

THE
DIXIE BIBLE
WITH SACRED NAMES
AND CLARIFICATIONS

CONTAINING THE
OLD AND NEW TESTAMENTS

THE DIXIE BIBLE WITH SACRED NAMES AND CLARIFICATIONS
COMPILED AND TRANSLATED BY DEWEY H. TUCKER

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1st SAMUEL

CHAPTER 1

NOW there was *a* certain man of Ramathaimzophim, of the mountain of Ephraim, and his name *was* Elkanah, the son of Jeroham, the son of Elihu, the son of Tohu, the son of Zuph, *an* Ephrathite: And he had two wives; the name of the one *was* Hannah, and the name of the other Peninnah: and Peninnah had children, but Hannah had no children.

And this man went up out of his city yearly to worship and to sacrifice unto YAHWAH of Hosts in Shiloh. And the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, the priests of YAHWAH, *were* there.

And when the time was that Elkanah offered, he gave to Peninnah his wife, and to all her sons and her daughters, portions:

But unto Hannah he gave *a* worthy portion; for he loved Hannah: but YAHWAH had shut up her womb.

And her adversary also provoked her sore, for to make her fret, because YAHWAH had shut up her womb.

And *as* he did so year by year, when she went up to the house of YAHWAH, so she provoked her; therefore she wept, and did not eat.

Then said Elkanah her husband to her, Hannah, why do you weep? and why eat you not? and why is your heart grieved? *am* not I better to you than ten sons?

So Hannah rose up after they had eaten in Shiloh, and after they had drunk. Now Eli the priest sat upon *a* seat by *a* post of the temple of YAHWAH.

And she *was* in bitterness of person, and prayed unto YAHWAH, and wept sore.

And she vowed *a* vow, and said, O YAHWAH of Hosts, if you will indeed look on the affliction of your handmaid, and remember me, and not forget your handmaid, but will give unto your handmaid *a* man child, then I will give him unto YAHWAH all the days of his life, and there shall no razor come upon his head.

And it came to pass, as she continued praying before YAHWAH, that Eli marked her mouth.

Now Hannah, she spoke in her heart; only her lips moved, but her voice was not heard: therefore Eli thought she had been drunken.

And Eli said to her, How long will you be drunken? put away your wine from you.

And Hannah answered and said, No, my Lord, I *am* *a* woman of *a* sorrowful spirit: I have drunk neither wine nor strong drink, but have poured out my person before YAHWAH.

Count not your handmaid for *a* daughter of Belial: for out of the abundance of my complaint and grief have I spoken so far.

Then Eli answered and said, Go in peace: and the ELOHEEM of Israel grant *you* your petition that you have asked of him.

And she said, Let your handmaid find grace in your sight. So the woman went her way, and did eat, and her countenance was no more *sad*.

And they rose up in the morning early, and worshipped before YAHWAH, and returned, and came to their house to Ramah: and Elkanah knew Hannah his wife; and YAHWAH remembered her.

Wherefore it came to pass, when the time was come about after Hannah had conceived, that she bare *a* son, and called his name Samuel, *saying*, Because I have asked him of YAHWAH.

And the man Elkanah, and all his house, went up to offer unto YAHWAH the yearly sacrifice, and his vow.

But Hannah went not up; for she said to her husband, *I will not go up* until the child be weaned, and *then* I will bring him, that he may appear before YAHWAH, and there abide forever.

And Elkanah her husband said to her, Do what seems you good; wait until you have weaned him; only YAHWAH establish his word. So the woman abode, and gave her son suck until she weaned him.

And when she had weaned him, she took him up with her, with three bullocks, and one ephah of flour, and *a* bottle of wine, and brought him unto the house of YAHWAH in Shiloh: and the child *was* young.

And they slew *a* bullock, and brought the child to Eli.

And she said, Oh my Lord, *as* your person lives, my Lord, I *am* the woman that stood by you here, praying unto YAHWAH.

For this child I prayed; and YAHWAH has given me my petition which I asked of him:

Therefore also I have lent him to YAHWAH; as long as he lives he shall be lent to YAHWAH. And he worshipped YAHWAH there.

