love of the truth, that
they might be saved.
11 Because of this, God sends them a
powerful delusion, that they should
believe a lie,
12 that they all might be judged who
didn't believe the truth, but had pleasure
in unrighteousness.
13 But we are bound to always give
thanks to God for you, brothers loved by
the Lord, because God chose you from the
beginning for salvation through

† **1:3** The word for "brothers" here and where context allows may also be correctly translated "brothers and sisters" or "siblings." ‡ **1:12** TR adds "Christ" † **2:3** or, *falling away*, or, *defection*

sanctification of the Spirit and belief in the truth,
14 to which he called you through our Good News, for the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.
15 So then, brothers, stand firm and hold the traditions which you were taught by us, whether by word or by letter.

16 Now our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God our Father, who loved us and gave us eternal comfort and good hope through grace,
17 comfort your hearts and establish you in every good work and word.

3

1 Finally, brothers, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may spread rapidly and be glorified, even as also with you,
2 and that we may be delivered from unreasonable and evil men; for not all have faith.
3 But the Lord is faithful, who will establish you and guard you from the evil one.
4 We have confidence in the Lord concerning you, that you both do and will do the things we command.
5 May the Lord direct your hearts into God's love and into the perseverance of Christ.

6 Now we command you, brothers, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you withdraw yourselves from every brother who walks in rebellion and not after the tradition which they received from us.
7 For you know how you ought to imitate us. For we didn't behave ourselves rebelliously among you,
8 neither did we eat bread from anyone's hand without paying for it, but in labor and travail worked night and day, that we might not burden any of you.
9 This was not because we don't have the right, but to make ourselves an example to you, that you should imitate us.
10 For even when we were with you, we commanded you this: "If anyone is not willing to work, don't let him eat."
11 For we hear of some who walk among you in rebellion, who don't work at all, but are busybodies.
12 Now those who are that way, we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ, that they work with quietness and eat their own bread.
13 But you, brothers, don't be weary in doing what is right.
14 If any man doesn't obey our word in this letter, note that man and have no company with him, to the end that he may be ashamed.
15 Don't count him as an enemy, but admonish him as a brother.
16 Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times in all ways. The Lord be with you all.
17 I, Paul, write this greeting with my own hand, which is the sign in every letter. This is how I write.
18 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.

Paul's First Letter to Timothy

1 Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ
according to the commandment of God
our Savior and the Lord Jesus Christ† our
hope,
2 to Timothy, my true child in faith:
Grace, mercy, and peace from God our
Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.
3 As I urged you when I was going into
Macedonia, stay at Ephesus that you
might command certain men not to teach
a different doctrine,
4 and not to pay attention to myths and
endless genealogies, which cause disputes
rather than God's stewardship, which is in
faith.
5 But the goal of this command is love
from a pure heart, a good conscience, and
sincere faith,
6 from which things some, having
missed the mark, have turned away to
vain talking,
7 desiring to be teachers of the law,
though they understand neither what
they say nor about what they strongly
affirm.
8 But we know that the law is good if a
person uses it lawfully,
9 as knowing this, that law is not made
for a righteous person, but for the lawless
and insubordinate, for the ungodly and
sinners, for the unholy and profane, for
murderers of fathers and murderers of
mothers, for manslayers,
10 for the sexually immoral, for
homosexuals, for slave-traders, for liars,
for perjurers, and for any other thing
contrary to the sound doctrine,
11 according to the Good News of the
glory of the blessed God, which was
committed to my trust.
12 I thank him who enabled me, Christ
Jesus our Lord, because he counted me
faithful, appointing me to service,
13 although I used to be a blasphemer, a
persecutor, and insolent. However, I
obtained mercy because I did it ignorantly
in unbelief.
14 The grace of our Lord abounded
exceedingly with faith and love which is
in Christ Jesus.
15 The saying is faithful and worthy of
all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into
the world to save sinners, of whom I am
chief.
16 However, for this cause I obtained
mercy, that in me first, Jesus Christ might
display all his patience for an example of
those who were going to believe in him
for eternal life.
17 Now to the King eternal, immortal,
invisible, to God who alone is wise, be
honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.
18 I commit this instruction to you, my
child Timothy, according to the
prophecies which were given to you
before, that by them you may wage the
good warfare,
19 holding faith and a good conscience,
which some having thrust away made a
shipwreck concerning the faith,
20 of whom are Hymenaeus and
Alexander, whom I delivered to Satan that
they might be taught not to blaspheme.

2

1 I exhort therefore, first of all, that
petitions, prayers, intercessions, and
givings of thanks be made for all men,
2 for kings and all who are in high
places, that we may lead a tranquil and
quiet life in all godliness and reverence.
3 For this is good and acceptable in the
sight of God our Savior,
4 who desires all people to be saved and
come to full knowledge of the truth.
5 For there is one God and one mediator
between God and men, the man Christ
Jesus,
6 who gave himself as a ransom for all,
the testimony at the proper time,
7 to which I was appointed a preacher
and an apostle—I am telling the truth in
Christ, not lying—a teacher of the Gentiles
in faith and truth.

† **1:1** NU reads *Christ Jesus* and omits *the Lord.*

8 I desire therefore that the men in
every place pray, lifting up holy hands
without anger and doubting.
9 In the same way, that women also
adorn themselves in decent clothing, with
modesty and propriety, not† with braided
hair, gold, pearls, or expensive clothing,
10 but with good works, which is
appropriate for women professing
godliness.
11 Let a woman learn in quietness with
full submission.
12 But I don't permit a woman to teach,
nor to exercise authority over a man, but
to be in quietness.
13 For Adam was formed first, then Eve.
14 Adam wasn't deceived, but the
woman, being deceived, has fallen into
disobedience;
15 but she will be saved through her
childbearing, if they continue in faith,
love, and holiness with sobriety.

3

1 This is a faithful saying: someone who
seeks to be an overseer† desires a good
work.
2 The overseer therefore must be
without reproach, the husband of one
wife, temperate, sensible, modest,
hospitable, good at teaching;
3 not a drinker, not violent, not greedy
for money, but gentle, not quarrelsome,
not covetous;
4 one who rules his own house well,
having children in subjection with all
reverence;
5 (for how could someone who doesn't
know how to rule his own house take care
of God's assembly?)
6 not a new convert, lest being puffed up
he fall into the same condemnation as the
devil.
7 Moreover he must have good
testimony from those who are outside, to
avoid falling into reproach and the snare
of the devil.
8 Servants,‡ in the same way, must be
reverent, not double-tongued, not
addicted to much wine, not greedy for
money,
9 holding the mystery of the faith in a
pure conscience.
10 Let them also first be tested; then let
them serve§ if they are blameless.
11 Their wives in the same way must be
reverent, not slanderers, temperate, and
faithful in all things.
12 Let servants† be husbands of one
wife, ruling their children and their own
houses well.
13 For those who have served well‡ gain
for themselves a good standing and great
boldness in the faith which is in Christ
Jesus.
14 These things I write to you, hoping to
come to you shortly,
15 but if I wait long, that you may know
how men ought to behave themselves in
God's house, which is the assembly of the
living God, the pillar and ground of the
truth.
16 Without controversy, the mystery of
godliness is great:

God§ was revealed in the flesh,
justified in the spirit,
seen by angels,
preached among the nations,
believed on in the world,
and received up in glory.

4

1 But the Spirit says expressly that in
later times some will fall away from the
faith, paying attention to seducing spirits
and doctrines of demons,
2 through the hypocrisy of men who
speak lies, branded in their own
conscience as with a hot iron,
3 forbidding marriage and commanding
to abstain from foods which God created
to be received with thanksgiving by those
who believe and know the truth.

† **2:9** The word for "not" is the negative particle "μη" which denies an expected idea, as opposed to the usual word for "not" (ου) which denies a fact. Thus "μη" in this context is denying an expected idea (that women can be properly dressed without good works). † **3:1** or, superintendent, or bishop ‡ **3:8** or, Deacons. § **3:10** or, serve as deacons † **3:12** or, deacons ‡ **3:13** or, served well as deacons § **3:16** NU replaces "God" with "who"

4 For every creature of God is good, and
nothing is to be rejected if it is received
with thanksgiving.
5 For it is sanctified through the word of
God and prayer.
6 If you instruct the brothers of these
things, you will be a good servant of Christ
Jesus, nourished in the words of the faith
and of the good doctrine which you have
followed.
7 But refuse profane and old wives'
fables. Exercise yourself toward
godliness.
8 For bodily exercise has some value,
but godliness has value in all things,
having the promise of the life which is
now and of that which is to come.
9 This saying is faithful and worthy of all
acceptance.
10 For to this end we both labor and
suffer reproach, because we have set our
trust in the living God, who is the Savior of
all men, especially of those who believe.
11 Command and teach these things.
12 Let no man despise your youth; but
be an example to those who believe, in
word, in your way of life, in love, in spirit,
in faith, and in purity.
13 Until I come, pay attention to reading,
to exhortation, and to teaching.
14 Don't neglect the gift that is in you,
which was given to you by prophecy with
the laying on of the hands of the elders.
15 Be diligent in these things. Give
yourself wholly to them, that your
progress may be revealed to all.
16 Pay attention to yourself and to your
teaching. Continue in these things, for in
doing this you will save both yourself and
those who hear you.

5

1 Don't rebuke an older man, but exhort
him as a father; the younger men as
brothers;
2 the elder women as mothers; the
younger as sisters, in all purity.
3 Honor widows who are widows
indeed.
4 But if any widow has children or
grandchildren, let them learn first to
show piety toward their own family and
to repay their parents, for this is†
acceptable in the sight of God.
5 Now she who is a widow indeed and
desolate, has her hope set on God and
continues in petitions and prayers night
and day.
6 But she who gives herself to pleasure
is dead while she lives.
7 Also command these things, that they
may be without reproach.
8 But if anyone doesn't provide for his
own, and especially his own household,
he has denied the faith and is worse than
an unbeliever.
9 Let no one be enrolled as a widow
under sixty years old, having been the
wife of one man,
10 being approved by good works, if she
has brought up children, if she has been
hospitable to strangers, if she has washed
the saints' feet, if she has relieved the
afflicted, and if she has diligently followed
every good work.
11 But refuse younger widows, for when
they have grown wanton against Christ,
they desire to marry,
12 having condemnation, because they
have rejected their first pledge.
13 Besides, they also learn to be idle,
going about from house to house. Not
only idle, but also gossips and busybodies,
saying things which they ought not.
14 I desire therefore that the younger
widows marry, bear children, rule the
household, and give no occasion to the
adversary for insulting.
15 For already some have turned away
after Satan.
16 If any man or woman who believes
has widows, let them relieve them, and
don't let the assembly be burdened, that it
might relieve those who are widows
indeed.
17 Let the elders who rule well be
counted worthy of double honor,
especially those who labor in the word
and in teaching.

† **5:4** TR adds "good and"

18 For the Scripture says, “You shall not muzzle the ox when it treads out the grain.”* And, “The laborer is worthy of his wages.”*

19 Don’t receive an accusation against an elder except at the word of two or three witnesses.

20 Those who sin, reprove in the sight of all, that the rest also may be in fear.

21 I command you in the sight of God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, and the chosen angels, that you observe these things without prejudice, doing nothing by partiality.

22 Lay hands hastily on no one. Don’t be a participant in other people’s sins. Keep yourself pure.

23 Be no longer a drinker of water only, but use a little wine for your stomach’s sake and your frequent infirmities.

24 Some men’s sins are evident, preceding them to judgment, and some also follow later.

25 In the same way also there are good works that are obvious, and those that are otherwise can’t be hidden.

6

1 Let as many as are bondservants under the yoke count their own masters worthy of all honor, that the name of God and the doctrine not be blasphemed.

2 Those who have believing masters, let them not despise them because they are brothers, but rather let them serve them, because those who partake of the benefit are believing and beloved. Teach and exhort these things.

3 If anyone teaches a different doctrine and doesn’t consent to sound words, the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the doctrine which is according to godliness,

4 he is conceited, knowing nothing, but obsessed with arguments, disputes, and word battles, from which come envy, strife, insulting, evil suspicions,

5 constant friction of people of corrupt minds and destitute of the truth, who suppose that godliness is a means of gain. Withdraw yourself from such.†

6 But godliness with contentment is great gain.

7 For we brought nothing into the world, and we certainly can’t carry anything out.

8 But having food and clothing, we will be content with that.

9 But those who are determined to be rich fall into a temptation, a snare, and many foolish and harmful lusts, such as drown men in ruin and destruction.

10 For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some have been led astray from the faith in their greed, and have pierced themselves through with many sorrows.

11 But you, man of God, flee these things, and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, perseverance, and gentleness.

12 Fight the good fight of faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called, and you confessed the good confession in the sight of many witnesses.

13 I command you before God who gives life to all things, and before Christ Jesus who before Pontius Pilate testified the good confession,

14 that you keep the commandment without spot, blameless until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ,

15 which at the right time he will show, who is the blessed and only Ruler, the King of kings and Lord of lords.

16 He alone has immortality, dwelling in unapproachable light, whom no man has seen nor can see, to whom be honor and eternal power. Amen.

17 Charge those who are rich in this present age that they not be arrogant, nor have their hope set on the uncertainty of riches, but on the living God, who richly provides us with everything to enjoy;

18 that they do good, that they be rich in good works, that they be ready to distribute, willing to share;

19 laying up in store for themselves a good foundation against the time to come, that they may lay hold of eternal life.

* **5:18** Deuteronomy 25:4 * **5:18** Luke 10:7; Leviticus 19:13 † **6:5** NU omits “Withdraw yourself from such.”

20 Timothy, guard that which is
committed to you, turning away from the
empty chatter and oppositions of what is
falsely called knowledge,
21 which some profess, and thus have
wandered from the faith.
Grace be with you. Amen.

Paul's Second Letter to Timothy

1 Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ† through the will of God, according to the promise of the life which is in Christ Jesus,
2 to Timothy, my beloved child: Grace, mercy, and peace, from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.
3 I thank God, whom I serve as my forefathers did, with a pure conscience. How unceasing is my memory of you in my petitions, night and day
4 longing to see you, remembering your tears, that I may be filled with joy;
5 having been reminded of the sincere faith that is in you, which lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and, I am persuaded, in you also.
6 For this cause, I remind you that you should stir up the gift of God which is in you through the laying on of my hands.
7 For God didn't give us a spirit of fear, but of power, love, and self-control.
8 Therefore don't be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me his prisoner; but endure hardship for the Good News according to the power of God,
9 who 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 times eternal,
10 but has now been revealed by the appearing of our Savior, Christ Jesus, who abolished death, and brought life and immortality to light through the Good News.
11 For this I was appointed as a preacher, an apostle, and a teacher of the Gentiles.
12 For this cause I also suffer these things.

Yet I am not ashamed, for I know him whom I have believed, and I am persuaded that he is able to guard that which I have committed to him against that day.

13 Hold the pattern of sound words which you have heard from me, in faith and love which is in Christ Jesus.
14 That good thing which was committed to you, guard through the Holy Spirit who dwells in us.
15 This you know, that all who are in Asia turned away from me, of whom are Phygelus and Hermogenes.
16 May the Lord grant mercy to the house of Onesiphorus, for he often refreshed me, and was not ashamed of my chain,
17 but when he was in Rome, he sought me diligently and found me
18 (the Lord grant to him to find the Lord's mercy in that day); and in how many things he served at Ephesus, you know very well.

2

1 You therefore, my child, be strengthened in the grace that is in Christ Jesus.
2 The things which you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit the same things to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.
3 You therefore must endure hardship as a good soldier of Christ Jesus.
4 No soldier on duty entangles himself in the affairs of life, that he may please him who enrolled him as a soldier.
5 Also, if anyone competes in athletics, he isn't crowned unless he has competed by the rules.
6 The farmer who labors must be the first to get a share of the crops.
7 Consider what I say, and may the Lord give you understanding in all things.
8 Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, of the offspring† of David, according to my Good News,
9 in which I suffer hardship to the point of chains as a criminal. But God's word isn't chained.
10 Therefore I endure all things for the chosen ones' sake, that they also may obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory.

† **1:1** "Christ" means "Anointed One". † **2:8** or, seed

11 This saying is trustworthy:
“For if we died with him,
we will also live with him.
12 If we endure,
we will also reign with him.
If we deny him,
he also will deny us.
13 If we are faithless,
he remains faithful;
for he can’t deny himself.”
14 Remind them of these things, charging them in the sight of the Lord that they don’t argue about words to no profit, to the subverting of those who hear.
15 Give diligence to present yourself approved by God, a workman who doesn’t need to be ashamed, properly handling the Word of Truth.
16 But shun empty chatter, for it will go further in ungodliness,
17 and those words will consume like gangrene, of whom is Hymenaeus and Philetus:
18 men who have erred concerning the truth, saying that the resurrection is already past, and overthrowing the faith of some.
19 However, God’s firm foundation stands, having this seal: “The Lord knows those who are his,”* and, “Let every one who names the name of the Lord‡ depart from unrighteousness.”
20 Now in a large house there are not only vessels of gold and of silver, but also of wood and of clay. Some are for honor and some for dishonor.
21 If anyone therefore purges himself from these, he will be a vessel for honor, sanctified, and suitable for the master’s use, prepared for every good work.
22 Flee from youthful lusts; but pursue righteousness, faith, love, and peace with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart.
23 But refuse foolish and ignorant questionings, knowing that they generate strife.
24 The Lord’s servant must not quarrel, but be gentle toward all, able to teach, patient,
25 in gentleness correcting those who oppose him. Perhaps God may give them repentance leading to a full knowledge of the truth,
26 and they may recover themselves out of the devil’s snare, having been taken captive by him to do his will.

3

1 But know this: that in the last days, grievous times will come.
2 For men will be lovers of self, lovers of money, boastful, arrogant, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,
3 without natural affection, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, fierce, not lovers of good,
4 traitors, headstrong, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God,
5 holding a form of godliness but having denied its power. Turn away from these, also.
6 For some of these are people who creep into houses and take captive gullible women loaded down with sins, led away by various lusts,
7 always learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.
8 Even as Jannes and Jambres opposed Moses, so these also oppose the truth, men corrupted in mind, who concerning the faith are rejected.
9 But they will proceed no further. For their folly will be evident to all men, as theirs also came to be.
10 But you followed my teaching, conduct, purpose, faith, patience, love, steadfastness,
11 persecutions, and sufferings—those things that happened to me at Antioch, Iconium, and Lystra. I endured those persecutions. The Lord delivered me out of them all.
12 Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution.
13 But evil men and impostors will grow worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived.

* **2:19** Numbers 16:5 ‡ **2:19** TR reads “Christ” instead of “the Lord”

14 But you remain in the things which
you have learned and have been assured
of, knowing from whom you have learned
them.
15 From infancy, you have known the
holy Scriptures which are able to make
you wise for salvation through faith
which is in Christ Jesus.
16 Every Scripture is God-breathed and†
profitable for teaching, for reproof, for
correction, and for instruction in
righteousness,
17 that each person who belongs to God
may be complete, thoroughly equipped
for every good work.

4

1 I command you therefore before God
and the Lord Jesus Christ, who will judge
the living and the dead at his appearing
and his Kingdom:
2 preach the word; be urgent in season
and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and
exhort with all patience and teaching.
3 For the time will come when they will
not listen to the sound doctrine, but
having itching ears, will heap up for
themselves teachers after their own lusts,
4 and will turn away their ears from the
truth, and turn away to fables.
5 But you be sober in all things, suffer
hardship, do the work of an evangelist,
and fulfill your ministry.
6 For I am already being offered, and the
time of my departure has come.
7 I have fought the good fight. I have
finished the course. I have kept the faith.
8 From now on, the crown of
righteousness is stored up for me, which
the Lord, the righteous judge, will give to
me on that day; and not to me only, but
also to all those who have loved his
appearing.
9 Be diligent to come to me soon,
10 for Demas left me, having loved this
present world, and went to Thessalonica;
Crescens to Galatia; and Titus to Dalmatia.
11 Only Luke is with me. Take Mark and
bring him with you, for he is useful to me
for service.
12 But I sent Tychicus to Ephesus.
13 Bring the cloak that I left at Troas
with Carpus when you come—and the
books, especially the parchments.
14 Alexander the coppersmith did much
evil to me. The Lord will repay him
according to his deeds.
15 Beware of him, for he greatly opposed
our words.
16 At my first defense, no one came to
help me, but all left me. May it not be held
against them.
17 But the Lord stood by me and
strengthened me, that through me the
message might be fully proclaimed, and
that all the Gentiles might hear. So I was
delivered out of the mouth of the lion.
18 And the Lord will deliver me from
every evil work and will preserve me for
his heavenly Kingdom. To him be the
glory forever and ever. Amen.
19 Greet Prisca and Aquila, and the
house of Onesiphorus.
20 Erastus remained at Corinth, but I left
Trophimus at Miletus sick.
21 Be diligent to come before winter.
Eubulus salutes you, as do Pudens, Linus,
Claudia, and all the brothers.
22 The Lord Jesus Christ be with your
spirit. Grace be with you. Amen.

† **3:16** or, Every writing inspired by God is

Paul's Letter to Titus

1 Paul, a servant of God and an apostle
of Jesus Christ,† according to the faith of
God's chosen ones and the knowledge of
the truth which is according to godliness,
2 in hope of eternal life, which God, who
can't lie, promised before time began;
3 but in his own time revealed his word
in the message with which I was
entrusted according to the commandment
of God our Savior,
4 to Titus, my true child according to a
common faith: Grace, mercy, and peace
from God the Father and the Lord Jesus
Christ our Savior.
5 I left you in Crete for this reason, that
you would set in order the things that
were lacking and appoint elders in every
city, as I directed you—
6 if anyone is blameless, the husband of
one wife, having children who believe,
who are not accused of loose or unruly
behavior.
7 For the overseer must be blameless, as
God's steward, not self-pleasing, not easily
angered, not given to wine, not violent,
not greedy for dishonest gain;
8 but given to hospitality, a lover of
good, sober minded, fair, holy,
self-controlled,
9 holding to the faithful word which is
according to the teaching, that he may be
able to exhort in the sound doctrine, and
to convict those who contradict him.
10 For there are also many unruly men,
vain talkers and deceivers, especially
those of the circumcision,
11 whose mouths must be stopped: men
who overthrow whole houses, teaching
things which they ought not, for dishonest
gain's sake.
12 One of them, a prophet of their own,
said, "Cretans are always liars, evil beasts,
and idle gluttons."
13 This testimony is true. For this cause,
reprove them sharply, that they may be
sound in the faith,
14 not paying attention to Jewish fables
and commandments of men who turn
away from the truth.
15 To the pure, all things are pure, but to
those who are defiled and unbelieving,
nothing is pure; but both their mind and
their conscience are defiled.
16 They profess that they know God, but
by their deeds they deny him, being
abominable, disobedient, and unfit for
any good work.

2

1 But say the things which fit sound
doctrine,
2 that older men should be temperate,
sensible, sober minded, sound in faith, in
love, and in perseverance,
3 and that older women likewise be
reverent in behavior, not slanderers nor
enslaved to much wine, teachers of that
which is good,
4 that they may train the young wives to
love their husbands, to love their children,
5 to be sober minded, chaste, workers at
home, kind, being in subjection to their
own husbands, that God's word may not
be blasphemed.
6 Likewise, exhort the younger men to
be sober minded.
7 In all things show yourself an example
of good works. In your teaching, show
integrity, seriousness, incorruptibility,
8 and soundness of speech that can't be
condemned, that he who opposes you
may be ashamed, having no evil thing to
say about us.
9 Exhort servants to be in subjection to
their own masters and to be well-pleasing
in all things, not contradicting,
10 not stealing, but showing all good
fidelity, that they may adorn the doctrine
of God, our Savior, in all things.
11 For the grace of God has appeared,
bringing salvation to all men,
12 instructing us to the intent that,
denying ungodliness and worldly lusts,
we would live soberly, righteously, and
godly in this present age;

† **1:1** "Christ" means "Anointed One".

13 looking for the blessed hope and
appearing of the glory of our great God
and Savior, Jesus Christ,
14 who gave himself for us, that he
might redeem us from all iniquity and
purify for himself a people for his own
possession, zealous for good works.
15 Say these things and exhort and
reprove with all authority. Let no one
despise you.

3

1 Remind them to be in subjection to
rulers and to authorities, to be obedient,
to be ready for every good work,
2 to speak evil of no one, not to be
contentious, to be gentle, showing all
humility toward all men.
3 For we were also once foolish,
disobedient, deceived, serving various
lusts and pleasures, living in malice and
envy, hateful, and hating one another.
4 But when the kindness of God our
Savior and his love toward mankind
appeared,
5 not by works of righteousness which
we did ourselves, but according to his
mercy, he saved us through the washing
of regeneration and renewing by the Holy
Spirit,
6 whom he poured out on us richly
through Jesus Christ our Savior;
7 that being justified by his grace, we
might be made heirs according to the
hope of eternal life.
8 This saying is faithful, and concerning
these things I desire that you insist
confidently, so that those who have
believed God may be careful to maintain
good works. These things are good and
profitable to men;
9 but shun foolish questionings,
genealogies, strife, and disputes about the
law; for they are unprofitable and vain.
10 Avoid a factious man after a first and
second warning,
11 knowing that such a one is perverted
and sinful, being self-condemned.
12 When I send Artemas to you, or
Tychicus, be diligent to come to me to
Nicopolis, for I have determined to winter
there.
13 Send Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on
their journey speedily, that nothing may
be lacking for them.
14 Let our people also learn to maintain
good works to meet necessary needs, that
they may not be unfruitful.
15 All who are with me greet you. Greet
those who love us in faith.
Grace be with you all. Amen.

Paul's Letter to Philemon

1 Paul, a prisoner of Christ† Jesus, and
Timothy our brother, to Philemon, our
beloved fellow worker,
2 to the beloved Apphia, to Archippus
our fellow soldier, and to the assembly in
your house:
3 Grace to you and peace from God our
Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
4 I thank my God always, making
mention of you in my prayers,
5 hearing of your love and of the faith
which you have toward the Lord Jesus
and toward all the saints,
6 that the fellowship of your faith may
become effective in the knowledge of
every good thing which is in us in Christ
Jesus.
7 For we have much joy and comfort in
your love, because the hearts of the saints
have been refreshed through you,
brother.
8 Therefore though I have all boldness
in Christ to command you that which is
appropriate,
9 yet for love's sake I rather appeal to
you, being such a one as Paul, the aged,
but also a prisoner of Jesus Christ.
10 I appeal to you for my child
Onesimus, whom I have become the
father of in my chains,‡
11 who once was useless to you, but now
is useful to you and to me.
12 I am sending him back. Therefore
receive him, that is, my own heart,
13 whom I desired to keep with me, that
on your behalf he might serve me in my
chains for the Good News.
14 But I was willing to do nothing
without your consent, that your goodness
would not be as of necessity, but of free
will.
15 For perhaps he was therefore
separated from you for a while that you
would have him forever,
16 no longer as a slave, but more than a
slave, a beloved brother—especially to me,
but how much rather to you, both in the
flesh and in the Lord.
17 If then you count me a partner,
receive him as you would receive me.
18 But if he has wronged you at all or
owes you anything, put that to my
account.
19 I, Paul, write this with my own hand: I
will repay it (not to mention to you that
you owe to me even your own self
besides).
20 Yes, brother, let me have joy from you
in the Lord. Refresh my heart in the Lord.
21 Having confidence in your obedience,
I write to you, knowing that you will do
even beyond what I say.
22 Also, prepare a guest room for me, for
I hope that through your prayers I will be
restored to you.
23 Epaphras, my fellow prisoner in
Christ Jesus, greets you,
24 as do Mark, Aristarchus, Demas, and
Luke, my fellow workers.
25 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be
with your spirit. Amen.

† **1:1** "Christ" means "Anointed One". ‡ **1:10** Onesimus means "useful".

The Letter to the Hebrews

1 God, having in the past spoken to the
fathers through the prophets at many
times and in various ways,
2 has at the end of these days spoken to
us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of
all things, through whom also he made
the worlds.
3 His Son is the radiance of his glory, the
very image of his substance, and
upholding all things by the word of his
power, who, when he had by himself
purified us of our sins, sat down on the
right hand of the Majesty on high,
4 having become as much better than
the angels as the more excellent name he
has inherited is better than theirs.
5 For to which of the angels did he say at
any time,
"You are my Son.
Today I have become your father?"*
and again,
"I will be to him a Father,
and he will be to me a Son?"*
6 When he again brings in the firstborn
into the world he says, "Let all the angels
of God worship him."*
7 Of the angels he says,
"He makes his angels winds,
and his servants a flame of fire."*
8 But of the Son he says,
"Your throne, O God, is forever and ever.
The scepter of uprightness is the
scepter of your Kingdom.
9 You have loved righteousness and hated
iniquity;
therefore God, your God, has
anointed you with the oil of
gladness above your fellows."*
10 And,
"You, Lord, in the beginning, laid the
foundation of the earth.
The heavens are the works of your
hands.
11 They will perish, but you continue.
They all will grow old like a garment
does.
12 You will roll them up like a mantle,
and they will be changed;
but you are the same.
Your years won't fail."*
13 But which of the angels has he told at
any time,
"Sit at my right hand,
until I make your enemies the
footstool of your feet?"*
14 Aren't they all serving spirits, sent out
to do service for the sake of those who will
inherit salvation?

2

1 Therefore we ought to pay greater
attention to the things that were heard,
lest perhaps we drift away.
2 For if the word spoken through angels
proved steadfast, and every transgression
and disobedience received a just penalty,
3 how will we escape if we neglect so
great a salvation—which at the first
having been spoken through the Lord,
was confirmed to us by those who heard,
4 God also testifying with them, both by
signs and wonders, by various works of
power, and by gifts of the Holy Spirit,
according to his own will?
5 For he didn't subject the world to
come, of which we speak, to angels.
6 But one has somewhere testified,
saying,
"What is man, that you think of him?
Or the son of man, that you care for
him?
7 You made him a little lower than the
angels.
You crowned him with glory and
honor.†
8 You have put all things in subjection
under his feet."*
For in that he subjected all things to
him, he left nothing that is not subject to
him. But now we don't yet see all things
subjected to him.

* **1:5** Psalms 2:7 * **1:5** 2 Samuel 7:14; 1 Chronicles 17:13 * **1:6** Deuteronomy 32:43 LXX * **1:7** Psalms 104:4 * **1:9** Psalms 45:6-7 * **1:12** Psalms 102:25-27 * **1:13** Psalms 110:1 † **2:7** TR adds "and set him over the works of your hands" * **2:8** Psalms 8:4-6

9 But we see him who has been made a
little lower than the angels, Jesus, because
of the suffering of death crowned with
glory and honor, that by the grace of God
he should taste of death for everyone.
10 For it became him, for whom are all
things and through whom are all things,
in bringing many children to glory, to
make the author of their salvation perfect
through sufferings.
11 For both he who sanctifies and those
who are sanctified are all from one, for
which cause he is not ashamed to call
them brothers,‡
12 saying,
"I will declare your name to my brothers.
Among the congregation I will sing
your praise."*
13 Again, "I will put my trust in him."
Again, "Behold, here I am with the
children whom God has given me."*
14 Since then the children have shared
in flesh and blood, he also himself in the
same way partook of the same, that
through death he might bring to nothing
him who had the power of death, that is,
the devil,
15 and might deliver all of them who
through fear of death were all their
lifetime subject to bondage.
16 For most certainly, he doesn't give
help to angels, but he gives help to the
offspring§ of Abraham.
17 Therefore he was obligated in all
things to be made like his brothers, that he
might become a merciful and faithful high
priest in things pertaining to God, to make
atonement for the sins of the people.
18 For in that he himself has suffered
being tempted, he is able to help those
who are tempted.

3

1 Therefore, holy brothers, partakers of
a heavenly calling, consider the Apostle
and High Priest of our confession: Jesus,
2 who was faithful to him who
appointed him, as also Moses was in all
his house.
3 For he has been counted worthy of
more glory than Moses, because he who
built the house has more honor than the
house.
4 For every house is built by someone;
but he who built all things is God.
5 Moses indeed was faithful in all his
house as a servant, for a testimony of
those things which were afterward to be
spoken,
6 but Christ† is faithful as a Son over his
house. We are his house, if we hold fast
our confidence and the glorying of our
hope firm to the end.
7 Therefore, even as the Holy Spirit says,
"Today if you will hear his voice,
8 don't harden your hearts as in the
rebellion,
in the day of the trial in the
wilderness,
9 where your fathers tested me and
tried me,
and saw my deeds for forty years.
10 Therefore I was displeased with that
generation,
and said, 'They always err in their
heart,
but they didn't know my ways.'
11 As I swore in my wrath,
'They will not enter into my rest.' "*
12 Beware, brothers, lest perhaps there
might be in any one of you an evil heart of
unbelief, in falling away from the living
God;
13 but exhort one another day by day, so
long as it is called "today", lest any one of
you be hardened by the deceitfulness of
sin.
14 For we have become partakers of
Christ, if we hold the beginning of our
confidence firm to the end,
15 while it is said,
"Today if you will hear his voice,
don't harden your hearts, as in the
rebellion."*

‡ **2:11** The word for "brothers" here and where context allows may also be correctly translated "brothers and sisters" or "siblings." * **2:12** Psalms 22:22 * **2:13** Isaiah 8:18 § **2:16** or, seed † **3:6** "Christ" means "Anointed One". * **3:11** Psalms 95:7-11 * **3:15** Psalms 95:7-8

16 For who, when they heard, rebelled?
Wasn't it all those who came out of Egypt
led by Moses?
17 With whom was he displeased forty
years? Wasn't it with those who sinned,
whose bodies fell in the wilderness?
18 To whom did he swear that they
wouldn't enter into his rest, but to those
who were disobedient?
19 We see that they weren't able to enter
in because of unbelief.

4

1 Let's fear therefore, lest perhaps
anyone of you should seem to have come
short of a promise of entering into his rest.
2 For indeed we have had good news
preached to us, even as they also did, but
the word they heard didn't profit them,
because it wasn't mixed with faith by
those who heard.
3 For we who have believed do enter
into that rest, even as he has said, "As I
swore in my wrath, they will not enter
into my rest;"* although the works were
finished from the foundation of the world.
4 For he has said this somewhere about
the seventh day, "God rested on the
seventh day from all his works;"*
5 and in this place again, "They will not
enter into my rest."*
6 Seeing therefore it remains that some
should enter into it, and they to whom the
good news was preached before failed to
enter in because of disobedience,
7 he again defines a certain day, "today",
saying through David so long a time
afterward (just as has been said),
"Today if you will hear his voice,
don't harden your hearts."*
8 For if Joshua had given them rest, he
would not have spoken afterward of
another day.
9 There remains therefore a Sabbath
rest for the people of God.
10 For he who has entered into his rest
has himself also rested from his works, as
God did from his.
11 Let's therefore give diligence to enter
into that rest, lest anyone fall after the
same example of disobedience.
12 For the word of God is living and
active, and sharper than any two-edged
sword, piercing even to the dividing of
soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow,
and is able to discern the thoughts and
intentions of the heart.
13 There is no creature that is hidden
from his sight, but all things are naked
and laid open before the eyes of him to
whom we must give an account.
14 Having then a great high priest who
has passed through the heavens, Jesus,
the Son of God, let's hold tightly to our
confession.
15 For we don't have a high priest who
can't be touched with the feeling of our
infirmities, but one who has been in all
points tempted like we are, yet without
sin.
16 Let's therefore draw near with
boldness to the throne of grace, that we
may receive mercy and may find grace for
help in time of need.

5

1 For every high priest, being taken
from among men, is appointed for men in
things pertaining to God, that he may
offer both gifts and sacrifices for sins.
2 The high priest can deal gently with
those who are ignorant and going astray,
because he himself is also surrounded
with weakness.
3 Because of this, he must offer
sacrifices for sins for the people, as well as
for himself.
4 Nobody takes this honor on himself,
but he is called by God, just like Aaron
was.
5 So also Christ didn't glorify himself to
be made a high priest, but it was he who
said to him,
"You are my Son.
Today I have become your father."*
6 As he says also in another place,
"You are a priest forever,
after the order of Melchizedek."*

* **4:3** Psalms 95:11 * **4:4** Genesis 2:2 * **4:5** Psalms 95:11 * **4:7** Psalms 95:7-8 * **5:5** Psalms 2:7 * **5:6** Psalms 110:4

7 He, in the days of his flesh, having
offered up prayers and petitions with
strong crying and tears to him who was
able to save him from death, and having
been heard for his godly fear,
8 though he was a Son, yet learned
obedience by the things which he
suffered.
9 Having been made perfect, he became
to all of those who obey him the author of
eternal salvation,
10 named by God a high priest after the
order of Melchizedek.
11 About him we have many words to
say, and hard to interpret, seeing you
have become dull of hearing.
12 For although by this time you should
be teachers, you again need to have
someone teach you the rudiments of the
first principles of the revelations of God.
You have come to need milk, and not solid
food.
13 For everyone who lives on milk is not
experienced in the word of righteousness,
for he is a baby.
14 But solid food is for those who are full
grown, who by reason of use have their
senses exercised to discern good and evil.

6

1 Therefore leaving the teaching of the
first principles of Christ, let's press on to
perfection—not laying again a foundation
of repentance from dead works, of faith
toward God,
2 of the teaching of baptisms, of laying
on of hands, of resurrection of the dead,
and of eternal judgment.
3 This will we do, if God permits.
4 For concerning those who were once
enlightened and tasted of the heavenly
gift, and were made partakers of the Holy
Spirit,
5 and tasted the good word of God and
the powers of the age to come,
6 and then fell away, it is impossible to
renew them again to repentance; seeing
they crucify the Son of God for themselves
again, and put him to open shame.
7 For the land which has drunk the rain
that comes often on it and produces a crop
suitable for them for whose sake it is also
tilled, receives blessing from God;
8 but if it bears thorns and thistles, it is
rejected and near being cursed, whose
end is to be burned.
9 But, beloved, we are persuaded of
better things for you, and things that
accompany salvation, even though we
speak like this.
10 For God is not unrighteous, so as to
forget your work and the labor of love
which you showed toward his name, in
that you served the saints, and still do
serve them.
11 We desire that each one of you may
show the same diligence to the fullness of
hope even to the end,
12 that you won't be sluggish, but
imitators of those who through faith and
perseverance inherited the promises.
13 For when God made a promise to
Abraham, since he could swear by no one
greater, he swore by himself,
14 saying, "Surely blessing I will bless
you, and multiplying I will multiply you."*
15 Thus, having patiently endured, he
obtained the promise.
16 For men indeed swear by a greater
one, and in every dispute of theirs the
oath is final for confirmation.
17 In this way God, being determined to
show more abundantly to the heirs of the
promise the immutability of his counsel,
interposed with an oath,
18 that by two immutable things, in
which it is impossible for God to lie, we
may have a strong encouragement, who
have fled for refuge to take hold of the
hope set before us.
19 This hope we have as an anchor of the
soul, a hope both sure and steadfast and
entering into that which is within the veil,
20 where as a forerunner Jesus entered
for us, having become a high priest
forever after the order of Melchizedek.

7

1 For this Melchizedek, king of Salem,

* **6:14** Genesis 22:17

priest of God Most High, who met
Abraham returning from the slaughter of
the kings and blessed him,
2 to whom also Abraham divided a tenth
part of all (being first, by interpretation,
“king of righteousness”, and then also
“king of Salem”, which means “king of
peace”,
3 without father, without mother,
without genealogy, having neither
beginning of days nor end of life, but
made like the Son of God), remains a
priest continually.
4 Now consider how great this man was,
to whom even Abraham the patriarch
gave a tenth out of the best plunder.
5 They indeed of the sons of Levi who
receive the priest’s office have a
commandment to take tithes from the
people according to the law, that is, of
their brothers, though these have come
out of the body of Abraham,
6 but he whose genealogy is not counted
from them has accepted tithes from
Abraham, and has blessed him who has
the promises.
7 But without any dispute the lesser is
blessed by the greater.
8 Here people who die receive tithes, but
there one receives tithes of whom it is
testified that he lives.
9 We can say that through Abraham
even Levi, who receives tithes, has paid
tithes,
10 for he was yet in the body of his
father when Melchizedek met him.
11 Now if perfection was through the
Levitical priesthood (for under it the
people have received the law), what
further need was there for another priest
to arise after the order of Melchizedek,
and not be called after the order of Aaron?
12 For the priesthood being changed,
there is of necessity a change made also in
the law.
13 For he of whom these things are said
belongs to another tribe, from which no
one has officiated at the altar.
14 For it is evident that our Lord has
sprung out of Judah, about which tribe
Moses spoke nothing concerning
priesthood.
15 This is yet more abundantly evident,
if after the likeness of Melchizedek there
arises another priest,
16 who has been made, not after the law
of a fleshly commandment, but after the
power of an endless life;
17 for it is testified,
“You are a priest forever,
according to the order of
Melchizedek.”*
18 For there is an annulling of a
foregoing commandment because of its
weakness and uselessness
19 (for the law made nothing perfect),
and a bringing in of a better hope,
through which we draw near to God.
20 Inasmuch as he was not made priest
without the taking of an oath
21 (for they indeed have been made
priests without an oath), but he with an
oath by him that says of him,
“The Lord swore and will not change his
mind,
‘You are a priest forever,
according to the order of
Melchizedek.’ ”*
22 By so much, Jesus has become the
guarantee of a better covenant.
23 Many, indeed, have been made
priests, because they are hindered from
continuing by death.
24 But he, because he lives forever, has
his priesthood unchangeable.
25 Therefore he is also able to save to the
uttermost those who draw near to God
through him, seeing that he lives forever
to make intercession for them.
26 For such a high priest was fitting for
us: holy, guiltless, undefiled, separated
from sinners, and made higher than the
heavens;
27 who doesn’t need, like those high
priests, to offer up sacrifices daily, first for
his own sins, and then for the sins of the
people. For he did this once for all, when
he offered up himself.
28 For the law appoints men as high
priests who have weakness, but the word

* **7:17** Psalms 110:4 * **7:21** Psalms 110:4

of the oath, which came after the law,
appoints a Son forever who has been
perfected.

8

1 Now in the things which we are saying,
the main point is this: we have such a high
priest, who sat down on the right hand of
the throne of the Majesty in the heavens,
2 a servant of the sanctuary and of the
true tabernacle which the Lord pitched,
not man.
3 For every high priest is appointed to
offer both gifts and sacrifices. Therefore it
is necessary that this high priest also have
something to offer.
4 For if he were on earth, he would not
be a priest at all, seeing there are priests
who offer the gifts according to the law,
5 who serve a copy and shadow of the
heavenly things, even as Moses was
warned by God when he was about to
make the tabernacle, for he said, "See, you
shall make everything according to the
pattern that was shown to you on the
mountain."*
6 But now he has obtained a more
excellent ministry, by as much as he is
also the mediator of a better covenant,
which on better promises has been given
as law.
7 For if that first covenant had been
faultless, then no place would have been
sought for a second.
8 For finding fault with them, he said,
"Behold,† the days are coming", says the
Lord,
"that I will make a new covenant with
the house of Israel and with the
house of Judah;
9 not according to the covenant that I
made with their fathers
in the day that I took them by the
hand to lead them out of the land of
Egypt;
for they didn't continue in my covenant,
and I disregarded them," says the
Lord.
10 "For 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 mind;
I will also write them on their heart.
I will be their God,
and they will be my people.
11 They will not teach every man his
fellow citizen‡
and every man his brother, saying,
'Know the Lord,'
for all will know me,
from their least to their greatest.
12 For I will be merciful to their
unrighteousness.
I will remember their sins and
lawless deeds no more."*
13 In that he says, "A new covenant", he
has made the first obsolete. But that
which is becoming obsolete and grows
aged is near to vanishing away.