CHAPTER 2

AND Hannah prayed, and said, My heart rejoices in YAHWAH, my horn is exalted in YAHWAH: my mouth is enlarged over my enemies; because I rejoice in your DELIVERANCE.

There is none sanctified as YAHWAH: for *there is none* beside you: neither *is there* any rock like the ELOHEEM.

Talk no more so exceeding proudly; let *not* arrogancy come out of your mouth: for YAHWAH *is a* God of knowledge, and by him actions are weighed.

The bows of the mighty men *are* broken, and they that stumbled are girded with strength.

They that were full have hired out themselves for bread; and *they that were* hungry ceased: so that the barren has born seven; and she that has many children is waxed feeble.

YAHWAH kills, and makes alive: he brings down to the grave, and brings up.

YAHWAH makes poor, and makes rich: he brings low, and lifts up.

He raises up the poor out of the dust, *and* lifts up the beggar from the dunghill, to set *them* among princes, and to make them inherit the throne of glory: for the pillars of the land *are* YAHWAH'S, and he has set the World upon them.

He will keep the feet of his merciful, and the wicked shall be silent in darkness; for by strength shall no man prevail.

The adversaries of YAHWAH shall be broken to pieces; out of heaven shall he thunder upon them: YAHWAH shall judge the ends of the land; and he shall give strength unto his king, and exalt the horn of his anointed.

And Elkanah went to Ramah to his house. And the child did minister unto YAHWAH before Eli the priest.

Now the sons of Eli *were* sons of Belial; they knew not YAHWAH.

And the priests' custom with the people *was, that*, when any man offered sacrifice, the priest's servant came, while the flesh was in seething, with *a* fleshhook of three teeth in his hand;

And he struck *it* into the pan, or kettle, or caldron, or pot; all that the fleshhook brought up the priest took for himself. So they did in Shiloh unto all the Israelites that came there.

Also before they burnt the fat, the priest's servant came, and said to the man that sacrificed, Give flesh to roast for the priest; for he will not have sodden flesh of you, but raw.

And *if* any man said to him, Let them not fail to burn the fat presently, and *then* take *as much* as your person desires; then he would answer him, *Nay*; but you shall give *it me* now: and if not, I will take *it* by force.

Wherefore the sin of the young men was very great before YAHWAH: for men abhorred the offering of YAHWAH.

But Samuel ministered before YAHWAH, *being a* child, girded with *a* linen ephod.

Moreover his mother made him *a* little coat, and brought *it* to him from year to year, when she came up with her husband to offer the yearly sacrifice.

And Eli blessed Elkanah and his wife, and said, YAHWAH give you seed of this woman for the loan which is lent to YAHWAH. And they went unto their own home.

And YAHWAH visited Hannah, so that she conceived, and bare three sons and two daughters. And the child Samuel grew before YAHWAH.

Now Eli was very old, and heard all that his sons did unto all Israel; and how they lay with the women that assembled *at* the door of the tabernacle of the congregation.

And he said to them, Why do you all such things? for I hear of your evil dealings by all this people.

Nay, my sons; for *it is* no good report that I hear: you all make YAHWAH'S people to transgress.

If one man sin against another, the judge shall judge him: but if *a* man sin against YAHWAH, who shall intreat for him? Notwithstanding they hearkened not unto the voice of their father, because YAHWAH would slay them.

And the child Samuel grew on, and was in favour both with YAHWAH, and also with men.

And there came *a* man of the ELOHEEM unto Eli, and said to him, Thus said YAHWAH, Did I plainly appear unto the house of your father, when they were in Egypt in Pharaoh's house?

And did I choose him out of all the tribes of Israel *to be* my priest, to offer upon my altar, to burn incense, to wear *an* ephod before me? and did I give unto the house of your father all the offerings made by fire of the children of Israel?

Wherefore kick you all 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 chiefest of all the offerings of Israel my people?