9

1 Now indeed even the first† covenant
had ordinances of divine service and an
earthly sanctuary.
2 For a tabernacle was prepared. In the
first part were the lamp stand, the table,
and the show bread, which is called the
Holy Place.
3 After the second veil was the
tabernacle which is called the Holy of
Holies,
4 having a golden altar of incense and
the ark of the covenant overlaid on all
sides with gold, in which was a golden pot
holding the manna, Aaron's rod that
budded, and the tablets of the covenant;
5 and above it cherubim of glory
overshadowing the mercy seat, of which
things we can't speak now in detail.
6 Now these things having been thus
prepared, the priests go in continually
into the first tabernacle, accomplishing
the services,
7 but into the second the high priest
alone, once in the year, not without blood,
which he offers for himself and for the
errors of the people.
8 The Holy Spirit is indicating this, that
the way into the Holy Place wasn't yet

* **8:5** Exodus 25:40 † **8:8** "Behold", from "ἰδοὺ", means look at, take notice, observe, see, or gaze at. It is often used as an interjection. ‡ **8:11** TR reads "neighbor" instead of "fellow citizen" * **8:12** Jeremiah 31:31-34 † **9:1** TR adds "tabernacle"

revealed while the first tabernacle was still standing.
9 This is a symbol of the present age, where gifts and sacrifices are offered that are incapable, concerning the conscience, of making the worshiper perfect,
10 being only (with foods and drinks and various washings) fleshly ordinances, imposed until a time of reformation.

11 But Christ having come as a high priest of the coming good things, through the greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this creation,
12 nor yet through the blood of goats and calves, but through his own blood, entered in once for all into the Holy Place, having obtained eternal redemption.
13 For if the blood of goats and bulls, and the ashes of a heifer sprinkling those who have been defiled, sanctify to the cleanness of the flesh,
14 how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without defect to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?
15 For this reason he is the mediator of a new covenant, since a death has occurred for the redemption of the transgressions that were under the first covenant, that those who have been called may receive the promise of the eternal inheritance.
16 For where a last will and testament is, there must of necessity be the death of him who made it.
17 For a will is in force where there has been death, for it is never in force while he who made it lives.
18 Therefore even the first covenant has not been dedicated without blood.
19 For when every commandment had been spoken by Moses to all the people according to the law, he took the blood of the calves and the goats, with water and scarlet wool and hyssop, and sprinkled both the book itself and all the people,
20 saying, "This is the blood of the covenant which God has commanded you."*
21 He sprinkled the tabernacle and all the vessels of the ministry in the same way with the blood.
22 According to the law, nearly everything is cleansed with blood, and apart from shedding of blood there is no remission.
23 It was necessary therefore that the copies of the things in the heavens should be cleansed with these, but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these.
24 For Christ hasn't entered into holy places made with hands, which are representations of the true, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us;
25 nor yet that he should offer himself often, as the high priest enters into the holy place year by year with blood not his own,
26 or else he must have suffered often since the foundation of the world. But now once at the end of the ages, he has been revealed to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself.
27 Inasmuch as it is appointed for men to die once, and after this, judgment,
28 so Christ also, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin, but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.

10

1 For the law, having a shadow of the good to come, not the very image of the things, can never with the same sacrifices year by year, which they offer continually, make perfect those who draw near.
2 Or else wouldn't they have ceased to be offered, because the worshipers, having been once cleansed, would have had no more consciousness of sins?
3 But in those sacrifices there is a yearly reminder of sins.
4 For it is impossible that the blood of bulls and goats should take away sins.
5 Therefore when he comes into the world, he says,
"You didn't desire sacrifice and offering,

* **9:20** Exodus 24:8

but you prepared a body for me.
6 You had no pleasure in whole burnt
offerings and sacrifices for sin.
7 Then I said, 'Behold, I have come (in
the scroll of the book it is written of
me)
to do your will, O God.' "*
8 Previously saying, "Sacrifices and offerings and whole burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin you didn't desire, neither had pleasure in them" (those which are offered according to the law),
9 then he has said, "Behold, I have come to do your will." He takes away the first, that he may establish the second,
10 by which will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.
11 Every priest indeed stands day by day serving and offering often the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins,
12 but he, when he had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down on the right hand of God,
13 from that time waiting until his enemies are made the footstool of his feet.
14 For by one offering he has perfected forever those who are being sanctified.
15 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,
"I will put my laws on their heart,
I will also write them on their mind;"*
then he says,
17 "I will remember their sins and their
iniquities no more."*
18 Now where remission of these is, there is no more offering for sin.
19 Having therefore, brothers, boldness to enter into the holy place by the blood of Jesus,
20 by the way which he dedicated for us, a new and living way, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh,
21 and having a great priest over God's house,
22 let's draw near with a true heart in fullness of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience and having our body washed with pure water,
23 let's hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering; for he who promised is faithful.
24 Let's consider how to provoke one another to love and good works,
25 not forsaking our own assembling together, as the custom of some is, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.
26 For if we sin willfully after we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remains no more a sacrifice for sins,
27 but a certain fearful expectation of judgment, and a fierceness of fire which will devour the adversaries.
28 A man who disregards Moses' law dies without compassion on the word of two or three witnesses.
29 How much worse punishment do you think he will be judged worthy of who has trodden under foot the Son of God, and has counted the blood of the covenant with which he was sanctified an unholy thing, and has insulted the Spirit of grace?
30 For we know him who said, "Vengeance belongs to me. I will repay," says the Lord.* Again, "The Lord will judge his people."*
31 It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.
32 But remember the former days, in which, after you were enlightened, you endured a great struggle with sufferings:
33 partly, being exposed to both reproaches and oppressions, and partly, becoming partakers with those who were treated so.
34 For you both had compassion on me in my chains and joyfully accepted the plundering of your possessions, knowing that you have for yourselves a better possession and an enduring one in the heavens.
35 Therefore don't throw away your boldness, which has a great reward.

* **10:7** Psalms 40:6-8 * **10:16** Jeremiah 31:33 * **10:17** Jeremiah 31:34 * **10:30** Deuteronomy 32:35 * **10:30** Deuteronomy 32:36; Psalms 135:14

36 For you need endurance so that,
having done the will of God, you may
receive the promise.
37 "In a very little while,
he who comes will come and will not
wait.
38 But the righteous one will live by faith.
If he shrinks back, my soul has no
pleasure in him."*
39 But we are not of those who shrink
back to destruction, but of those who have
faith to the saving of the soul.

11

1 Now faith is assurance of things hoped
for, proof of things not seen.
2 For by this, the elders obtained
approval.
3 By faith we understand that the
universe has been framed by the word of
God, so that what is seen has not been
made out of things which are visible.
4 By faith Abel offered to God a more
excellent sacrifice than Cain, through
which he had testimony given to him that
he was righteous, God testifying with
respect to his gifts; and through it he,
being dead, still speaks.
5 By faith Enoch was taken away, so that
he wouldn't see death, and he was not
found, because God translated him. For
he has had testimony given to him that
before his translation he had been well
pleasing to God.
6 Without faith it is impossible to be well
pleasing to him, for he who comes to God
must believe that he exists, and that he is
a rewarder of those who seek him.
7 By faith Noah, being warned about
things not yet seen, moved with godly
fear,† prepared a ship for the saving of his
house, through which he condemned the
world and became heir of the
righteousness which is according to faith.
8 By faith Abraham, when he was called,
obeyed to go out to the place which he
was to receive for an inheritance. He
went out, not knowing where he went.
9 By faith he lived as an alien in the land
of promise, as in a land not his own,
dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, the
heirs with him of the same promise.
10 For he was looking for the city which
has foundations, whose builder and
maker is God.
11 By faith even Sarah herself received
power to conceive, and she bore a child
when she was past age, since she counted
him faithful who had promised.
12 Therefore as many as the stars of the
sky in multitude, and as innumerable as
the sand which is by the sea shore, were
fathered by one man, and him as good as
dead.
13 These all died in faith, not having
received the promises, but having seen‡
them and embraced them from afar, and
having confessed that they were strangers
and pilgrims on the earth.
14 For those who say such things make it
clear that they are seeking a country of
their own.
15 If indeed they had been thinking of
that country from which they went out,
they would have had enough time to
return.
16 But now they desire a better country,
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.
17 By faith, Abraham, being tested,
offered up Isaac. Yes, he who had gladly
received the promises was offering up his
only born§ son,
18 to whom it was said, "Your offspring
will be accounted as from Isaac," *
19 concluding that God is able to raise up
even from the dead. Figuratively
speaking, he also did receive him back
from the dead.
20 By faith Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau,
even concerning things to come.
21 By faith Jacob, when he was dying,
blessed each of the sons of Joseph, and
worshiped, leaning on the top of his staff.

* **10:38** Habakkuk 2:3-4 † **11:7** or, reverence ‡ **11:13** TR adds "and being convinced of" § **11:17** The phrase "only born" is from the Greek word "μονογενη", which is sometimes translated "only begotten" or "one and only".
* **11:18** Genesis 21:12

22 By faith Joseph, when his end was
near, made mention of the departure of
the children of Israel, and gave
instructions concerning his bones.
23 By faith Moses, when he was born,
was hidden for three months by his
parents, because they saw that he was a
beautiful child; and they were not afraid
of the king's commandment.
24 By faith Moses, when he had grown
up, refused to be called the son of
Pharaoh's daughter,
25 choosing rather to share ill treatment
with God's people than to enjoy the
pleasures of sin for a time,
26 considering the reproach of Christ
greater riches than the treasures of Egypt;
for he looked to the reward.
27 By faith he left Egypt, not fearing the
wrath of the king; for he endured, as
seeing him who is invisible.
28 By faith he kept the Passover and the
sprinkling of the blood, that the destroyer
of the firstborn should not touch them.
29 By faith they passed through the Red
Sea as on dry land. When the Egyptians
tried to do so, they were swallowed up.
30 By faith the walls of Jericho fell down
after they had been encircled for seven
days.
31 By faith Rahab the prostitute didn't
perish with those who were disobedient,
having received the spies in peace.
32 What more shall I say? For the time
would fail me if I told of Gideon, Barak,
Samson, Jephthah, David, Samuel, and the
prophets—
33 who through faith subdued
kingdoms, worked out righteousness,
obtained promises, stopped the mouths of
lions,*
34 quenched the power of fire,* escaped
the edge of the sword,* from weakness
were made strong, grew mighty in war,
and caused foreign armies to flee.
35 Women received their dead by
resurrection.* Others were tortured, not
accepting their deliverance, that they
might obtain a better resurrection.
36 Others were tried by mocking and
scourging, yes, moreover by bonds and
imprisonment.
37 They were stoned.* They were sawn
apart. They were tempted. They were
slain with the sword.* They went around
in sheep skins and in goat skins; being
destitute, afflicted, ill-treated—
38 of whom the world was not
worthy—wandering in deserts,
mountains, caves, and the holes of the
earth.
39 These all, having been commended
for their faith, didn't receive the promise,
40 God having provided some better
thing concerning us, so that apart from us
they should not be made perfect.

12

1 Therefore let's also, seeing we are
surrounded by so great a cloud of
witnesses, lay aside every weight and the
sin which so easily entangles us, and let's
run with perseverance the race that is set
before us,
2 looking to Jesus, the author and
perfecter of faith, who for the joy that was
set before him endured the cross,
despising its shame, and has sat down at
the right hand of the throne of God.
3 For consider him who has endured
such contradiction of sinners against
himself, that you don't grow weary,
fainting in your souls.
4 You have not yet resisted to blood,
striving against sin.
5 You have forgotten the exhortation
which reasons with you as with children,
"My son, don't take lightly the chastening
of the Lord,
nor faint when you are reproved by
him;
6 for whom the Lord loves, he
disciplines,
and chastises every son whom he
receives."*

* **11:33** Daniel 6:22-23 * **11:34** Daniel 3:1-30 * **11:34** 1 Kings 19:1-3; 2 Kings 6:31—7:20 * **11:35** 1 Kings 17:17-23; 2 Kings 4:32-37 * **11:37** 2 Chronicles 24:20-21 * **11:37** Jeremiah 26:20-23; 1 Kings 19:10 * **12:6** Proverbs 3:11-12

7 It is for discipline that you endure.
God deals with you as with children, for
what son is there whom his father doesn't
discipline?
8 But if you are without discipline, of
which all have been made partakers, then
you are illegitimate, and not children.
9 Furthermore, we had the fathers of
our flesh to chasten us, and we paid them
respect. Shall we not much rather be in
subjection to the Father of spirits and live?
10 For they indeed for a few days
disciplined us as seemed good to them,
but he for our profit, that we may be
partakers of his holiness.
11 All chastening seems for the present
to be not joyous but grievous; yet
afterward it yields the peaceful fruit of
righteousness to those who have been
trained by it.
12 Therefore lift up the hands that hang
down and the feeble knees, *
13 and make straight paths for your
feet,* so what is lame may not be
dislocated, but rather be healed.
14 Follow after peace with all men, and
the sanctification without which no man
will see the Lord,
15 looking carefully lest there be any
man who falls short of the grace of God,
lest any root of bitterness springing up
trouble you and many be defiled by it,
16 lest there be any sexually immoral
person or profane person, like Esau, who
sold his birthright for one meal.
17 For you know that even when he
afterward desired to inherit the blessing,
he was rejected, for he found no place for
a change of mind though he sought it
diligently with tears.
18 For you have not come to a mountain
that might be touched and that burned
with fire, and to blackness, darkness,
storm,
19 the sound of a trumpet, and the voice
of words; which those who heard it
begged that not one more word should be
spoken to them,
20 for they could not stand that which
was commanded, "If even an animal
touches the mountain, it shall be
stoned".†*
21 So fearful was the appearance that
Moses said, "I am terrified and
trembling."*
22 But you have come to Mount Zion and
to the city of the living God, the heavenly
Jerusalem, and to innumerable
multitudes of angels,
23 to the festal gathering and assembly
of the firstborn who are enrolled in
heaven, to God the Judge of all, to the
spirits of just men made perfect,
24 to Jesus, the mediator of a new
covenant,* and to the blood of sprinkling
that speaks better than that of Abel.
25 See that you don't refuse him who
speaks. For if they didn't escape when
they refused him who warned on the
earth, how much more will we not escape
who turn away from him who warns from
heaven,
26 whose voice shook the earth then, but
now he has promised, saying, "Yet once
more I will shake not only the earth, but
also the heavens."*
27 This phrase, "Yet once more" signifies
the removing of those things that are
shaken, as of things that have been made,
that those things which are not shaken
may remain.
28 Therefore, receiving a Kingdom that
can't be shaken, let's have grace, through
which we serve God acceptably, with
reverence and awe,
29 for our God is a consuming fire.*

13

1 Let brotherly love continue.
2 Don't forget to show hospitality to
strangers, for in doing so, some have
entertained angels without knowing it.
3 Remember those who are in bonds, as
bound with them, and those who are
ill-treated, since you are also in the body.

* **12:12** Isaiah 35:3 * **12:13** Proverbs 4:26 † **12:20** TR adds "or shot with an arrow" * **12:20** Exodus 19:12-13
* **12:21** Deuteronomy 9:19 * **12:24** Jeremiah 31:31 * **12:26** Haggai 2:6 * **12:29** Deuteronomy 4:24

4 Let marriage be held in honor among
all, and let the bed be undefiled; but God
will judge the sexually immoral and
adulterers.
5 Be free from the love of money,
content with such things as you have, for
he has said, “I will in no way leave you,
neither will I in any way forsake you.”*
6 So that with good courage we say,
“The Lord is my helper. I will not fear.
What can man do to me?”*
7 Remember your leaders, men who
spoke to you the word of God, and
considering the results of their conduct,
imitate their faith.
8 Jesus Christ is the same yesterday,
today, and forever.
9 Don’t be carried away by various and
strange teachings, for it is good that the
heart be established by grace, not by
foods, through which those who were so
occupied were not benefited.
10 We have an altar from which those
who serve the holy tabernacle have no
right to eat.
11 For the bodies of those animals,
whose blood is brought into the holy place
by the high priest as an offering for sin,
are burned outside of the camp.*
12 Therefore Jesus also, that he might
sanctify the people through his own
blood, suffered outside of the gate.
13 Let’s therefore go out to him outside
of the camp, bearing his reproach.
14 For we don’t have here an enduring
city, but we seek that which is to come.
15 Through him, then, let’s offer up a
sacrifice of praise to God* continually,
that is, the fruit of lips which proclaim
allegiance to his name.
16 But don’t forget to be doing good and
sharing, for with such sacrifices God is
well pleased.
17 Obey your leaders and submit to
them, for they watch on behalf of your
souls, as those who will give account, that
they may do this with joy and not with
groaning, for that would be unprofitable
for you.
18 Pray for us, for we are persuaded that
we have a good conscience, desiring to
live honorably in all things.
19 I strongly urge you to do this, that I
may be restored to you sooner.
20 Now may the God of peace, who
brought again from the dead the great
shepherd of the sheep with the blood of
an eternal covenant, our Lord Jesus,
21 make you complete in every good
work to do his will, working in you that
which is well pleasing in his sight,
through Jesus Christ, to whom be the
glory forever and ever. Amen.
22 But I exhort you, brothers, endure the
word of exhortation, for I have written to
you in few words.
23 Know that our brother Timothy has
been freed, with whom, if he comes
shortly, I will see you.
24 Greet all of your leaders and all the
saints. The Italians greet you.
25 Grace be with you all. Amen.

* **13:5** Deuteronomy 31:6 * **13:6** Psalms 118:6-7 * **13:11** Leviticus 16:27 * **13:15** Psalms 50:23

The Letter from James

1 James, a servant of God and of the
Lord Jesus Christ,† to the twelve tribes
which are in the Dispersion: Greetings.
2 Count it all joy, my brothers,‡ when
you fall into various temptations,
3 knowing that the testing of your faith
produces endurance.
4 Let endurance have its perfect work,
that you may be perfect and complete,
lacking in nothing.
5 But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him
ask of God, who gives to all liberally and
without reproach, and it will be given to
him.
6 But let him ask in faith, without any
doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave
of the sea, driven by the wind and tossed.
7 For that man shouldn't think that he
will receive anything from the Lord.
8 He is a double-minded man, unstable
in all his ways.
9 Let the brother in humble
circumstances glory in his high position;
10 and the rich, in that he is made
humble, because like the flower in the
grass, he will pass away.
11 For the sun arises with the scorching
wind and withers the grass; and the
flower in it falls, and the beauty of its
appearance perishes. So the rich man will
also fade away in his pursuits.
12 Blessed is a person who endures
temptation, for when he has been
approved, he will receive the crown of life
which the Lord promised to those who
love him.
13 Let no man say when he is tempted, "I
am tempted by God," for God can't be
tempted by evil, and he himself tempts no
one.
14 But each one is tempted when he is
drawn away by his own lust and enticed.
15 Then the lust, when it has conceived,
bears sin. The sin, when it is full grown,
produces death.
16 Don't be deceived, my beloved
brothers.
17 Every good gift and every perfect gift
is from above, coming down from the
Father of lights, with whom can be no
variation nor turning shadow.
18 Of his own will he gave birth to us by
the word of truth, that we should be a
kind of first fruits of his creatures.
19 So, then, my beloved brothers, let
every man be swift to hear, slow to speak,
and slow to anger;
20 for the anger of man doesn't produce
the righteousness of God.
21 Therefore, putting away all filthiness
and overflowing of wickedness, receive
with humility the implanted word, which
is able to save your souls.§
22 But be doers of the word, and not only
hearers, deluding your own selves.
23 For if anyone is a hearer of the word
and not a doer, he is like a man looking at
his natural face in a mirror;
24 for he sees himself, and goes away,
and immediately forgets what kind of
man he was.
25 But he who looks into the perfect law
of freedom and continues, not being a
hearer who forgets but a doer of the work,
this man will be blessed in what he does.
26 If anyone among you thinks himself
to be religious while he doesn't bridle his
tongue, but deceives his heart, this man's
religion is worthless.
27 Pure religion and undefiled before
our God and Father is this: to visit the
fatherless and widows in their affliction,
and to keep oneself unstained by the
world.

2

1 My brothers, don't hold the faith of our
glorious Lord Jesus Christ with partiality.
2 For if a man with a gold ring, in fine
clothing, comes into your synagogue,† and
a poor man in filthy clothing also comes
in,
3 and you pay special attention to him
who wears the fine clothing and say, "Sit

† **1:1** "Christ" means "Anointed One". ‡ **1:2** The word for "brothers" here and where context allows may also be correctly translated "brothers and sisters" or "siblings." § **1:21** or, preserve your life. † **2:2** or, meeting

here in a good place;" and you tell the poor man, "Stand there," or "Sit by my footstool"
4 haven't you shown partiality among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts?
5 Listen, my beloved brothers. Didn't God choose those who are poor in this world to be rich in faith and heirs of the Kingdom which he promised to those who love him?
6 But you have dishonored the poor man. Don't the rich oppress you and personally drag you before the courts?
7 Don't they blaspheme the honorable name by which you are called?
8 However, if you fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself,"* you do well.
9 But if you show partiality, you commit sin, being convicted by the law as transgressors.
10 For whoever keeps the whole law, and yet stumbles in one point, he has become guilty of all.
11 For he who said, "Do not commit adultery,"* also said, "Do not commit murder."* Now if you do not commit adultery but do murder, you have become a transgressor of the law.
12 So speak and so do as men who are to be judged by the law of freedom.
13 For judgment is without mercy to him who has shown no mercy. Mercy triumphs over judgment.
14 What good is it, my brothers, if a man says he has faith, but has no works? Can faith save him?
15 And if a brother or sister is naked and in lack of daily food,
16 and one of you tells them, "Go in peace. Be warmed and filled;" yet you didn't give them the things the body needs, what good is it?
17 Even so faith, if it has no works, is dead in itself.
18 Yes, a man will say, "You have faith, and I have works." Show me your faith without works, and I will show you my faith by my works.
19 You believe that God is one. You do well. The demons also believe—and shudder.
20 But do you want to know, vain man, that faith apart from works is dead?
21 Wasn't Abraham our father justified by works, in that he offered up Isaac his son on the altar?
22 You see that faith worked with his works, and by works faith was perfected.
23 So the Scripture was fulfilled which says, "Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him as righteousness,"* and he was called the friend of God.
24 You see then that by works a man is justified, and not only by faith.
25 In the same way, wasn't Rahab the prostitute also justified by works when she received the messengers and sent them out another way?
26 For as the body apart from the spirit is dead, even so faith apart from works is dead.

3

1 Let not many of you be teachers, my brothers, knowing that we will receive heavier judgment.
2 For we all stumble in many things. Anyone who doesn't stumble in word is a perfect person, able to bridle the whole body also.
3 Indeed, we put bits into the horses' mouths so that they may obey us, and we guide their whole body.
4 Behold,† the ships also, though they are so big and are driven by fierce winds, are yet guided by a very small rudder, wherever the pilot desires.
5 So the tongue is also a little member, and boasts great things. See how a small fire can spread to a large forest!
6 And the tongue is a fire. The world of iniquity among our members is the tongue, which defiles the whole body, and sets on fire the course of nature, and is set on fire by Gehenna.‡

* **2:8** Leviticus 19:18 * **2:11** Exodus 20:14; Deuteronomy 5:18 * **2:11** Exodus 20:13; Deuteronomy 5:17 * **2:23** Genesis 15:6 † **3:4** "Behold", from "ἰδοὺ", means look at, take notice, observe, see, or gaze at. It is often used as an interjection. ‡ **3:6** or, Hell

7 For every kind of animal, bird,
creeping thing, and sea creature is tamed,
and has been tamed by mankind;
8 but nobody can tame the tongue. It is a
restless evil, full of deadly poison.
9 With it we bless our God and Father,
and with it we curse men who are made
in the image of God.
10 Out of the same mouth comes
blessing and cursing. My brothers, these
things ought not to be so.
11 Does a spring send out from the same
opening fresh and bitter water?
12 Can a fig tree, my brothers, yield
olives, or a vine figs? Thus no spring
yields both salt water and fresh water.
13 Who is wise and understanding
among you? Let him show by his good
conduct that his deeds are done in
gentleness of wisdom.
14 But if you have bitter jealousy and
selfish ambition in your heart, don't boast
and don't lie against the truth.
15 This wisdom is not that which comes
down from above, but is earthly, sensual,
and demonic.
16 For where jealousy and selfish
ambition are, there is confusion and
every evil deed.
17 But the wisdom that is from above is
first pure, then peaceful, gentle,
reasonable, full of mercy and good fruits,
without partiality, and without hypocrisy.
18 Now the fruit of righteousness is
sown in peace by those who make peace.

4

1 Where do wars and fightings among
you come from? Don't they come from
your pleasures that war in your
members?
2 You lust, and don't have. You murder
and covet, and can't obtain. You fight and
make war. You don't have, because you
don't ask.
3 You ask, and don't receive, because
you ask with wrong motives, so that you
may spend it on your pleasures.
4 You adulterers and adulteresses, don't
you know that friendship with the world
is hostility toward God? Whoever
therefore wants to be a friend of the
world makes himself an enemy of God.
5 Or do you think that the Scripture says
in vain, "The Spirit who lives in us yearns
jealously"?
6 But he gives more grace. Therefore it
says, "God resists the proud, but gives
grace to the humble."*
7 Be subject therefore to God. Resist the
devil, and he will flee from you.
8 Draw near to God, and he will draw
near to you. Cleanse your hands, you
sinners. Purify your hearts, you
double-minded.
9 Lament, mourn, and weep. Let your
laughter be turned to mourning and your
joy to gloom.
10 Humble yourselves in the sight of the
Lord, and he will exalt you.
11 Don't speak against one another,
brothers. He who speaks against a
brother and 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.
12 Only one is the lawgiver, who is able
to save and to destroy. But who are you to
judge another?
13 Come now, you who say, "Today or
tomorrow let's go into this city and spend
a year there, trade, and make a profit."
14 Yet you don't know what your life will
be like tomorrow. For what is your life?
For you are a vapor that appears for a
little time and then vanishes away.
15 For you ought to say, "If the Lord
wills, we will both live, and do this or
that."
16 But now you glory in your boasting.
All such boasting is evil.
17 To him therefore who knows to do
good and doesn't do it, to him it is sin.

5

1 Come now, you rich, weep and howl
for your miseries that are coming on you.
2 Your riches are corrupted and your
garments are moth-eaten.
3 Your gold and your silver are
corroded, and their corrosion will be for a

* **4:6** Proverbs 3:34

testimony against you and will eat your flesh like fire. You have laid up your treasure in the last days.
4 Behold, the wages of the laborers who mowed your fields, which you have kept back by fraud, cry out; and the cries of those who reaped have entered into the ears of the Lord of Armies.†
5 You have lived in luxury on the earth, and taken your pleasure. You have nourished your hearts as in a day of slaughter.
6 You have condemned and you have murdered the righteous one. He doesn't resist you.
7 Be patient therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. Behold, the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient over it, until it receives the early and late rain.
8 You also be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand.
9 Don't grumble, brothers, against one another, so that you won't be judged. Behold, the judge stands at the door.
10 Take, brothers, for an example of suffering and of perseverance, the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.
11 Behold, we call them blessed who endured. You have heard of the perseverance of Job and have seen the Lord in the outcome, and how the Lord is full of compassion and mercy.
12 But above all things, my brothers, don't swear—not by heaven, or by the earth, or by any other oath; but let your "yes" be "yes", and your "no", "no", so that you don't fall into hypocrisy.‡
13 Is any among you suffering? Let him pray. Is any cheerful? Let him sing praises.
14 Is any among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the assembly, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord;
15 and the prayer of faith will heal him who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up. If he has committed sins, he will be forgiven.
16 Confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The insistent prayer of a righteous person is powerfully effective.
17 Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed earnestly that it might not rain, and it didn't rain on the earth for three years and six months.
18 He prayed again, and the sky gave rain, and the earth produced its fruit.
19 Brothers, if any among you wanders from the truth and someone turns him back,
20 let him know that he who turns a sinner from the error of his way will save a soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

† **5:4** Greek: Sabaoth (or Hebrew: Tze'va'ot) ‡ **5:12** TR reads "under judgment" instead of "into hypocrisy"

Peter's First Letter

1 Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ,† to the
chosen ones who are living as foreigners
in the Dispersion in Pontus, Galatia,
Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia,
2 according to the foreknowledge of God
the Father, in sanctification of the Spirit,
that you may obey Jesus Christ and be
sprinkled with his blood: Grace to you
and peace be multiplied.
3 Blessed be the God and Father of our
Lord Jesus Christ, who according to his
great mercy caused us to be born again to
a living hope through the resurrection of
Jesus Christ from the dead,
4 to an incorruptible and undefiled
inheritance that doesn't fade away,
reserved in Heaven for you,
5 who by the power of God are guarded
through faith for a salvation ready to be
revealed in the last time.
6 In this you greatly rejoice, though now
for a little while, if need be, you have been
grieved in various trials,
7 that the proof of your faith, which is
more precious than gold that perishes,
even though it is tested by fire, may be
found to result in praise, glory, and honor
at the revelation of Jesus Christ—
8 whom, not having known, you love. In
him, though now you don't see him, yet
believing, you rejoice greatly with joy that
is unspeakable and full of glory,
9 receiving the result of your faith, the
salvation of your souls.
10 Concerning this salvation, the
prophets sought and searched diligently.
They prophesied of the grace that would
come to you,
11 searching for who or what kind of
time the Spirit of Christ which was in
them pointed to when he predicted the
sufferings of Christ and the glories that
would follow them.
12 To them it was revealed that they
served not themselves, but you, in these
things, which now have been announced
to you through those who preached the
Good News to you by the Holy Spirit sent
out from heaven; which things angels
desire to look into.
13 Therefore prepare your minds for
action.‡ Be sober, and set your hope fully
on the grace that will be brought to you at
the revelation of Jesus Christ—
14 as children of obedience, not
conforming yourselves according to your
former lusts as in your ignorance,
15 but just as he who called you is holy,
you yourselves also be holy in all of your
behavior,
16 because it is written, "You shall be
holy, for I am holy."*
17 If you call on him as Father, who
without respect of persons judges
according to each man's work, pass the
time of your living as foreigners here in
reverent fear,
18 knowing that you were redeemed,
not with corruptible things like silver or
gold, from the useless way of life handed
down from your fathers,
19 but with precious blood, as of a lamb
without blemish or spot, the blood of
Christ,
20 who was foreknown indeed before
the foundation of the world, but was
revealed in this last age for your sake,
21 who through him are believers in
God, who raised him from the dead and
gave him glory, so that your faith and
hope might be in God.
22 Seeing you have purified your souls
in your obedience to the truth through the
Spirit in sincere brotherly affection, love
one another from the heart fervently,
23 having been born again, not of
corruptible seed, but of incorruptible,
through the word of God, which lives and
remains forever.
24 For,
"All flesh is like grass,
and all of man's glory like the flower
in the grass.
The grass withers, and its flower falls;

† **1:1** "Christ" means "Anointed One". ‡ **1:13** literally, "gird up the waist of your mind" or "put on the belt of the waist of your mind" * **1:16** Leviticus 11:44-45 * **1:25** Isaiah 40:6-8

25 but the Lord's word endures
forever."*
This is the word of Good News which was preached to you.

2

1 Putting away therefore all wickedness, all deceit, hypocrisies, envies, and all evil speaking,
2 as newborn babies, long for the pure spiritual milk, that with it you may grow,
3 if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is gracious.
4 Come to him, a living stone, rejected indeed by men, but chosen by God, precious.
5 You also as living stones are built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.
6 Because it is contained in Scripture,
"Behold,† I lay in Zion a chief cornerstone,
chosen and precious.
He who believes in him will not be
disappointed."*
7 For you who believe therefore is the honor, but for those who are disobedient,
"The stone which the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone,"*
8 and,
"a stumbling stone and a rock of offense."*
For they stumble at the word, being disobedient, to which also they were appointed.
9 But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God's own possession, that you may proclaim the excellence of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.
10 In the past, you were not a people, but now are God's people, who had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy.
11 Beloved, I beg you as foreigners and pilgrims to abstain from fleshly lusts which war against the soul,
12 having good behavior among the nations, so in that of which they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good works and glorify God in the day of visitation.
13 Therefore subject yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake: whether to the king, as supreme,
14 or to governors, as sent by him for vengeance on evildoers and for praise to those who do well.
15 For this is the will of God, that by well-doing you should put to silence the ignorance of foolish men.
16 Live as free people, yet not using your freedom for a cloak of wickedness, but as bondservants of God.
17 Honor all men. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the king.
18 Servants, be in subjection to your masters with all respect, not only to the good and gentle, but also to the wicked.
19 For it is commendable if someone endures pain, suffering unjustly, because of conscience toward God.
20 For what glory is it if, when you sin, you patiently endure beating? But if when you do well, you patiently endure suffering, this is commendable with God.
21 For you were called to this, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving you‡ an example, that you should follow his steps,
22 who didn't sin, "neither was deceit found in his mouth."*
23 When he was cursed, he didn't curse back. When he suffered, he didn't threaten, but committed himself to him who judges righteously.
24 He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live to righteousness. You were healed by his wounds.§
25 For you were going astray like sheep; but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Overseer† of your souls.

3

1 In the same way, wives, be in

† **2:6** "Behold", from "הִנֵּה" or "ἰδοὺ", means look at, take notice, observe, see, or gaze at. It is often used as an interjection. * **2:6** Isaiah 28:16 * **2:7** Psalms 118:22 * **2:8** Isaiah 8:14 ‡ **2:21** TR reads "us" instead of "you" * **2:22** Isaiah 53:9 § **2:24** or, stripes † **2:25** "Overseer" is from the Greek ἐπίσκοπον, which can mean overseer, curator, guardian, or superintendent.

subjection to your own husbands, so that,
even if any don't obey the Word, they may
be won by the behavior of their wives
without a word,
2 seeing your pure behavior in fear.
3 Let your beauty come not from the
outward adorning of braiding your hair,
and of wearing gold ornaments or of
putting on fine clothing,
4 but from the hidden person of the
heart, in the incorruptible adornment of a
gentle and quiet spirit, which is very
precious in God's sight.
5 For this is how in the past the holy
women who hoped in God also adorned
themselves, being in subjection to their
own husbands.
6 So Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him
lord, whose children you now are if you
do well and are not put in fear by any
terror.
7 You husbands, in the same way, live
with your wives according to knowledge,
giving honor to the woman as to the
weaker vessel, as also being joint heirs of
the grace of life, that your prayers may
not be hindered.
8 Finally, all of you be like-minded,
compassionate, loving as brothers,
tenderhearted, courteous,
9 not rendering evil for evil or insult for
insult; but instead blessing, knowing that
you were called to this, that you may
inherit a blessing.
10 For,
"He who would love life
and see good days,
let him keep his tongue from evil
and his lips from speaking deceit.
11 Let him turn away from evil and do
good.
Let him seek peace and pursue it.
12 For the eyes of the Lord are on the
righteous,
and his ears open to their prayer;
but the face of the Lord is against
those who do evil."*
13 Now who will harm you if you
become imitators of that which is good?
14 But even if you should suffer for
righteousness' sake, you are blessed.
"Don't fear what they fear, neither be
troubled."*
15 But sanctify the Lord God in your
hearts. Always be ready to give an answer
to everyone who asks you a reason
concerning the hope that is in you, with
humility and fear,
16 having a good conscience. Thus,
while you are spoken against as evildoers,
they may be disappointed who curse your
good way of life in Christ.
17 For it is better, if it is God's will, that
you suffer for doing what is right than for
doing evil.
18 Because Christ also suffered for sins
once, the righteous for the unrighteous,
that he might bring you to God, being put
to death in the flesh, but made alive in the
Spirit,
19 in whom he also went and preached
to the spirits in prison,
20 who before were disobedient when
God waited patiently in the days of Noah
while the ship was being built. In it, few,
that is, eight souls, were saved through
water.
21 This is a symbol of baptism, which
now saves you—not the putting away of
the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a
good conscience toward God—through the
resurrection of Jesus Christ,
22 who is at the right hand of God,
having gone into heaven, angels and
authorities and powers being made
subject to him.

4

1 Therefore, since Christ suffered for us
in the flesh, arm yourselves also with the
same mind; for he who has suffered in the
flesh has ceased from sin,
2 that you no longer should live the rest
of your time in the flesh for the lusts of
men, but for the will of God.
3 For we have spent enough of our past
time doing the desire of the Gentiles, and
having walked in lewdness, lusts,

* **3:12** Psalms 34:12-16 * **3:14** Isaiah 8:12

drunken binges, orgies, carousings, and abominable idolatries.
4 They think it is strange that you don't
run with them into the same excess of
riot, speaking evil of you.
5 They will give account to him who is
ready to judge the living and the dead.
6 For to this end the Good News was
preached even to the dead, that they
might be judged indeed as men in the
flesh, but live as to God in the spirit.
7 But the end of all things is near.
Therefore be of sound mind,
self-controlled, and sober in prayer.
8 And above all things be earnest in
your love among yourselves, for love
covers a multitude of sins.
9 Be hospitable to one another without
grumbling.
10 As each has received a gift, employ it
in serving one another, as good managers
of the grace of God in its various forms.
11 If anyone speaks, let it be as it were
the very words of God. If anyone serves,
let it be as of the strength which God
supplies, that in all things God may be
glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom
belong the glory and the dominion
forever and ever. Amen.
12 Beloved, don't be astonished at the
fiery trial which has come upon you to
test you, as though a strange thing
happened to you.
13 But because you are partakers of
Christ's sufferings, rejoice, that at the
revelation of his glory you also may
rejoice with exceeding joy.
14 If you are insulted for the name of
Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit
of glory and of God rests on you. On their
part he is blasphemed, but on your part
he is glorified.
15 But let none of you suffer as a
murderer, or a thief, or an evil doer, or a
meddler in other men's matters.
16 But if one of you suffers for being a
Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let
him glorify God in this matter.
17 For the time has come for judgment to
begin with the household of God. If it
begins first with us, what will happen to
those who don't obey the Good News of
God?
18 "If it is hard for the righteous to be
saved, what will happen to the ungodly
and the sinner?"*
19 Therefore let them also who suffer
according to the will of God in doing good
entrust their souls to him, as to a faithful
Creator.

5

1 Therefore I exhort the elders among
you, as a fellow elder and a witness of the
sufferings of Christ, and who will also
share in the glory that will be revealed:
2 shepherd the flock of God which is
among you, exercising the oversight, not
under compulsion, but voluntarily; not
for dishonest gain, but willingly;
3 not as lording it over those entrusted
to you, but making yourselves examples
to the flock.
4 When the chief Shepherd is revealed,
you will receive the crown of glory that
doesn't fade away.
5 Likewise, you younger ones, be subject
to the elder. Yes, all of you clothe
yourselves with humility and subject
yourselves to one another; for "God
resists the proud, but gives grace to the
humble."*
6 Humble yourselves therefore under
the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt
you in due time,
7 casting all your worries on him,
because he cares for you.
8 Be sober and self-controlled. Be
watchful. Your adversary, the devil, walks
around like a roaring lion, seeking whom
he may devour.
9 Withstand him steadfast in your faith,
knowing that your brothers who are in
the world are undergoing the same
sufferings.
10 But may the God of all grace, who
called you to his eternal glory by Christ
Jesus, after you have suffered a little
while, perfect, establish, strengthen, and
settle you.

* **4:18** Proverbs 11:31 * **5:5** Proverbs 3:34

11 To him be the glory and the power
forever and ever. Amen.
12 Through Silvanus, our faithful
brother, as I consider him, I have written
to you briefly, exhorting and testifying
that this is the true grace of God in which
you stand.
13 She who is in Babylon, chosen
together with you, greets you. So does
Mark, my son.
14 Greet one another with a kiss of love.
Peace be to all of you who are in Christ
Jesus. Amen.

Peter's Second Letter

1 Simon Peter, a servant and apostle of Jesus Christ,† to those who have obtained a like precious faith with us in the righteousness of our God and Savior, Jesus Christ:
2 Grace to you and peace be multiplied in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord,
3 seeing that his divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and virtue,
4 by which he has granted to us his precious and exceedingly great promises; that through these you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped from the corruption that is in the world by lust.
5 Yes, and for this very cause adding on your part all diligence, in your faith supply moral excellence; and in moral excellence, knowledge;
6 and in knowledge, self-control; and in self-control, perseverance; and in perseverance, godliness;
7 and in godliness, brotherly affection; and in brotherly affection, love.
8 For if these things are yours and abound, they make you to not be idle or unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.
9 For he who lacks these things is blind, seeing only what is near, having forgotten the cleansing from his old sins.
10 Therefore, brothers,‡ be more diligent to make your calling and election sure. For if you do these things, you will never stumble.
11 For thus you will be richly supplied with the entrance into the eternal Kingdom of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.
12 Therefore I will not be negligent to remind you of these things, though you know them and are established in the present truth.
13 I think it right, as long as I am in this tent, to stir you up by reminding you,
14 knowing that the putting off of my tent comes swiftly, even as our Lord Jesus Christ made clear to me.
15 Yes, I will make every effort that you may always be able to remember these things even after my departure.
16 For we didn't follow cunningly devised fables when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty.
17 For he received from God the Father honor and glory when the voice came to him from the Majestic Glory, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."*
18 We heard this voice come out of heaven when we were with him on the holy mountain.
19 We have the more sure word of prophecy; and you do well that you heed it as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star arises in your hearts,
20 knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of private interpretation.
21 For no prophecy ever came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke, being moved by the Holy Spirit.

2

1 But false prophets also arose among the people, as false teachers will also be among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, denying even the Master who bought them, bringing on themselves swift destruction.
2 Many will follow their immoral† ways, and as a result, the way of the truth will be maligned.
3 In covetousness they will exploit you with deceptive words: whose sentence

† **1:1** "Christ" means "Anointed One". ‡ **1:10** The word for "brothers" here and where context allows may also be correctly translated "brothers and sisters" or "siblings." * **1:17** Matthew 17:5; Mark 9:7; Luke 9:35 † **2:2** TR reads "destructive" instead of "immoral" ‡ **2:4** Tartarus is another name for Hell

now from of old doesn't linger, and their destruction will not slumber.
4 For if God didn't spare angels when they sinned, but cast them down to Tartarus,‡ and committed them to pits of darkness to be reserved for judgment;
5 and didn't spare the ancient world, but preserved Noah with seven others, a preacher of righteousness, when he brought a flood on the world of the ungodly,
6 and turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah into ashes, condemned them to destruction, having made them an example to those who would live in an ungodly way,
7 and delivered righteous Lot, who was very distressed by the lustful life of the wicked
8 (for that righteous man dwelling among them was tormented in his righteous soul from day to day with seeing and hearing lawless deeds),
9 then the Lord knows how to deliver the godly out of temptation and to keep the unrighteous under punishment for the day of judgment,
10 but chiefly those who walk after the flesh in the lust of defilement and despise authority. Daring, self-willed, they are not afraid to speak evil of dignitaries,
11 whereas angels, though greater in might and power, don't bring a slanderous judgment against them before the Lord.
12 But these, as unreasoning creatures, born natural animals to be taken and destroyed, speaking evil in matters about which they are ignorant, will in their destroying surely be destroyed,
13 receiving the wages of unrighteousness; people who count it pleasure to revel in the daytime, spots and defects, reveling in their deceit while they feast with you;
14 having eyes full of adultery, and who can't cease from sin, enticing unsettled souls, having a heart trained in greed, accursed children!
15 Forsaking the right way, they went astray, having followed the way of Balaam the son of Beor, who loved the wages of wrongdoing;
16 but he was rebuked for his own disobedience. A speechless donkey spoke with a man's voice and stopped the madness of the prophet.
17 These are wells without water, clouds driven by a storm, for whom the blackness of darkness has been reserved forever.
18 For, uttering great swelling words of emptiness, they entice in the lusts of the flesh, by licentiousness, those who are indeed escaping from those who live in error;
19 promising them liberty, while they themselves are bondservants of corruption; for a man is brought into bondage by whoever overcomes him.
20 For if, after they have escaped the defilement of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled in it and overcome, the last state has become worse for them than the first.
21 For it would be better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than after knowing it, to turn back from the holy commandment delivered to them.
22 But it has happened to them according to the true proverb, "The dog turns to his own vomit again,"* and "the sow that has washed to wallowing in the mire."

3

1 This is now, beloved, the second letter that I have written to you; and in both of them I stir up your sincere mind by reminding you
2 that you should remember the words which were spoken before by the holy prophets and the commandment of us, the apostles of the Lord and Savior,
3 knowing this first, that in the last days mockers will come, walking after their own lusts
4 and saying, "Where is the promise of his coming? For, from the day that the

* **2:22** Proverbs 26:11

fathers fell asleep, all things continue as
they were from the beginning of the
creation."
5 For they willfully forget that there
were heavens from of old, and an earth
formed out of water and amid water by
the word of God,
6 by which means the world that existed
then, being overflowed with water,
perished.
7 But the heavens that exist now and the
earth, by the same word have been stored
up for fire, being reserved against the day
of judgment and destruction of ungodly
men.
8 But don't forget this one thing,
beloved, that one day is with the Lord as a
thousand years, and a thousand years as
one day.
9 The Lord is not slow concerning his
promise, as some count slowness; but he
is patient with us, not wishing that
anyone should perish, but that all should
come to repentance.
10 But the day of the Lord will come as a
thief in the night, in which the heavens
will pass away with a great noise, and the
elements will be dissolved with fervent
heat; and the earth and the works that are
in it will be burned up.
11 Therefore, since all these things will
be destroyed like this, what kind of people
ought you to be in holy living and
godliness,
12 looking for and earnestly desiring the
coming of the day of God, which will cause
the burning heavens to be dissolved, and
the elements will melt with fervent heat?
13 But, according to his promise, we look
for new heavens and a new earth, in
which righteousness dwells.
14 Therefore, beloved, seeing that you
look for these things, be diligent to be
found in peace, without defect and
blameless in his sight.
15 Regard the patience of our Lord as
salvation; even as our beloved brother
Paul also, according to the wisdom given
to him, wrote to you,
16 as also in all of his letters, speaking in
them of these things. In those, there are
some things that are hard to understand,
which the ignorant and unsettled twist, as
they also do to the other Scriptures, to
their own destruction.
17 You therefore, beloved, knowing
these things beforehand, beware, lest
being carried away with the error of the
wicked, you fall from your own
steadfastness.
18 But grow in the grace and knowledge
of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To
him be the glory both now and forever.
Amen.

John's First Letter

1 That which was from the beginning,
that which we have heard, that which we
have seen with our eyes, that which we
saw, and our hands touched, concerning
the Word of life
2 (and the life was revealed, and we
have seen, and testify, and declare to you
the life, the eternal life, which was with
the Father, and was revealed to us);
3 that which we have seen and heard we
declare to you, that you also may have
fellowship with us. Yes, and our
fellowship is with the Father and with his
Son, Jesus Christ.†
4 And we write these things to you, that
our joy may be fulfilled.
5 This is the message which we have
heard from him and announce to you,
that God is light, and in him is no darkness
at all.
6 If we say that we have fellowship with
him and walk in the darkness, we lie and
don't tell the truth.
7 But if we walk in the light as he is in
the light, we have fellowship with one
another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his
Son cleanses us from all sin.
8 If we say that we have no sin, we
deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in
us.
9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful
and righteous to forgive us the sins and to
cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
10 If we say that we haven't sinned, we
make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

2

1 My little children, I write these things
to you so that you may not sin. If anyone
sins, we have a Counselor† with the
Father, Jesus Christ, the righteous.
2 And he is the atoning sacrifice‡ for our
sins, and not for ours only, but also for the
whole world.
3 This is how we know that we know
him: if we keep his commandments.
4 One who says, "I know him," and
doesn't keep his commandments, is a liar,
and the truth isn't in him.
5 But God's love has most certainly been
perfected in whoever keeps his word.
This is how we know that we are in him:
6 he who says he remains in him ought
himself also to walk just like he walked.
7 Brothers, I write no new
commandment to you, but an old
commandment which you had from the
beginning. The old commandment is the
word which you heard from the
beginning.
8 Again, I write a new commandment to
you, which is true in him and in you,
because the darkness is passing away and
the true light already shines.
9 He who says he is in the light and hates
his brother is in the darkness even until
now.
10 He who loves his brother remains in
the light, and there is no occasion for
stumbling in him.
11 But he who hates his brother is in the
darkness, and walks in the darkness, and
doesn't know where he is going, because
the darkness has blinded his eyes.
12 I write to you, little children, because
your sins are forgiven you for his name's
sake.
13 I write to you, fathers, because you
know him who is from the beginning.
I write to you, young men, because you
have overcome the evil one.
I write to you, little children, because
you know the Father.
14 I have written to you, fathers, because
you know him 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.
15 Don't love the world or the things that
are in the world. If anyone loves the
world, the Father's love isn't in him.

† **1:3** "Christ" means "Anointed One". † **2:1** Greek παρακλητον: Counselor, Helper, Intercessor, Advocate, and Comforter. ‡ **2:2** "atoning sacrifice" is from the Greek "ιλασμος", an appeasing, propitiating, or the means of appeasement or propitiation—the sacrifice that turns away God's wrath because of our sin.

16 For all that is in the world—the lust of
the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride
of life—isn't the Father's, but is the world's.
17 The world is passing away with its
lusts, but he who does God's will remains
forever.
18 Little children, these are the end
times, and as you heard that the
Antichrist is coming, even now many
antichrists have arisen. By this we know
that it is the final hour.
19 They went out from us, but they didn't
belong to us; for if they had belonged to
us, they would have continued with us.
But they left, that they might be revealed
that none of them belong to us.
20 You have an anointing from the Holy
One, and you all have knowledge.§
21 I have not written to you because you
don't know the truth, but because you
know it, and because no lie is of the truth.
22 Who is the liar but he who denies that
Jesus is the Christ? This is the Antichrist,
he who denies the Father and the Son.
23 Whoever denies the Son doesn't have
the Father. He who confesses the Son has
the Father also.†
24 Therefore, as for you, let that remain
in you which you heard from the
beginning. If that which you heard from
the beginning remains in you, you also
will remain in the Son, and in the Father.
25 This is the promise which he
promised us, the eternal life.
26 These things I have written to you
concerning those who would lead you
astray.
27 As for you, the anointing which you
received from him remains in you, and
you don't need for anyone to teach you.
But as his anointing teaches you
concerning all things, and is true, and is
no lie, and even as it taught you, you will
remain in him.
28 Now, little children, remain in him,
that when he appears, we may have
boldness and not be ashamed before him
at his coming.
29 If you know that he is righteous, you
know that everyone who practices
righteousness has been born of him.

3

1 See how great a love the Father has
given to us, that we should be called
children of God! For this cause the world
doesn't know us, because it didn't know
him.
2 Beloved, now we are children of God.
It is not yet revealed what we will be; but
we know that when he is revealed, we will
be like him, for we will see him just as he
is.
3 Everyone who has this hope set on him
purifies himself, even as he is pure.
4 Everyone who sins also commits
lawlessness. Sin is lawlessness.
5 You know that he was revealed to take
away our sins, and no sin is in him.
6 Whoever remains in him doesn't sin.
Whoever sins hasn't seen him and doesn't
know him.
7 Little children, let no one lead you
astray. He who does righteousness is
righteous, even as he is righteous.
8 He who sins is of the devil, for the devil
has been sinning from the beginning. To
this end the Son of God was revealed: that
he might destroy the works of the devil.
9 Whoever is born of God doesn't
commit sin, because his seed remains in
him, and he can't sin, because he is born
of God.
10 In this the children of God are
revealed, and the children of the devil.
Whoever doesn't do righteousness is not
of God, neither is he who doesn't love his
brother.
11 For this is the message which you
heard from the beginning, that we should
love one another—
12 unlike Cain, who was of the evil one
and killed his brother. Why did he kill
him? Because his deeds were evil, and his
brother's righteous.
13 Don't be surprised, my brothers, if the
world hates you.
14 We know that we have passed out of
death into life, because we love the
brothers. He who doesn't love his brother
remains in death.

§ **2:20** Or, "know what is true", or, "know all things"

† **2:23** MT omits: He who confesses the Son has the Father also.

15 Whoever hates his brother is a
murderer, and you know that no
murderer has eternal life remaining in
him.
16 By this we know love, because he laid
down his life for us. And we ought to lay
down our lives for the brothers.
17 But whoever has the world's goods
and sees his brother in need, then closes
his heart of compassion against him, how
does God's love remain in him?
18 My little children, let's not love in
word only, or with the tongue only, but in
deed and truth.
19 And by this we know that we are of
the truth and persuade our hearts before
him,
20 because if our heart condemns us,
God is greater than our heart, and knows
all things.
21 Beloved, if our hearts don't condemn
us, we have boldness toward God;
22 so whatever we ask, we receive from
him, because we keep his commandments
and do the things that are pleasing in his
sight.
23 This is his commandment, that we
should believe in the name of his Son,
Jesus Christ, and love one another, even
as he commanded.
24 He who keeps his commandments
remains in him, and he in him. By this we
know that he remains in us, by the Spirit
which he gave us.

4

1 Beloved, don't believe every spirit, but
test the spirits, whether they are of God,
because many false prophets have gone
out into the world.
2 By this you know the Spirit of God:
every spirit who confesses that Jesus
Christ has come in the flesh is of God,
3 and every spirit who doesn't confess
that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is
not of God; and this is the spirit of the
Antichrist, of whom you have heard that
it comes. Now it is in the world already.
4 You are of God, little children, and
have overcome them, because greater is
he who is in you than he who is in the
world.
5 They are of the world. Therefore they
speak of the world, and the world hears
them.
6 We are of God. He who knows God
listens to us. He who is not of God doesn't
listen to us. By this we know the spirit of
truth, and the spirit of error.

7 Beloved, let's love one another, for
love is of God; and everyone who loves
has been born of God and knows God.
8 He who doesn't love doesn't know God,
for God is love.
9 By this God's love was revealed in us,
that God has sent his only born† Son into
the world that we might live through him.
10 In this is love, not that we loved God,
but that he loved us, and sent his Son as
the atoning sacrifice‡ for our sins.
11 Beloved, if God loved us in this way,
we also ought to love one another.
12 No one has seen God at any time. If
we love one another, God remains in us,
and his love has been perfected in us.

13 By this we know that we remain in
him and he in us, because he has given us
of his Spirit.
14 We have seen and testify that the
Father has sent the Son as the Savior of
the world.
15 Whoever confesses that Jesus is the
Son of God, God remains in him, and he in
God.
16 We know and have believed the love
which God has for us. God is love, and he
who remains in love remains in God, and
God remains in him.
17 In this, love has been made perfect
among us, that we may have boldness in
the day of judgment, because as he is,
even so we are in this world.
18 There is no fear in love; but perfect
love casts out fear, because fear has
punishment. He who fears is not made
perfect in love.

† **4:9** The phrase "only born" is from the Greek word "μονογενη", which is sometimes translated "only begotten" or "one and only". ‡ **4:10** "atoning sacrifice" is from the Greek "ιλασμος", an appeasing, propitiating, or the means of appeasement or propitiation—the sacrifice that turns away God's wrath because of our sin. § **4:19** NU omits "him".

19 We love him,§ because he first loved
us.
20 If a man says, “I love God,” and hates
his brother, he is a liar; for he who doesn’t
love his brother whom he has seen, how
can he love God whom he has not seen?
21 This commandment we have from
him, that he who loves God should also
love his brother.

5

1 Whoever believes that Jesus is the
Christ has been born of God. Whoever
loves the Father also loves the child who is
born of him.
2 By this we know that we love the
children of God, when we love God and
keep his commandments.
3 For this is loving God, that we keep his
commandments. His commandments are
not grievous.
4 For whatever is born of God
overcomes the world. This is the victory
that has overcome the world: your faith.
5 Who is he who overcomes the world,
but he who believes that Jesus is the Son
of God?
6 This is he who came by water and
blood, Jesus Christ; not with the water
only, but with the water and the blood. It
is the Spirit who testifies, because the
Spirit is the truth.
7 For there are three who testify:†
8 the Spirit, the water, and the blood;
and the three agree as one.
9 If we receive the witness of men, the
witness of God is greater; for this is God’s
testimony which he has testified
concerning his Son.
10 He who believes in the Son of God has
the testimony in himself. He who doesn’t
believe God has made him a liar, because
he has not believed in the testimony that
God has given concerning his Son.
11 The testimony is this: that God gave to
us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.
12 He who has the Son has the life. He
who doesn’t have God’s Son doesn’t have
the life.
13 These things I have written to you
who believe in the name of the Son of
God, that you may know that you have
eternal life, and that you may continue to
believe in the name of the Son of God.
14 This is the boldness which we have
toward him, that if we ask anything
according to his will, he listens to us.
15 And if we know that he listens to us,
whatever we ask, we know that we have
the petitions which we have asked of him.
16 If anyone sees his brother sinning a
sin not leading to death, he shall ask, and
God will give him life for those who sin
not leading to death. There is sin leading
to death. I don’t say that he should make a
request concerning this.
17 All unrighteousness is sin, and there
is sin not leading to death.
18 We know that whoever is born of God
doesn’t sin, but he who was born of God
keeps himself, and the evil one doesn’t
touch him.
19 We know that we are of God, and the
whole world lies in the power of the evil
one.
20 We know that the Son of God has
come and has given us an understanding,
that we know him who is true; and we are
in him who is true, in his Son Jesus Christ.
This is the true God and eternal life.
21 Little children, keep yourselves from
idols.

† **5:7** Only a few recent manuscripts add “in heaven: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one. And there are three that testify on earth:”

John's Second Letter

1 The elder, to the chosen lady and her
children, whom I love in truth, and not I
only, but also all those who know the
truth,
2 for the truth's sake, which remains in
us, and it will be with us forever:
3 Grace, mercy, and peace will be with
us, from God the Father and from the
Lord Jesus Christ,† the Son of the Father,
in truth and love.
4 I rejoice greatly that I have found some
of your children walking in truth, even as
we have been commanded by the Father.
5 Now I beg you, dear lady, not as though
I wrote to you a new commandment, but
that which we had from the beginning,
that we love one another.
6 This is love, that we should walk
according to his commandments. This is
the commandment, even as you heard
from the beginning, that you should walk
in it.
7 For many deceivers have gone out into
the world, those who don't confess that
Jesus Christ came in the flesh. This is the
deceiver and the Antichrist.
8 Watch yourselves, that we don't lose
the things which we have accomplished,
but that we receive a full reward.
9 Whoever transgresses and doesn't
remain in the teaching of Christ doesn't
have God. He who remains in the
teaching has both the Father and the Son.
10 If anyone comes to you and doesn't
bring this teaching, don't receive him into
your house, and don't welcome him,
11 for he who welcomes him
participates in his evil deeds.
12 Having many things to write to you, I
don't want to do so with paper and ink,
but I hope to come to you and to speak
face to face, that our joy may be made full.
13 The children of your chosen sister
greet you. Amen.

† **1:3** "Christ" means "Anointed One".

John's Third Letter

1 The elder to Gaius the beloved, whom I
love in truth.
2 Beloved, I pray that you may prosper
in all things and be healthy, even as your
soul prospers.
3 For I rejoiced greatly when brothers
came and testified about your truth, even
as you walk in truth.
4 I have no greater joy than this: to hear
about my children walking in truth.
5 Beloved, you do a faithful work in
whatever you accomplish for those who
are brothers and strangers.
6 They have testified about your love
before the assembly. You will do well to
send them forward on their journey in a
way worthy of God,
7 because for the sake of the Name they
went out, taking nothing from the
Gentiles.
8 We therefore ought to receive such,
that we may be fellow workers for the
truth.
9 I wrote to the assembly, but
Diotrephes, who loves to be first among
them, doesn't accept what we say.
10 Therefore, if I come, I will call
attention to his deeds which he does,
unjustly accusing us with wicked words.
Not content with this, he doesn't receive
the brothers himself, and those who
would, he forbids and throws out of the
assembly.
11 Beloved, don't imitate that which is
evil, but that which is good. He who does
good is of God. He who does evil hasn't
seen God.
12 Demetrius has the testimony of all,
and of the truth itself; yes, we also testify,
and you know that our testimony is true.
13 I had many things to write to you, but
I am unwilling to write to you with ink
and pen;
14 but I hope to see you soon. Then we
will speak face to face.
Peace be to you. The friends greet you.
Greet the friends by name.

The Letter from Jude

1 Jude,† a servant of Jesus Christ,‡ and
brother of James, to those who are called,
sanctified by God the Father, and kept for
Jesus Christ:
2 May mercy, peace, and love be
multiplied to you.
3 Beloved, while I was very eager to
write to you about our common salvation,
I was constrained to write to you
exhorting you to contend earnestly for the
faith which was once for all delivered to
the saints.
4 For there are certain men who crept in
secretly, even those who were long ago
written about for this condemnation:
ungodly men, turning the grace of our
God into indecency, and denying our only
Master, God, and Lord, Jesus Christ.
5 Now I desire to remind you, though
you already know this, that the Lord,
having saved a people out of the land of
Egypt, afterward destroyed those who
didn't believe.
6 Angels who didn't keep their first
domain, but deserted their own dwelling
place, he has kept in everlasting bonds
under darkness for the judgment of the
great day.
7 Even as Sodom and Gomorrah and the
cities around them, having in the same
way as these given themselves over to
sexual immorality and gone after strange
flesh, are shown as an example, suffering
the punishment of eternal fire.
8 Yet in the same way, these also in their
dreaming defile the flesh, despise
authority, and slander celestial beings.
9 But Michael, the archangel, when
contending with the devil and arguing
about the body of Moses, dared not bring
against him an abusive condemnation,
but said, "May the Lord rebuke you!"
10 But these speak evil of whatever
things they don't know. They are
destroyed in these things that they
understand naturally, like the creatures
without reason.
11 Woe to them! For they went in the
way of Cain, and ran riotously in the error
of Balaam for hire, and perished in
Korah's rebellion.
12 These are hidden rocky reefs in your
love feasts when they feast with you,
shepherds who without fear feed
themselves; clouds without water, carried
along by winds; autumn trees without
fruit, twice dead, plucked up by the roots;
13 wild waves of the sea, foaming out
their own shame; wandering stars, for
whom the blackness of darkness has been
reserved forever.
14 About these also Enoch, the seventh
from Adam, prophesied, saying, "Behold,§
the Lord came with ten thousands of his
holy ones,
15 to execute judgment on all, and to
convict all the ungodly of all their works
of ungodliness which they have done in
an ungodly way, and of all the hard things
which ungodly sinners have spoken
against him."
16 These are murmurers and
complainers, walking after their
lusts—and their mouth speaks proud
things—showing respect of persons to
gain advantage.
17 But you, beloved, remember the
words which have been spoken before by
the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ.
18 They said to you, "In the last time
there will be mockers, walking after their
own ungodly lusts."
19 These are those who cause divisions
and are sensual, not having the Spirit.
20 But you, beloved, keep building up
yourselves on your most holy faith,
praying in the Holy Spirit.
21 Keep yourselves in God's love, looking
for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to
eternal life.
22 On some have compassion, making a
distinction,
23 and some save, snatching them out of
the fire with fear, hating even the clothing

† **1:1** or, Judah ‡ **1:1** "Christ" means "Anointed One".

§ **1:14** "Behold", from "ἰδοὺ", means look at, take notice, observe, see, or gaze at. It is often used as an interjection.

stained by the flesh.
24 Now to him who is able to keep them†
from stumbling, and to present you
faultless before the presence of his glory
in great joy,
25 to God our Savior, who alone is wise,
be glory and majesty, dominion and
power, both now and forever. Amen.

† **1:24** TR and NU read “you”

The Revelation to John

1 This is the Revelation of Jesus Christ,† which God gave him to show to his
servants the things which must happen
soon, which he sent and made known by
his angel‡ to his servant, John,
2 who testified to God's word and of the
testimony of Jesus Christ, about
everything that he saw.
3 Blessed is he who reads and those who
hear the words of the prophecy, and keep
the things that are written in it, for the
time is near.
4 John, to the seven assemblies that are
in Asia: Grace to you and peace from God,
who is and who was and who is to come;
and from the seven Spirits who are before
his throne;
5 and from Jesus Christ, the faithful
witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the
ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who
loves us, and washed us from our sins by
his blood—
6 and he made us to be a Kingdom,
priests* to his God and Father—to him be
the glory and the dominion forever and
ever. Amen.
7 Behold,§ he is coming with the clouds,
and every eye will see him, including
those who pierced him. All the tribes of
the earth will mourn over him. Even so,
Amen.
8 "I am the Alpha and the Omega,†" says
the Lord God,‡ "who is and who was and
who is to come, the Almighty."
9 I John, your brother and partner with
you in the oppression, Kingdom, and
perseverance in Christ Jesus, was on the
isle that is called Patmos because of God's
Word and the testimony of Jesus Christ.
10 I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day,
and I heard behind me a loud voice, like a
trumpet
11 saying,§ "What you see, write in a
book and send to the seven assemblies:†
to Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira,
Sardis, Philadelphia, and to Laodicea."
12 I turned to see the voice that spoke
with me. Having turned, I saw seven
golden lamp stands.
13 And among the lamp stands was one
like a son of man,* clothed with a robe
reaching down to his feet, and with a
golden sash around his chest.
14 His head and his hair were white as
white wool, like snow. His eyes were like
a flame of fire.
15 His feet were like burnished brass, as
if it had been refined in a furnace. His
voice was like the voice of many waters.
16 He had seven stars in his right hand.
Out of his mouth proceeded a sharp
two-edged sword. His face was like the
sun shining at its brightest.
17 When I saw him, I fell at his feet like a
dead man.
He laid his right hand on me, saying,
"Don't be afraid. I am the first and the last,
18 and the Living one. I was dead, and
behold, I am alive forever and ever.
Amen. I have the keys of Death and of
Hades.‡
19 Write therefore the things which you
have seen, and the things which are, and
the things which will happen hereafter.
20 The mystery of the seven stars which
you saw in my right hand, and the seven
golden lamp stands is this: The seven
stars are the angels§ of the seven
assemblies. The seven lamp stands are
seven assemblies.

2

1 "To the angel of the assembly in
Ephesus write:
"He who holds the seven stars in his
right hand, he who walks among the
seven golden lamp stands says these
things:

† **1:1** "Christ" means "Anointed One". ‡ **1:1** or, messenger (here and wherever angel is mentioned) * **1:6** Exodus 19:6; Isaiah 61:6 § **1:7** "Behold", from "ἰδοὺ", means look at, take notice, observe, see, or gaze at. It is often used as an interjection. † **1:8** TR adds "the Beginning and the End" ‡ **1:8** TR omits "God" § **1:11** TR adds "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last." † **1:11** TR adds "which are in Asia" * **1:13** Daniel 7:13 ‡ **1:18** or, Hell § **1:20** or, messengers (here and wherever angels are mentioned)

2 “I know your works, and your toil and perseverance, and that you can’t tolerate evil men, and have tested those who call themselves apostles, and they are not, and found them false.
3 You have perseverance and have endured for my name’s sake, and have † not grown weary.
4 But I have this against you, that you left your first love.
5 Remember therefore from where you have fallen, and repent and do the first works; or else I am coming to you swiftly, and will move your lamp stand out of its place, unless you repent.
6 But this you have, that you hate the works of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate.
7 He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the assemblies. To him who overcomes I will give to eat from the tree of life, which is in the Paradise of my God.
8 “To the angel of the assembly in Smyrna write:
“The first and the last, who was dead, and has come to life says these things:
9 “I know your works, oppression, and your poverty (but you are rich), and the blasphemy of those who say they are Jews, and they are not, but are a synagogue of Satan.
10 Don’t be afraid of the things which you are about to suffer. Behold, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested; and you will have oppression for ten days. Be faithful to death, and I will give you the crown of life.

11 He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the assemblies. He who overcomes won’t be harmed by the second death.
12 “To the angel of the assembly in Pergamum write:
“He who has the sharp two-edged sword says these things:
13 “I know your works and where you dwell, where Satan’s throne is. You hold firmly to my name, and didn’t deny my faith in the days of Antipas my witness, my faithful one, who was killed among you, where Satan dwells.
14 But I have a few things against you, because you have there some who hold the teaching of Balaam, who taught Balak to throw a stumbling block before the children of Israel, to eat things sacrificed to idols, and to commit sexual immorality.

15 So also you likewise have some who hold to the teaching of the Nicolaitans.‡
16 Repent therefore, or else I am coming to you quickly and I will make war against them with the sword of my mouth.
17 He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the assemblies. To him who overcomes, to him I will give of the hidden manna, § and I will give him a white stone, and on the stone a new name written which no one knows but he who receives it.
18 “To the angel of the assembly in Thyatira write:
“The Son of God, who has his eyes like a flame of fire, and his feet are like burnished brass, says these things:
19 “I know your works, your love, faith, service, patient endurance, and that your last works are more than the first.
20 But I have this against you, that you tolerate your† woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess. She teaches and seduces my servants to commit sexual immorality and to eat things sacrificed to idols.
21 I gave her time to repent, but she refuses to repent of her sexual immorality.
22 Behold, I will throw her and those who commit adultery with her into a bed of great oppression, unless they repent of her works.
23 I will kill her children with Death, and all the assemblies will know that I am he who searches the minds and hearts. I will give to each one of you according to your deeds.

† **2:3** TR adds “have labored and” ‡ **2:15** TR reads “which I hate” instead of “likewise” § **2:17** Manna is supernatural food, named after the Hebrew for “What is it?”. See Exodus 11:7-9. † **2:20** TR, NU read “that” instead of “your”

24 But to you I say, to the rest who are in
Thyatira—as many as don't have this
teaching, who don't know what some call
'the deep things of Satan'—to you I say, I
am not putting any other burden on you.
25 Nevertheless, hold that which you
have firmly until I come.
26 He who overcomes, and he who keeps
my works to the end, to him I will give
authority over the nations.
27 He will rule them with a rod of iron,
shattering them like clay pots,* as I also
have received of my Father;
28 and I will give him the morning star.
29 He who has an ear, let him hear what
the Spirit says to the assemblies.

3

1 "And to the angel of the assembly in
Sardis write:
"He who has the seven Spirits of God
and the seven stars says these things:
"I know your works, that you have a
reputation of being alive, but you are
dead.
2 Wake up and strengthen the things
that remain, which you were about to
throw away,† for I have found no works of
yours perfected before my God.
3 Remember therefore how you have
received and heard. Keep it and repent. If
therefore you won't watch, I will come as
a thief, and you won't know what hour I
will come upon you.
4 Nevertheless you have a few names in
Sardis that didn't defile their garments.
They will walk with me in white, for they
are worthy.
5 He who overcomes will be arrayed in
white garments, and I will in no way blot
his name out of the book of life, and I will
confess his name before my Father, and
before his angels.
6 He who has an ear, let him hear what
the Spirit says to the assemblies.
7 "To the angel of the assembly in
Philadelphia write:
"He who is holy, he who is true, he who
has the key of David, he who opens and no
one can shut, and who shuts and no one
opens, says these things:
8 "I know your works (behold, I have set
before you an open door, which no one
can shut), that you have a little power, and
kept my word, and didn't deny my name.
9 Behold, I make some of the synagogue
of Satan, of those who say they are Jews,
and they are not, but lie—behold, I will
make them to come and worship before
your feet, and to know that I have loved
you.
10 Because you kept my command to
endure, I also will keep you from the hour
of testing which is to come on the whole
world, to test those who dwell on the
earth.
11 I am coming quickly! Hold firmly that
which you have, so that no one takes your
crown.
12 He who overcomes, I will make him a
pillar in the temple of my God, and he will
go out from there no more. I will write on
him the name of my God and the name of
the city of my God, the new Jerusalem,
which comes down out of heaven from
my God, and my own new name.
13 He who has an ear, let him hear what
the Spirit says to the assemblies.
14 "To the angel of the assembly in
Laodicea write:
"The Amen, the Faithful and True
Witness, the Beginning‡ of God's creation,
says these things:
15 "I know your works, that you are
neither cold nor hot. I wish you were cold
or hot.
16 So, because you are lukewarm, and
neither hot nor cold, I will vomit you out
of my mouth.
17 Because you say, 'I am rich, and have
gotten riches, and have need of nothing,'
and don't know that you are the wretched
one, miserable, poor, blind, and naked;
18 I counsel you to buy from me gold
refined by fire, that you may become rich;
and white garments, that you may clothe
yourself, and that the shame of your
nakedness may not be revealed; and eye

* **2:27** Psalms 2:9 † **3:2** NU & TR read "which were about to die" instead of "which you were about to throw away".
‡ **3:14** or, Source, or Head

salve to anoint your eyes, that you may
see.
19 As many as I love, I reprove and
chasten. Be zealous therefore, and repent.

20 Behold, I stand at the door and knock.
If anyone hears my voice and opens the
door, then I will come in to him and will
dine with him, and he with me.
21 He who overcomes, I will give to him
to sit down with me on my throne, as I
also overcame and sat down with my
Father on his throne.
22 He who has an ear, let him hear what
the Spirit says to the assemblies."

4

1 After these things I looked and saw a
door opened in heaven; and the first voice
that I heard, like a trumpet speaking with
me, was one saying, "Come up here, and I
will show you the things which must
happen after this."
2 Immediately I was in the Spirit.
Behold, there was a throne set in heaven,
and one sitting on the throne
3 that looked like a jasper stone and a
sardius. There was a rainbow around the
throne, like an emerald to look at.
4 Around the throne were twenty-four
thrones. On the thrones were twenty-four
elders sitting, dressed in white garments,
with crowns of gold on their heads.
5 Out of the throne proceed lightnings,
sounds, and thunders. There were seven
lamps of fire burning before his throne,
which are the seven Spirits of God.
6 Before the throne was something like a
sea of glass, similar to crystal. In the
middle of the throne, and around the
throne were four living creatures full of
eyes before and behind.
7 The first creature was like a lion, the
second creature like a calf, the third
creature had a face like a man, and the
fourth was like a flying eagle.
8 The four living creatures, each one of
them having six wings, are full of eyes
around and within. They have no rest day
and night, saying, "Holy, holy, holy† is the
Lord God, the Almighty, who was and
who is and who is to come!"
9 When the living creatures give glory,
honor, and thanks to him who sits on the
throne, to him who lives forever and ever,
10 the twenty-four elders fall down
before him who sits on the throne and
worship him who lives forever and ever,
and throw their crowns before the throne,
saying,
11 "Worthy are you, our Lord and God,
the Holy One,‡ to receive the glory, the
honor, and the power, for you created all
things, and because of your desire they
existed and were created!"

5

1 I saw, in the right hand of him who sat
on the throne, a book written inside and
outside, sealed shut with seven seals.
2 I saw a mighty angel proclaiming with
a loud voice, "Who is worthy to open the
book, and to break its seals?"
3 No one in heaven above, or on the
earth, or under the earth, was able to
open the book or to look in it.
4 Then I wept much, because no one was
found worthy to open the book or to look
in it.
5 One of the elders said to me, "Don't
weep. Behold, the Lion who is of the tribe
of Judah, the Root of David, has overcome:
he who opens the book and its seven
seals."
6 I saw in the middle of the throne and
of the four living creatures, and in the
middle of the elders, a Lamb standing, as
though it had been slain, having seven
horns and seven eyes, which are the seven
Spirits of God, sent out into all the earth.
7 Then he came, and he took it out of the
right hand of him who sat on the throne.
8 Now when he had taken the book, the
four living creatures and the twenty-four
elders fell down before the Lamb, each
one having a harp, and golden bowls full
of incense, which are the prayers of the
saints.
9 They sang a new song, saying,
"You are worthy to take the book
and to open its seals,

† **4:8** Hodges/Farstad MT reads "holy" 9 times instead of 3.

‡ **4:11** TR omits "and God, the Holy One,"

for you were killed,
and bought us for God with your blood
out of every tribe, language, people, and nation,
10 and made us kings and priests to our God;
and we will reign on the earth."

11 I looked, and I heard something like a voice of many angels around the throne, the living creatures, and the elders. The number of them was ten thousands of ten thousands, and thousands of thousands,
12 saying with a loud voice, "Worthy is the Lamb who has been killed to receive the power, wealth, wisdom, strength, honor, glory, and blessing!"

13 I heard every created thing which is in heaven, on the earth, under the earth, on the sea, and everything in them, saying, "To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be the blessing, the honor, the glory, and the dominion, forever and ever! Amen!"†
14 The four living creatures said, "Amen!" Then the‡ elders fell down and worshiped.§

6

1 I saw that 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 and see!"
2 Then a white horse appeared, and he who sat on it had a bow. A crown was given to him, and he came out conquering, and to conquer.

3 When he opened the second seal, I heard the second living creature saying, "Come!"
4 Another came out, a red horse. To him who sat on it was given power to take peace from the earth, and that they should kill one another. There was given to him a great sword.

5 When he opened the third seal, I heard the third living creature saying, "Come and see!" And behold, a black horse, and he who sat on it had a balance in his hand.
6 I heard a voice in the middle of the four living creatures saying, "A choenix† of wheat for a denarius, and three choenix of barley for a denarius! Don't damage the oil and the wine!"

7 When he opened the fourth seal, I heard the fourth living creature saying, "Come and see!"
8 And behold, a pale horse, and the name of he who sat on it was Death. Hades‡ followed with him. Authority over one fourth of the earth, to kill with the sword, with famine, with death, and by the wild animals of the earth was given to him.

9 When he opened the fifth seal, I saw underneath the altar the souls of those who had been killed for the Word of God, and for the testimony of the Lamb which they had.
10 They cried with a loud voice, saying, "How long, Master, the holy and true, until you judge and avenge our blood on those who dwell on the earth?"
11 A long white robe was given to each of them. They were told that they should rest yet for a while, until their fellow servants and their brothers,§ who would also be killed even as they were, should complete their course.

12 I saw when he opened the sixth seal, and there was a great earthquake. The sun became black as sackcloth made of hair, and the whole moon became as blood.
13 The stars of the sky fell to the earth, like a fig tree dropping its unripe figs when it is shaken by a great wind.
14 The sky was removed like a scroll when it is rolled up. Every mountain and island was moved out of its place.
15 The kings of the earth, the princes, the commanding officers, the rich, the strong, and every slave and free person, hid themselves in the caves and in the rocks of the mountains.

† **5:13** TR omits "Amen!" ‡ **5:14** TR adds "twenty-four" § **5:14** TR adds "the one living forever and ever" † **6:6** A choenix is a dry volume measure that is a little more than a liter (a little more than a quart). ‡ **6:8** or, Hell § **6:11** The word for "brothers" here and where context allows may also be correctly translated "brothers and sisters" or "siblings."

16 They told the mountains and the
rocks, “Fall on us, and hide us from the
face of him who sits on the throne, and
from the wrath of the Lamb,
17 for the great day of his wrath has
come, and who is able to stand?”

7

1 After this, I saw four angels standing at
the four corners of the earth, holding the
four winds of the earth, so that no wind
would blow on the earth, or on the sea, or
on any tree.
2 I saw another angel ascend from the
sunrise, having the seal of the living God.
He cried with a loud voice to the four
angels to whom it was given to harm the
earth and the sea,
3 saying, “Don’t harm the earth, the sea,
or the trees, until we have sealed the
bondservants of our God on their
foreheads!”
4 I heard the number of those who were
sealed, one hundred forty-four thousand,
sealed out of every tribe of the children of
Israel:
5 of the tribe of Judah twelve thousand
were sealed,
of the tribe of Reuben twelve thousand,
of the tribe of Gad twelve thousand,
6 of the tribe of Asher twelve thousand,
of the tribe of Naphtali twelve thousand,
of the tribe of Manasseh twelve thousand,
7 of the tribe of Simeon twelve thousand,
of the tribe of Levi twelve thousand,
of the tribe of Issachar twelve thousand,
8 of the tribe of Zebulun twelve thousand,
of the tribe of Joseph twelve thousand,
and
of the tribe of Benjamin twelve thousand
were sealed.
9 After these things I looked, and behold,
a great multitude which no man could
count, out of every nation and of all tribes,
peoples, and languages, standing before
the throne and before the Lamb, dressed
in white robes, with palm branches in
their hands.
10 They cried with a loud voice, saying,
“Salvation be to our God, who sits on the
throne, and to the Lamb!”
11 All the angels were standing around
the throne, the elders, and the four living
creatures; and they fell on their faces
before his throne, and worshiped God,
12 saying, “Amen! Blessing, glory,
wisdom, thanksgiving, honor, power, and
might, be to our God forever and ever!
Amen.”
13 One of the elders answered, saying to
me, “These who are arrayed in the white
robes, who are they, and where did they
come from?”
14 I told him, “My lord, you know.”
He said to me, “These are those who
came out of the great suffering.† They
washed their robes and made them white
in the Lamb’s blood.
15 Therefore they are before the throne
of God, and they serve him day and night
in his temple. He who sits on the throne
will spread his tabernacle over them.
16 They will never be hungry or thirsty
any more. The sun won’t beat on them,
nor any heat;
17 for the Lamb who is in the middle of
the throne shepherds them and leads
them to springs of life-giving waters. And
God will wipe away every tear from their
eyes.”

8

1 When he opened the seventh seal,
there was silence in heaven for about half
an hour.
2 I saw the seven angels who stand
before God, and seven trumpets were
given to them.
3 Another angel came and stood over
the altar, having a golden censer. Much
incense was given to him, that he should
add it to the prayers of all the saints on the
golden altar which was before the throne.
4 The smoke of the incense, with the
prayers of the saints, went up before God
out of the angel’s hand.
5 The angel took the censer, and he filled
it with the fire of the altar, then threw it
on the earth. Thunders, sounds,
lightnings, and an earthquake followed.
6 The seven angels who had the seven
trumpets prepared themselves to sound.

† **7:14** or, oppression

7 The first sounded, and there followed
hail and fire, mixed with blood, and they
were thrown to the earth. One third of the
earth was burned up,† and one third of
the trees were burned up, and all green
grass was burned up.
8 The second angel sounded, and
something like a great burning mountain
was thrown into the sea. One third of the
sea became blood,
9 and one third of the living creatures
which were in the sea died. One third of
the ships were destroyed.
10 The third angel sounded, and a great
star fell from the sky, burning like a torch,
and it fell on one third of the rivers, and
on the springs of water.
11 The name of the star is "Wormwood."
One third of the waters became
wormwood. Many people died from the
waters, because they were made bitter.
12 The fourth angel sounded, and one
third of the sun was struck, and one third
of the moon, and one third of the stars, so
that one third of them would be darkened;
and the day wouldn't shine for one third
of it, and the night in the same way.
13 I saw, and I heard an eagle,‡ flying in
mid heaven, saying with a loud voice,
"Woe! Woe! Woe to those who dwell on
the earth, because of the other blasts of
the trumpets of the three angels, who are
yet to sound!"

9

1 The fifth angel sounded, and I saw a
star from the sky which had fallen to the
earth. The key to the pit of the abyss was
given to him.
2 He opened the pit of the abyss, and
smoke went up out of the pit, like the
smoke from a† burning furnace. The sun
and the air were darkened because of the
smoke from the pit.
3 Then out of the smoke came locusts on
the earth, and power was given to them,
as the scorpions of the earth have power.
4 They were told that they should not
hurt the grass of the earth, neither any
green thing, neither any tree, but only
those people who don't have God's seal on
their foreheads.
5 They were given power, not to kill
them, but to torment them for five
months. Their torment was like the
torment of a scorpion when it strikes a
person.
6 In those days people will seek death,
and will in no way find it. They will desire
to die, and death will flee from them.
7 The shapes of the locusts were like
horses prepared for war. On their heads
were something like golden crowns, and
their faces were like people's faces.
8 They had hair like women's hair, and
their teeth were like those of lions.
9 They had breastplates like
breastplates of iron. The sound of their
wings was like the sound of many chariots
and horses rushing to war.
10 They have tails like those of
scorpions, with stingers. In their tails they
have power to harm men for five months.
11 They have over them as king the
angel of the abyss. His name in Hebrew is
"Abaddon",‡ but in Greek, he has the
name "Apollyon".§
12 The first woe is past. Behold, there
are still two woes coming after this.
13 The sixth angel sounded. I heard a
voice from the horns of the golden altar
which is before God,
14 saying to the sixth angel who had the
trumpet, "Free the four angels who are
bound at the great river Euphrates!"
15 The four angels were freed who had
been prepared for that hour and day and
month and year, so that they might kill
one third of mankind.
16 The number of the armies of the
horsemen was two hundred million.† I
heard the number of them.
17 Thus I saw the horses in the vision
and those who sat on them, having
breastplates of fiery red, hyacinth blue,
and sulfur yellow; and the horses' heads

† **8:7** TR omits "One third of the earth was burned up" ‡ **8:13** TR reads "angel" instead of "eagle" † **9:2** TR adds "great" ‡ **9:11** "Abaddon" is a Hebrew word that means "ruin", "destruction", or "the place of destruction" § **9:11** "Apollyon" means "Destroyer". † **9:16** literally, "ten thousands of ten thousands"

resembled lions' heads. Out of their mouths proceed fire, smoke, and sulfur.
18 By these three plagues, one third of mankind was killed: by the fire, the smoke, and the sulfur, which proceeded out of their mouths.
19 For the power of the horses is in their mouths and in their tails. For their tails are like serpents, and have heads; and with them they harm.
20 The rest of mankind, who were not killed with these plagues, didn't repent of the works of their hands, that they wouldn't worship demons, and the idols of gold, and of silver, and of brass, and of stone, and of wood, which can't see, hear, or walk.
21 They didn't repent of their murders, their sorceries,‡ their sexual immorality, or their thefts.

10

1 I saw a mighty angel coming down out of the sky, clothed with a cloud. A rainbow was on his head. His face was like the sun, and his feet like pillars of fire.
2 He had in his hand a little open book. He set his right foot on the sea, and his left on the land.
3 He cried with a loud voice, as a lion roars. When he cried, the seven thunders uttered their voices.
4 When the seven thunders sounded, I was about to write; but I heard a voice from the sky saying, "Seal up the things which the seven thunders said, and don't write them."
5 The angel whom I saw standing on the sea and on the land lifted up his right hand to the sky
6 and swore by him who lives forever and ever, who created heaven and the things that are in it, the earth and the things that are in it, and the sea and the things that are in it, that there will no longer be delay,
7 but in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he is about to sound, then the mystery of God is finished, as he declared to his servants the prophets.
8 The voice which I heard from heaven, again speaking with me, said, "Go, take the book which is open in the hand of the angel who stands on the sea and on the land."
9 I went to the angel, telling him to give me the little book.
He said to me, "Take it and eat it. It will make your stomach bitter, but in your mouth it will be as sweet as honey."
10 I took the little book out of the angel's hand, and ate it. It was as sweet as honey in my mouth. When I had eaten it, my stomach was made bitter.
11 They† told me, "You must prophesy again over many peoples, nations, languages, and kings."

11

1 A reed like a rod was given to me. Someone said, "Rise and measure God's temple, and the altar, and those who worship in it.
2 Leave out the court which is outside of the temple, and don't measure it, for it has been given to the nations. They will tread the holy city under foot for forty-two months.
3 I will give power to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy one thousand two hundred sixty days, clothed in sackcloth."
4 These are the two olive trees and the two lamp stands, standing before the Lord of the earth.
5 If anyone desires to harm them, fire proceeds out of their mouth and devours their enemies. If anyone desires to harm them, he must be killed in this way.
6 These have the power to shut up the sky, that it may not rain during the days of their prophecy. They have power over the waters, to turn them into blood, and to strike the earth with every plague, as often as they desire.
7 When they have finished their testimony, the beast that comes up out of the abyss will make war with them, and overcome them, and kill them.
8 Their dead bodies will be in the street of the great city, which spiritually is called

‡ **9:21** The word for "sorceries" (pharmakeia) also implies the use of potions, poisons, and drugs † **10:11** TR reads "He" instead of "They"

Sodom and Egypt, where also their Lord was crucified.
9 From among the peoples, tribes, languages, and nations, people will look at their dead bodies for three and a half days, and will not allow their dead bodies to be laid in a tomb.
10 Those who dwell on the earth will rejoice over them, and they will be glad. They will give gifts to one another, because these two prophets tormented those who dwell on the earth.
11 After the three and a half days, the breath of life from God entered into them, and they stood on their feet. Great fear fell on those who saw them.
12 I heard a loud voice from heaven saying to them, "Come up here!" They went up into heaven in a cloud, and their enemies saw them.
13 In that day there was a great earthquake, and a tenth of the city fell. Seven thousand people were killed in the earthquake, and the rest were terrified and gave glory to the God of heaven.
14 The second woe is past. Behold, the third woe comes quickly.
15 The seventh angel sounded, and great voices in heaven followed, saying, "The kingdom of the world has become the Kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ. He will reign forever and ever!"
16 The twenty-four elders, who sit on their thrones before God's throne, fell on their faces and worshiped God,
17 saying: "We give you thanks, Lord God, the Almighty, the one who is and who was,† because you have taken your great power and reigned.
18 The nations were angry, and your wrath came, as did the time for the dead to be judged, and to give your bondservants the prophets, their reward, as well as to the saints and those who fear your name, to the small and the great, and to destroy those who destroy the earth."
19 God's temple that is in heaven was opened, and the ark of the Lord's covenant was seen in his temple. Lightnings, sounds, thunders, an earthquake, and great hail followed.

† **11:17** TR adds "and who is coming"

12

1 A great sign was seen in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars.
2 She was with child. She cried out in pain, laboring to give birth.
3 Another sign was seen in heaven. Behold, a great red dragon, having seven heads and ten horns, and on his heads seven crowns.
4 His tail drew one third of the stars of the sky, and threw them to the earth. The dragon stood before the woman who was about to give birth, so that when she gave birth he might devour her child.
5 She gave birth to a son, a male child, who is to rule all the nations with a rod of iron. Her child was caught up to God and to his throne.
6 The woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God, that there they may nourish her one thousand two hundred sixty days.
7 There was war in the sky. Michael and his angels made war on the dragon. The dragon and his angels made war.
8 They didn't prevail. No place was found for them any more in heaven.
9 The great dragon was thrown down, the old serpent, he who is called the devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world. He was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him.
10 I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, "Now the salvation, the power, and the Kingdom of our God, and the authority of his Christ has come; for the accuser of our brothers has been thrown down, who accuses them before our God day and night.
11 They overcame him because of the Lamb's blood, and because of the word of their testimony. They didn't love their life, even to death.
12 Therefore rejoice, heavens, and you who dwell in them. Woe to the earth and to the sea, because the devil has gone down to you, having great wrath, knowing that he has but a short time."

13 When the dragon saw that he was
thrown down to the earth, he persecuted
the woman who gave birth to the male
child.
14 Two wings of the great eagle were
given to the woman, that she might fly
into the wilderness to her place, so that
she might be nourished for a time, times,
and half a time, from the face of the
serpent.
15 The serpent spewed water out of his
mouth after the woman like a river, that
he might cause her to be carried away by
the stream.
16 The earth helped the woman, and the
earth opened its mouth and swallowed up
the river which the dragon spewed out of
his mouth.
17 The dragon grew angry with the
woman, and went away to make war with
the rest of her offspring,† who keep God's
commandments and hold Jesus'
testimony.

13

1 Then I stood† on the sand of the sea. I
saw a beast coming up out of the sea,
having ten horns and seven heads. On his
horns were ten crowns, and on his heads,
blasphemous names.
2 The beast which I saw was like a
leopard, and his feet were like those of a
bear, and his mouth like the mouth of a
lion. The dragon gave him his power, his
throne, and great authority.
3 One of his heads looked like it had
been wounded fatally. His fatal wound
was healed, and the whole earth
marveled at the beast.
4 They worshiped the dragon because
he gave his authority to the beast; and
they worshiped the beast, saying, "Who is
like the beast? Who is able to make war
with him?"
5 A mouth speaking great things and
blasphemy was given to him. Authority to
make war for forty-two months was given
to him.
6 He opened his mouth for blasphemy
against God, to blaspheme his name, his
dwelling, and those who dwell in heaven.
7 It was given to him to make war with
the saints and to overcome them.
Authority over every tribe, people,
language, and nation was given to him.
8 All who dwell on the earth will
worship him, everyone whose name has
not been written from the foundation of
the world in the book of life of the Lamb
who has been killed.
9 If anyone has an ear, let him hear.
10 If anyone is to go into captivity, he
will go into captivity. If anyone is to be
killed with the sword, he must be killed.‡
Here is the endurance and the faith of the
saints.
11 I saw another beast coming up out of
the earth. He had two horns like a lamb
and it spoke like a dragon.
12 He exercises all the authority of the
first beast in his presence. He makes the
earth and those who dwell in it to worship
the first beast, whose fatal wound was
healed.
13 He performs great signs, even making
fire come down out of the sky to the earth
in the sight of people.
14 He deceives my own§ people who
dwell on the earth because of the signs he
was granted to do in front of the beast,
saying to those who dwell on the earth
that they should make an image to the
beast who had the sword wound and
lived.
15 It was given to him to give breath to
the image of the beast, that the image of
the beast should both speak, and cause as
many as wouldn't worship the image of
the beast to be killed.
16 He causes all, the small and the great,
the rich and the poor, and the free and the
slave, to be given marks on their right
hands or on their foreheads;
17 and that no one would be able to buy
or to sell unless he has that mark, which is
the name of the beast or the number of his
name.

† **12:17** or, seed † **13:1** NU reads *he stood* ‡ **13:10** TR reads "If anyone leads into captivity, into captivity he goes. If anyone will kill with the sword, he must be killed with a sword." instead of "If anyone is to go into captivity, he will go into captivity. If anyone is to be killed with the sword, he must be killed." § **13:14** NU omits "my own"

18 Here is wisdom. He who has
understanding, let him calculate the
number of the beast, for it is the number
of a man. His number is six hundred
sixty-six.

14

1 I saw, and behold, the Lamb standing
on Mount Zion, and with him a number,
one hundred forty-four thousand, having
his name and the name of his Father
written on their foreheads.
2 I heard a sound from heaven like the
sound of many waters and like the sound
of a great thunder. The sound which I
heard was like that of harpists playing on
their harps.
3 They sing a new song before the
throne and before the four living
creatures and the elders. No one could
learn the song except the one hundred
forty-four thousand, those who had been
redeemed out of the earth.
4 These are those who were not defiled
with women, for they are virgins. These
are those who follow the Lamb wherever
he goes. These were redeemed by Jesus
from among men, the first fruits to God
and to the Lamb.
5 In their mouth was found no lie, for
they are blameless.†

6 I saw an angel flying in mid heaven,
having an eternal Good News to proclaim
to those who dwell on the earth—to every
nation, tribe, language, and people.
7 He said with a loud voice, "Fear the
Lord, and give him glory, for the hour of
his judgment has come. Worship him who
made the heaven, the earth, the sea, and
the springs of waters!"

8 Another, a second angel, followed,
saying, "Babylon the great has fallen,
which has made all the nations to drink of
the wine of the wrath of her sexual
immorality."

9 Another angel, a third, followed them,
saying with a great voice, "If anyone
worships the beast and his image, and
receives a mark on his forehead or on his
hand,
10 he also will drink of the wine of the
wrath of God, which is prepared unmixed
in the cup of his anger. He will be
tormented with fire and sulfur in the
presence of the holy angels and in the
presence of the Lamb.
11 The smoke of their torment goes up
forever and ever. They have no rest day
and night, those who worship the beast
and his image, and whoever receives the
mark of his name.
12 Here is the perseverance of the saints,
those who keep the commandments of
God and the faith of Jesus."
13 I heard a voice from heaven saying,
"Write, 'Blessed are the dead who die in
the Lord from now on.' "
"Yes," says the Spirit, "that they may rest
from their labors, for their works follow
with them."
14 I looked, and saw a white cloud, and
on the cloud one sitting like a son of man,*
having on his head a golden crown, and in
his hand a sharp sickle.
15 Another angel came out of the temple,
crying with a loud voice to him who sat on
the cloud, "Send your sickle and reap, for
the hour to reap has come; for the harvest
of the earth is ripe!"
16 He who sat on the cloud thrust his
sickle on the earth, and the earth was
reaped.
17 Another angel came out of the temple
which is in heaven. He also had a sharp
sickle.
18 Another angel came out from the
altar, he who has power over fire, and he
called with a great voice to him who had
the sharp sickle, saying, "Send your sharp
sickle and gather the clusters of the vine
of the earth, for the earth's grapes are
fully ripe!"
19 The angel thrust his sickle into the
earth, and gathered the vintage of the
earth and threw it into the great wine
press of the wrath of God.
20 The wine press was trodden outside
of the city, and blood came out of the wine
press, up to the bridles of the horses, as
far as one thousand six hundred stadia.‡

† **14:5** TR adds "before the throne of God" * **14:14** Daniel 7:13 ‡ **14:20** 1600 stadia = 296 kilometers or 184 miles

15

1 I saw another great and marvelous
sign in the sky: seven angels having the
seven last plagues, for in them God's
wrath is finished.
2 I saw something like a sea of glass
mixed with fire, and those who overcame
the beast, his image,† and the number of
his name, standing on the sea of glass,
having harps of God.
3 They sang the song of Moses, the
servant of God, and the song of the Lamb,
saying,
"Great and marvelous are your works,
Lord God, the Almighty!
Righteous and true are your ways,
you King of the nations.
4 Who wouldn't fear you, Lord,
and glorify your name?
For you only are holy.
For all the nations will come and
worship before you.
For your righteous acts have been
revealed."
5 After these things I looked, and the
temple of the tabernacle of the testimony
in heaven was opened.
6 The seven angels who had the seven
plagues came out, clothed with pure,
bright linen, and wearing golden sashes
around their chests.
7 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.
8 The temple was filled with smoke from
the glory of God and from his power. No
one was able to enter into the temple until
the seven plagues of the seven angels
would be finished.

16

1 I heard a loud voice out of the temple,
saying to the seven angels, "Go and pour
out the seven bowls of the wrath of God
on the earth!"
2 The first went, and poured out his
bowl into the earth, and it became a
harmful and painful sore on the people
who had the mark of the beast, and who
worshiped his image.
3 The second angel poured out his bowl
into the sea, and it became blood as of a
dead man. Every living thing in the sea
died.
4 The third poured out his bowl into the
rivers and springs of water, and they
became blood.
5 I heard the angel of the waters saying,
"You are righteous, who are and who
were, O Holy One, because you have
judged these things.
6 For they poured out the blood of saints
and prophets, and you have given them
blood to drink. They deserve this."
7 I heard the altar saying, "Yes, Lord
God, the Almighty, true and righteous are
your judgments."
8 The fourth poured out his bowl on the
sun, and it was given to him to scorch men
with fire.
9 People were scorched with great heat,
and people blasphemed the name of God
who has the power over these plagues.
They didn't repent and give him glory.
10 The fifth poured out his bowl on the
throne of the beast, and his kingdom was
darkened. They gnawed their tongues
because of the pain,
11 and they blasphemed the God of
heaven because of their pains and their
sores. They still didn't repent of their
works.
12 The sixth poured out his bowl on the
great river, the Euphrates. Its water was
dried up, that the way might be prepared
for the kings that come from the sunrise.†
13 I saw coming out of the mouth of the
dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast,
and out of the mouth of the false prophet,
three unclean spirits, something like
frogs;
14 for they are spirits of demons,
performing signs, which go out to the
kings of the whole inhabited earth, to
gather them together for the war of that
great day of God the Almighty.
15 "Behold, I come like a thief. Blessed is
he who watches, and keeps his clothes, so
that he doesn't walk naked, and they see
his shame."

† **15:2** TR adds "his mark," † **16:12** or, east

16 He gathered them together into the
place which is called in Hebrew,
“Harmagedon”.
17 The seventh poured out his bowl into
the air. A loud voice came out of the
temple of heaven, from the throne,
saying, “It is done!”
18 There were lightnings, sounds, and
thunders; and there was a great
earthquake such as has not happened
since there were men on the earth—so
great an earthquake and so mighty.
19 The great city was divided into three
parts, and the cities of the nations fell.
Babylon the great was remembered in the
sight of God, to give to her the cup of the
wine of the fierceness of his wrath.
20 Every island fled away, and the
mountains were not found.
21 Great hailstones, about the weight of
a talent,‡ came down out of the sky on
people. People blasphemed God because
of the plague of the hail, for this plague
was exceedingly severe.

17

1 One of the seven angels who had the
seven bowls came and spoke with me,
saying, “Come here. I will show you the
judgment of the great prostitute who sits
on many waters,
2 with whom the kings of the earth
committed sexual immorality. Those who
dwell on the earth were made drunken
with the wine of her sexual immorality.”
3 He carried me away in the Spirit into a
wilderness. I saw a woman sitting on a
scarlet-colored beast, full of blasphemous
names, having seven heads and ten horns.
4 The woman was dressed in purple and
scarlet, and decked with gold and
precious stones and pearls, having in her
hand a golden cup full of abominations
and the impurities of the sexual
immorality of the earth.
5 And on her forehead a name was
written, “MYSTERY, BABYLON THE
GREAT, THE MOTHER OF THE
PROSTITUTES AND OF THE
ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.”
6 I saw the woman drunken with the
blood of the saints and with the blood of
the martyrs of Jesus. When I saw her, I
wondered with great amazement.
7 The angel said to me, “Why do you
wonder? I will tell you the mystery of the
woman and of the beast that carries her,
which has the seven heads and the ten
horns.
8 The beast that you saw was, and is not;
and is about to come up out of the abyss
and to go into destruction. Those who
dwell on the earth and whose names have
not been written in the book of life from
the foundation of the world will marvel
when they see that the beast was, and is
not, and shall be present.†
9 Here is the mind that has wisdom. The
seven heads are seven mountains on
which the woman sits.
10 They are seven kings. Five have
fallen, the one is, and the other has not yet
come. When he comes, he must continue
a little while.
11 The beast that was, and is not, is
himself also an eighth, and is of the seven;
and he goes to destruction.
12 The ten horns that you saw are ten
kings who have received no kingdom as
yet, but they receive authority as kings
with the beast for one hour.
13 These have one mind, and they give
their power and authority to the beast.
14 These will war against the Lamb, and
the Lamb will overcome them, for he is
Lord of lords and King of kings; and those
who are with him are called, chosen, and
faithful.”
15 He said to me, “The waters which you
saw, where the prostitute sits, are peoples,
multitudes, nations, and languages.
16 The ten horns which you saw, they
and the beast will hate the prostitute, will
make her desolate, will strip her naked,
will eat her flesh, and will burn her
utterly with fire.
17 For God has put in their hearts to do
what he has in mind, to be of one mind,
and to give their kingdom to the beast,
until the words of God should be
accomplished.

‡ **16:21** A talent is about 30 kilograms or 66 pounds.
† **17:8** TR reads “yet is” instead of “shall be present”

18 The woman whom you saw is the
great city which reigns over the kings of
the earth."

18

1 After these things, I saw another angel
coming down out of the sky, having great
authority. The earth was illuminated with
his glory.
2 He cried with a mighty voice, saying,
"Fallen, fallen is Babylon the great, and
she has become a habitation of demons, a
prison of every unclean spirit, and a
prison of every unclean and hated bird!
3 For all the nations have drunk of the
wine of the wrath of her sexual
immorality, the kings of the earth
committed sexual immorality with her,
and the merchants of the earth grew rich
from the abundance of her luxury."

4 I heard another voice from heaven,
saying, "Come out of her, my people, that
you have no participation in her sins, and
that you don't receive of her plagues,
5 for her sins have reached to the sky,
and God has remembered her iniquities.
6 Return to her just as she returned, and
repay her double as she did, and
according to her works. In the cup which
she mixed, mix to her double.
7 However much she glorified herself
and grew wanton, so much give her of
torment and mourning. For she says in
her heart, 'I sit a queen, and am no widow,
and will in no way see mourning.'
8 Therefore in one day her plagues will
come: death, mourning, and famine; and
she will be utterly burned with fire, for
the Lord God who has judged her is
strong.

9 The kings of the earth who committed
sexual immorality and lived wantonly
with her will weep and wail over her,
when they look at the smoke of her
burning,
10 standing far away for the fear of her
torment, saying, 'Woe, woe, the great city,
Babylon, the strong city! For your
judgment has come in one hour.'

11 The merchants of the earth weep and
mourn over her, for no one buys their
merchandise any more:
12 merchandise of gold, silver, precious
stones, pearls, fine linen, purple, silk,
scarlet, all expensive wood, every vessel
of ivory, every vessel made of most
precious wood, and of brass, and iron,
and marble;
13 and cinnamon, incense, perfume,
frankincense, wine, olive oil, fine flour,
wheat, cattle, sheep, horses, chariots, and
people's bodies and souls.
14 The fruits which your soul lusted
after have been lost to you. All things that
were dainty and sumptuous have
perished from you, and you will find them
no more at all.
15 The merchants of these things, who
were made rich by her, will stand far
away for the fear of her torment, weeping
and mourning,
16 saying, 'Woe, woe, the great city, she
who was dressed in fine linen, purple, and
scarlet, and decked with gold and
precious stones and pearls!
17 For in an hour such great riches are
made desolate.' Every ship master, and
everyone who sails anywhere, and
mariners, and as many as gain their living
by sea, stood far away,
18 and cried out as they looked at the
smoke of her burning, saying, 'What is
like the great city?'
19 They cast dust on their heads, and
cried, weeping and mourning, saying,
'Woe, woe, the great city, in which all who
had their ships in the sea were made rich
by reason of her great wealth!' For she is
made desolate in one hour.
20 "Rejoice over her, O heaven, you
saints, apostles, and prophets, for God has
judged your judgment on her."
21 A mighty angel took up a stone like a
great millstone and cast it into the sea,
saying, "Thus with violence will Babylon,
the great city, be thrown down, and will
be found no more at all.
22 The voice of harpists, minstrels, flute
players, and trumpeters will be heard no
more at all in you. No craftsman of

whatever craft will be found any more at all in you. The sound of a mill will be heard no more at all in you.
23 The light of a lamp will shine no more at all in you. The voice of the bridegroom and of the bride will be heard no more at all in you, for your merchants were the princes of the earth; for with your sorcery all the nations were deceived.
24 In her was found the blood of prophets and of saints, and of all who have been slain on the earth."

19

1 After these things I heard something like a loud voice of a great multitude in heaven, saying, "Hallelujah! Salvation, power, and glory belong to our God;
2 for his judgments are true and righteous. For he has judged the great prostitute who corrupted the earth with her sexual immorality, and he has avenged the blood of his servants at her hand."
3 A second said, "Hallelujah! Her smoke goes up forever and ever."
4 The twenty-four elders and the four living creatures fell down and worshiped God who sits on the throne, saying, "Amen! Hallelujah!"
5 A voice came from the throne, saying, "Give praise to our God, all you his servants, you who fear him, the small and the great!"
6 I heard something like the voice of a great multitude, and like the voice of many waters, and like the voice of mighty thunders, saying, "Hallelujah! For the Lord our God, the Almighty, reigns!
7 Let's rejoice and be exceedingly glad, and let's give the glory to him. For the wedding of the Lamb has come, and his wife has made herself ready."
8 It was given to her that she would array herself in bright, pure, fine linen, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints.
9 He said to me, "Write, 'Blessed are those who are invited to the wedding supper of the Lamb.' " He said to me, "These are true words of God."
10 I fell down before his feet to worship him. He said to me, "Look! Don't do it! I am a fellow bondservant with you and with your brothers who hold the testimony of Jesus. Worship God, for the testimony of Jesus is the Spirit of Prophecy."
11 I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse, and he who sat on it is called Faithful and True. In righteousness he judges and makes war.
12 His eyes are a flame of fire, and on his head are many crowns. He has names written and a name written which no one knows but he himself.
13 He is clothed in a garment sprinkled with blood. His name is called "The Word of God."
14 The armies which are in heaven, clothed in white, pure, fine linen, followed him on white horses.
15 Out of his mouth proceeds a sharp, double-edged sword that with it he should strike the nations. He will rule them with an iron rod.* He treads the wine press of the fierceness of the wrath of God, the Almighty.
16 He has on his garment and on his thigh a name written, "KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS."
17 I saw an angel standing in the sun. He cried with a loud voice, saying to all the birds that fly in the sky, "Come! Be gathered together to the great supper of God,†
18 that you may eat the flesh of kings, the flesh of captains, the flesh of mighty men, and the flesh of horses and of those who sit on them, and the flesh of all men, both free and slave, small and great."
19 I saw the beast, the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against him who sat on the horse and against his army.
20 The beast was taken, and with him the false prophet who worked the signs in his sight, with which he deceived those who had received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image.

* **19:15** Psalms 2:9 † **19:17** TR reads "supper of the great God" instead of "great supper of God"

These two were thrown alive into the lake of fire that burns with sulfur.
21 The rest were killed with the sword of him who sat on the horse, the sword which came out of his mouth. So all the birds were filled with their flesh.

20

1 I saw an angel coming down out of heaven, having the key of the abyss and a great chain in his hand.
2 He seized the dragon, the old serpent, who is the devil and Satan, who deceives the whole inhabited earth,† and bound him for a thousand years,
3 and cast him into the abyss, and shut it and sealed it over him, that he should deceive the nations no more until the thousand years were finished. After this, he must be freed for a short time.
4 I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was given to them. I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for the testimony of Jesus and for the word of God, and such as didn't worship the beast nor his image, and didn't receive the mark on their forehead and on their hand. They lived and reigned with Christ for a thousand years.
5 The rest of the dead didn't live until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection.
6 Blessed and holy is he who has 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 one thousand years.
7 And after the thousand years, Satan will be released from his prison
8 and he will come out to deceive the nations which are in the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to the war, whose number is as the sand of the sea.
9 They went up over the width of the earth and surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city. Fire came down out of heaven from God and devoured them.
10 The devil who deceived them was thrown into the lake of fire and sulfur, where the beast and the false prophet are also. They will be tormented day and night forever and ever.
11 I saw a great white throne and him who sat on it, from whose face the earth and the sky fled away. There was found no place for them.
12 I saw the dead, the great and the small, standing before the throne, and they opened books. Another book was opened, which is the book of life. The dead were judged out of the things which were written in the books, according to their works.
13 The sea gave up the dead who were in it. Death and Hades‡ gave up the dead who were in them. They were judged, each one according to his works.
14 Death and Hades§ were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire.
15 If anyone was not found written in the book of life, he was cast into the lake of fire.

21

1 I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth have passed away, and the sea is no more.
2 I saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared like a bride adorned for her husband.
3 I heard a loud voice out of heaven saying, "Behold, God's dwelling is with people; and he will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God.
4 He will wipe away every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; neither will there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain any more. The first things have passed away."
5 He who sits on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new." He said, "Write, for these words of God are faithful and true."
6 He said to me, "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. I will give freely to him who is thirsty from the spring of the water of life.

† **20:2** TR and NU omit "who deceives the whole inhabited earth". ‡ **20:13** or, Hell § **20:14** or, Hell

7 He who overcomes, I will give him
these things. I will be his God, and he will
be my son.
8 But for the cowardly, unbelieving,
sinners,† abominable, murderers,
sexually immoral, sorcerers,‡ idolaters,
and all liars, their part is in the lake that
burns with fire and sulfur, which is the
second death."
9 One of the seven angels who had the
seven bowls which were loaded with the
seven last plagues came, and he spoke
with me, saying, "Come here. I will show
you the bride, the Lamb's wife."
10 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,
11 having the glory of God. Her light was
like a most precious stone, like a jasper
stone, clear as crystal;
12 having a great and high wall with
twelve gates, and at the gates twelve
angels, and names written on them,
which are the names of the twelve tribes
of the children of Israel.
13 On the east were three gates, and on
the north three gates, and on the south
three gates, and on the west three gates.
14 The wall of the city had twelve
foundations, and on them twelve names
of the twelve Apostles of the Lamb.
15 He who spoke with me had for a
measure a golden reed to measure the
city, its gates, and its walls.
16 The city is square. Its length is as great
as its width. He measured the city with
the reed: twelve thousand twelve stadia.§
Its length, width, and height are equal.
17 Its wall is one hundred forty-four
cubits,† by the measure of a man, that is,
of an angel.
18 The construction of its wall was
jasper. The city was pure gold, like pure
glass.
19 The foundations of the city's wall
were adorned with all kinds of precious
stones. The first foundation was jasper,
the second sapphire,‡ the third
chalcedony, the fourth emerald,
20 the fifth sardonyx, the sixth sardius,
the seventh chrysolite, the eighth beryl,
the ninth topaz, the tenth chrysoprase, the
eleventh jacinth, and the twelfth
amethyst.
21 The twelve gates were twelve pearls.
Each one of the gates was made of one
pearl. The street of the city was pure gold,
like transparent glass.
22 I saw no temple in it, for the Lord God
the Almighty and the Lamb are its temple.
23 The city has no need for the sun or
moon to shine, for the very glory of God
illuminated it and its lamp is the Lamb.
24 The nations will walk in its light. The
kings of the earth bring the glory and
honor of the nations into it.
25 Its gates will in no way be shut by day
(for there will be no night there),
26 and they shall bring the glory and the
honor of the nations into it so that they
may enter.
27 There will in no way enter into it
anything profane, or one who causes an
abomination or a lie, but only those who
are written in the Lamb's book of life.

22

1 He showed me a† river of water of life,
clear as crystal, proceeding out of the
throne of God and of the Lamb,
2 in the middle of its street. On this side
of the river and on that was the tree of life,
bearing twelve kinds of fruits, yielding its
fruit every month. The leaves of the tree
were for the healing of the nations.
3 There will be no curse any more. The
throne of God and of the Lamb will be in
it, and his servants will serve him.
4 They will see his face, and his name
will be on their foreheads.
5 There will be no night, and they need
no lamp light or sun light; for the Lord
God will illuminate them. They will reign
forever and ever.

† **21:8** TR and NU omit "sinners" ‡ **21:8** The word for "sorcerers" here also includes users of potions and drugs.
§ **21:16** 12,012 stadia = 2,221 kilometers or 1,380 miles. TR reads 12,000 stadia instead of 12,012 stadia. † **21:17** 144 cubits is about 65.8 meters or 216 feet ‡ **21:19** or, lapis lazuli † **22:1** TR adds "pure"

6 He said to me, “These words are
faithful and true. The Lord God of the
spirits of the prophets sent his angel to
show to his bondservants the things
which must happen soon.”
7 “Behold, I am coming soon! Blessed is
he who keeps the words of the prophecy
of this book.”
8 Now I, John, am the one who heard
and saw these things. When I heard and
saw, I fell down to worship before the feet
of the angel who had shown me these
things.
9 He said to me, “You must not do that! I
am a fellow bondservant with you and
with your brothers, the prophets, and
with those who keep the words of this
book. Worship God.”
10 He said to me, “Don’t seal up the
words of the prophecy of this book, for the
time is at hand.
11 He who acts unjustly, let him act
unjustly still. He who is filthy, let him be
filthy still. He who is righteous, let him do
righteousness still. He who is holy, let him
be holy still.”
12 “Behold, I am coming soon! My
reward is with me, to repay to each man
according to his work.
13 I am the Alpha and the Omega, the
First and the Last, the Beginning and the
End.
14 Blessed are those who do his
commandments,‡ that they may have the
right to the tree of life, and may enter in
by the gates into the city.
15 Outside are the dogs, the sorcerers,
the sexually immoral, the murderers, the
idolaters, and everyone who loves and
practices falsehood.
16 I, Jesus, have sent my angel to testify
these things to you for the assemblies. I
am the root and the offspring of David, the
Bright and Morning Star.”
17 The Spirit and the bride say, “Come!”
He who hears, let him say, “Come!” He
who is thirsty, let him come. He who
desires, let him take the water of life
freely.
18 I testify to everyone who hears the
words of the prophecy of this book: if
anyone adds to them, God will add to him
the plagues which are written in this
book.
19 If anyone takes away from the words
of the book of this prophecy, God will take
away his part from the tree§ of life, and
out of the holy city, which are written in
this book.
20 He who testifies these things says,
“Yes, I am coming soon.”
Amen! Yes, come, Lord Jesus!
21 The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be
with all the saints. Amen.

‡ **22:14** NU reads “wash their robes” instead of “do his commandments”.
§ **22:19** TR reads “Book” instead of “tree”

World English Bible Glossary

The following words used in the World English Bible (WEB) are not very common, either because they refer to ancient weights, measures, or money, or because they are in some way unique to the Bible.

Abaddon Abaddon is Hebrew for destruction.

Abba Abba is a Chaldee word for father, used in a respectful, affectionate, and familiar way, like papa, dad, or daddy. Often used in prayer to refer to our Father in Heaven.

adultery Adultery is having sexual intercourse with someone besides your own husband or wife. In the Bible, the only legitimate sexual intercourse is between a man and a woman who are married to each other.

alpha Alpha is the first letter of the Greek alphabet. It is sometimes used to mean the beginning or the first.

amen Amen means "So be it" or "I believe it is certainly so."

angel "Angel" literally means "messenger" or "envoy," and is usually used to refer to spiritual beings who normally are invisible to us, but can also appear as exceedingly strong creatures or as humans.

Apollyon Apollyon is Greek for destroyer.

apostle "Apostle" means a delegate, messenger, or one sent forth with orders. This term is applied in the New Testament in both a general sense connected with a ministry of establishing and strengthening church fellowships, as well as in a specific sense to "The 12 Apostles of the Lamb" (Revelation 21:14). The former category applies to a specific ministry that continues in the Church (Ephesians 4:11-13) and which includes many more than 12 people, while the latter refers to the apostles named in Matthew 10:2-4, except with Judas Iscariot replaced by Matthias (Acts 1:26).

Armageddon See Har-magedon.

assarion An assarion is a small Roman copper coin worth one tenth of a drachma, or about an hour's wages for an agricultural laborer.

aureus An aureus is a Roman gold coin, worth 25 silver denarii. An aureus weighed from 115 to 126.3 grains (7.45 to 8.18 grams).

baptize Baptize means to immerse in, or wash with something, usually water. Baptism in the Holy Spirit, fire, the Body of Christ, and suffering are also mentioned in the New Testament, along with baptism in water. Baptism is not just to cleanse the body, but as an outward sign of an inward spiritual cleansing and commitment. Baptism is a sign of repentance, as practiced by John the Baptizer, and of faith in Jesus Christ, as practiced by Jesus' disciples.

bath A bath is a liquid measure of about 22 liters, 5.8 U. S. gallons, or 4.8 imperial gallons.

batos A batos is a liquid measure of about 39.5 liters, 10.4 U. S. gallons, or 8.7 imperial gallons.

Beelzebul literally, lord of the flies. A name used for the devil.

Beersheba Beersheba is Hebrew for "well of the oath" or "well of the seven." A city in Israel.

behold Look! See! Wow! Notice this! Lo!

cherub A cherub is a kind of angel with wings and hands that is associated with the throne room of God and guardian duty. See Ezekiel 10.

cherubim Cherubim means more than one cherub or a mighty cherub.

choenix A choenix is a dry volume measure that is a little more than a liter (which is a little more than a quart). A choenix was the daily ration of grain for a soldier in some armies.

concubine a woman who is united to a man for the purpose of providing him with sexual pleasure and children, but not being honored as a full partner in marriage; a second-class

wife. In Old Testament times (and in some places now), it was the custom of middle-eastern kings, chiefs, and wealthy men to marry multiple wives and concubines, but God commanded the Kings of Israel not to do so (Deuteronomy 17:17) and Jesus encouraged people to either remain single or marry as God originally intended: one man married to one woman (Matthew 19:3-12; 1 Corinthians 7:1-13).

cor A cor is a dry measure of about 391 liters, 103 U. S. gallons, or 86 imperial gallons.

corban Corban is a Hebrew word for an offering devoted to God.

crucify Crucify means to execute someone by nailing them to a cross with metal spikes. Their hands are stretched out on the crossbeam with spikes driven through their wrists or hands. Their feet or ankles are attached to a cross with a metal spike. The weight of the victim's body tends to force the air out of his lungs. To rise up to breathe, the victim has to put weight on the wounds, and use a lot of strength. The victim is nailed to the cross while the cross is on the ground, then the cross is raised up and dropped into a hole, thus jarring the wounds. Before crucifixion, the victim was usually whipped with a Roman cat of nine tails, which had bits of glass and metal tied to its ends. This caused chunks of flesh to be removed and open wounds to be placed against the raw wood of the cross. The victim was made to carry the heavy crossbeam of his cross from the place of judgment to the place of crucifixion, but often was physically unable after the scourging, so another person would be pressed into involuntary service to carry the cross for him. Roman crucifixion was generally done totally naked to maximize both shame and discomfort. Eventually, the pain, weakness, dehydration, and exhaustion of the muscles needed to breathe make breathing impossible, and the victim suffocates.

cubit A cubit is a unit of linear measure, from the elbow to the tip of the longest finger of a man. This unit is commonly converted to 0.46 meters or 18 inches, although that varies with height of the man doing the measurement. There is also a "long" cubit that is longer than a regular cubit by a handbreadth. (Ezekiel 43:13)

cummin Cummin is an aromatic seed from Cuminum cyminum, resembling caraway in flavor and appearance. It is used as a spice.

darnel Darnel is a weed grass (probably bearded darnel or Lolium temulentum) that looks very much like wheat until it is mature, when the seeds reveal a great difference. Darnel seeds aren't good for much except as chicken feed or to burn to prevent the spread of this weed.

denarii denarii: plural form of denarius, a silver Roman coin worth about a day's wages for a laborer.

denarius A denarius is a silver Roman coin worth about a day's wages for an agricultural laborer. A denarius was worth 1/25th of a Roman aureus.

devil The word "devil" comes from the Greek "diabolos," which means "one prone to slander; a liar." "Devil" is used to refer to a fallen angel, also called "Satan," who works to steal, kill, destroy, and do evil. The devil's doom is certain, and it is only a matter of time before he is thrown into the Lake of Fire, never to escape.

didrachma A didrachma is a Greek silver coin worth 2 drachmas, about as much as 2 Roman denarii, or about 2 days wages. It was commonly used to pay the half-shekel temple tax.

disciple a student who follows a teacher to learn both by precept and example.

distaff part of a spinning wheel used for twisting threads.

drachma A drachma is a Greek silver coin worth about one Roman denarius, or about a day's wages for

an agricultural laborer.

El-Elohe-Israel El-Elohe-Israel means "God, the God of Israel" or "The God of Israel is mighty."

ephah An ephah is a measure of volume of about 22 liters, 5.8 U. S. gallons, 4.8 imperial gallons, or a bit more than half a bushel.

Gehenna Gehenna is one word used for Hell. It comes from the Hebrew Gey-Hinnom, literally "valley of Hinnom." This word originated as the name for a place south of the old city of Jerusalem where the city's rubbish was burned. At one time, live babies were thrown crying into the fire under the arms of the idol, Moloch, to die there. This place was so despised by the people after the righteous King Josiah abolished this hideous practice that it was made into a garbage heap. Bodies of diseased animals and executed criminals were thrown there and burned.

gittith Gittith is a musical term possibly meaning "an instrument of Gath."

goad a sharp, pointed prodding device used to motivate reluctant animals (such as oxen and mules) to move in the right direction.

gospel Gospel means "good news" or "glad tidings," specifically the Good News of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection for our salvation, healing, and provision; and the hope of eternal life that Jesus made available to us by God's grace.

Hades Hades: The nether realm of the disembodied spirits. Also known as "hell." See also "Sheol".

Har-magedon Har-magedon, also called Armegeddon, is most likely a reference to hill ("har") of Megiddo, near the Carmel Range in Israel. This area has a large valley plain with plenty of room for armies to maneuver.

hin A hin is a measure of volume of about about 6.5 liters or 1.7 gallons.

homer One homer is about 220 liters, 6.2 U. S. bushels, 6.1 imperial bushels, 58 U. S. gallons, or 48.4 imperial gallons.

hypocrite a stage actor; someone who pretends to be someone other than who they really are; a pretender; a dissembler

Ishmael Ishmael is the son of Abraham and Hagar. Ishmael literally means, "God hears."

Jehovah See "Yahweh."

Jesus "Jesus" is Greek for the Hebrew name "Yeshua," which is a short version of "Yehoshua," which comes from "Yoshia," which means "He will save."

kodrantes A kodrantes is a small coin worth one half of an Attic chalcus or two lepta. It is worth less than 2% of a day's wages for an agricultural laborer.

lepta Lepta are very small, brass, Jewish coins worth half a Roman quadrans each, which is worth a quarter of the copper assarion. Lepta are worth less than 1% of an agricultural worker's daily wages.

leviathan Leviathan is a poetic name for a large aquatic creature, possibly a crocodile or a dinosaur.

mahalath Mahalath is the name of a tune or a musical term.

manna Name for the food that God miraculously provided to the Israelites while they were wandering in the wilderness between Egypt and the promised land. From Hebrew man-hu (What is that?) or manan (to allot). See Exodus 16:14-35.

marriage the union of a husband and a wife for the purpose of cohabitation, procreation, and to enjoy each other's company. God's plan for marriage is between one man and one woman (Mark 10:6-9; 1 Corinthians 7). Although there are many cases of a man marrying more than one woman in the Old Testament, being married to one wife is a requirement to serve in certain church leadership positions (1 Timothy 3:2,12; Titus 1:5-6).

maschil Maschil is a musical and literary term for "contemplation" or "meditative psalm."

michtam A michtam is a poem.

mina A mina is a Greek coin worth 100 Greek drachmas (or 100 Roman

denarii), or about 100 day's wages for an agricultural laborer.

myrrh Myrrh is the fragrant substance that oozes out of the stems and branches of the low, shrubby tree commiphora myrrha or commiphora kataf native to the Arabian deserts and parts of Africa. The fragrant gum drops to the ground and hardens into an oily yellowish-brown resin. Myrrh was highly valued as a perfume, and as an ingredient in medicinal and ceremonial ointments.

Nicolaitans Nicolaitans were most likely Gnostics who taught the detestable lie that the physical and spiritual realms were entirely separate and that immorality in the physical realm wouldn't harm your spiritual health.

omega Omega is the last letter of the Greek alphabet. It is sometimes used to mean the last or the end.

Peniel Peniel is Hebrew for "face of God."

phylactery a leather container for holding a small scroll containing important Scripture passages that is worn on the arm or forehead in prayer. These phylacteries (tefillin in Hebrew) are still used by orthodox Jewish men. See Deuteronomy 6:8.

Praetorium Praetorium: the Roman governor's residence and office building, and those who work there.

quadrans A quadrans is a Roman coin worth about 1/64 of a denarius. A denarius is about one day's wages for an agricultural laborer.

rabbi Rabbi is a transliteration of the Hebrew word for "my teacher," used as a title of respect for Jewish teachers.

Rahab Rahab is either (1) The prostitute who hid Joshua's 2 spies in Jericho (Joshua 2,6) and later became an ancestor of Jesus (Matthew 1:5) and an example of faith (Hebrews 11:31; James 2:25); or (2) Literally, "pride" or "arrogance" —possibly a reference to a large aquatic creature (Job 9:13; 26:12; Isaiah 51:9) or symbolically referring to Egypt (Psalms 87:4; 89:10; Isaiah 30:7).

repent to change one's mind; turn away from sin and turn toward God; to abhor one's past sins and determine to follow God.

Rhabboni Rhabboni: a transliteration of the Hebrew word for "great teacher."

Sabbath The seventh day of the week, set aside by God for man to rest.

saints The Greek word for "saints" literally means "holy ones." Saints are people set apart for service to God as holy and separate, living in righteousness. Used in the Bible to refer to all Christians and to all of those who worship Yahweh in Old Testament times.

Samaritan A Samaritan is a resident of Samaria. The Samaritans and the Jews generally detested each other during the time that Jesus walked among us.

sanctify To declare or set apart something as holy. To purify and separate a person from sin.

sata A sata is a dry measure of capacity approximately equal to 13 liters or 1.5 pecks.

Satan Satan means "accuser." This is one name for the devil, an enemy of God and God's people.

scribe A scribe is one who copies God's law. They were often respected as teachers and authorities on God's law.

selah Selah is a musical term indicating a pause or instrumental interlude for reflection.

seraphim Seraphim are 6-winged angels. See Isaiah 6:2-6.

sexual immorality The term "sexual immorality" in the New Testament comes from the Greek "porneia," which refers to any sexual activity besides that between a husband and his wife. In other words, prostitution (male or female), bestiality, homosexual activity, any sexual intercourse outside of marriage, and the production and consumption of pornography all are included in this term.

shekel A measure of weight, and when

referring to that weight in gold, silver, or brass, of money. A shekel is approximately 16 grams, about a half an ounce, or 20 gerahs (Ezekiel 45:12).

Sheol Sheol is the place of the dead. See also “Hades”.

Shibah Shibah is Hebrew for “oath” or “seven.” See Beersheba.

shigionoth Victorious music.

soul “Soul” refers to the emotions and intellect of a living person, as well as that person’s very life. It is distinguished in the Bible from a person’s spirit and body. (1 Thessalonians 5:23, Hebrews 4:12)

span A span is the length from the tip of a man’s thumb to the tip of his little finger when his hand is stretched out (about half a cubit, or 9 inches, or 22.8 cm.)

spirit Spirit, breath, and wind all derive from the same Hebrew and Greek words. A person’s spirit is the very essence of that person’s life, which comes from God, who is a Spirit being (John 4:24, Genesis 1:2; 2:7). The Bible distinguishes between a person’s spirit, soul, and body (1 Thessalonians 5:23, Hebrews 4:12). Some beings may exist as spirits without necessarily having a visible body, such as angels and demons (Luke 9:39, 1 John 4:1-3).

stadia Stadia is plural for “stadion,” a linear measure of about 184.9 meters or 606.6 feet (the length of the race course at Olympia).

stater A stater is a Greek silver coin equivalent to four Attic or two Alexandrian drachmas, or a Jewish shekel: just exactly enough to cover the half-shekel Temple Tax for two people.

tabernacle a dwelling place or place of worship, usually a tent.

talent A measure of weight or mass of 3000 shekels.

Tartarus Tartarus is the Greek name for an underworld for the wicked dead; another name for Gehenna or Hell.

teraphim Teraphim are household idols that may have been associated with inheritance rights to the household property.

Yah “Yah” is a shortened form of “Yahweh,” which is God’s proper name. This form is used occasionally in the Old Testament, mostly in the Psalms. See “Yahweh.”

Yahweh “Yahweh” is God’s proper name. In Hebrew, the four consonants roughly equivalent to YHWH were considered too holy to pronounce, so the Hebrew word for “Lord” (Adonai) was substituted when reading it aloud. When vowel points were added to the Hebrew Old Testament, the vowel points for “Adonai” were mixed with the consonants for “Yahweh,” which if you pronounced it literally as written, would be pronounced “Yehovah” or “Jehovah.” When the Old Testament was translated to Greek, the tradition of substituting “Lord” for God’s proper name continued in the translation of God’s name to “Lord” (Kurios). Some English Bibles translate God’s proper name to “LORD” or “GOD” (usually with small capital letters), based on that same tradition. This can get really confusing, since two other words (“Adonai” and “Elohim”) translate to “Lord” and “God,” and they are sometimes used together. The ASV of 1901 (and some other translations) render YHWH as “Jehovah.” The most probable pronunciation of God’s proper name is “Yahweh.” In Hebrew, the name “Yahweh” is related to the active declaration “I AM.” See Exodus 3:13-14. Since Hebrew has no tenses, the declaration “I AM” can also be interpreted as “I WAS” and “I WILL BE.” Compare Revelation 1:8.

Zion Zion is a name which originally referred one of the mountains of Jerusalem. It became a term synonymous with Jerusalem itself. The term “Heavenly Zion” is also used to refer the future dwelling place of God’s people.