Wherefore YAHWAH ELOHEEM of Israel said, I said indeed *that* your house, and the house of your father, should walk before me forever: but now YAHWAH said, Be it far from me; for them that honor me I will honor, and they that despise me shall be lightly esteemed.

Behold, the days come, that I will cut off your arm, and the arm of your father's house, that there shall not be *an* old man in your house.

And you shall see *an* enemy *in my* habitation, in all *the wealth* which *God* shall give Israel: and there shall not be *an* old man in your house forever.

And the man of your, *whom* I shall not cut off from my altar, *shall be* to consume your eyes, and to grieve your person: and all the increase of your house shall die in the flower of their age.

And this *shall be* a sign unto you, that shall come upon your two sons, on Hophni and Phinehas; in one day they shall die both of them.

And I will raise me up *a* faithful priest, *that* shall do according to *that* which *is* in my heart and in my person: and I will build him *a* sure house; and he shall walk before my anointed forever.

And it shall come to pass, *that* every one that is left in your house shall come *and* crouch to him for *a* piece of silver and *a* morsel of bread, and shall say, Put me, I pray you, into one of the priests' offices, that I may eat *a* piece of bread.

CHAPTER 3

AND the child Samuel ministered unto YAHWAH before Eli. And the word of YAHWAH was precious in those days; *there was* no open vision.

And it came to pass at that time, when Eli *was* laid down in his place, and his eyes began to wax dim, *that* he could not see;

And ere the Lamps of the ELOHEEM went out in the temple of YAHWAH, where the ark of the ELOHEEM *was*, and Samuel was laid down *to sleep*;

That YAHWAH called Samuel: and he answered, Here *am* I.

And he ran unto Eli, and said, Here *am* I; for you called me. And he said, I called not; lie down again. And he went and lay down.

And YAHWAH called yet again, Samuel. And Samuel arose and went to Eli, and said, Here *am* I; for you did call me. And he answered, I called not, my son; lie down again.

Now Samuel did not yet know YAHWAH, neither was the word of YAHWAH yet revealed unto him.

And YAHWAH called Samuel again the third time. And he arose and went to Eli, and said, Here *am* I; for you did call me. And Eli perceived that YAHWAH had called the child.

Therefore Eli said to Samuel, Go, lie down: and it shall be, if he call you, that you shall say, Speak, YAHWAH; for your servant hears. So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

And YAHWAH came, and stood, and called as at other times, Samuel, Samuel. Then Samuel answered, Speak;

for your servant hears.

And YAHWAH said to Samuel, Behold, I will do *a* thing in Israel, at which both the ears of every one that hears it shall tingle.

In that day I will perform against Eli all *things* which I have spoken concerning his house: when I begin, I will also make *an* end.

For I have told him that I will judge his house forever for the iniquity which he knows; because his sons made themselves vile, and he restrained them not.

And therefore I have sworn unto the house of Eli, that the iniquity of Eli's house shall not be purged with sacrifice nor offering forever.

And Samuel lay until the morning, and opened the doors of the house of YAHWAH. And Samuel feared to show Eli the vision.

Then Eli called Samuel, and said, Samuel, my son. And he answered, Here *am* I.

And he said, What *is* the thing that *YAHWAH* has said to you? I pray you hide *it* not from me: the ELOHEEM do so to you, and more also, if you hide *anything* from me of all the things that he said to you.

And Samuel told him every whit, and hid nothing from him. And he said, It *is* YAHWAH: let him do what seems him good.

And Samuel grew, and YAHWAH was with him, and did let none of his words fall to the land.

And all Israel from Dan even to Beersheba knew that Samuel *was* established *to be* a prophet of YAHWAH.

And YAHWAH appeared again in Shiloh: for YAHWAH revealed himself to Samuel in Shiloh by the word of YAHWAH.

CHAPTER 4

AND the word of Samuel came to all Israel. Now Israel went out against the Philistines to battle, and pitched beside Ebenezer: and the Philistines pitched in Aphek.

And the Philistines put themselves in array against Israel: and when they joined battle, Israel was smitten before the Philistines: and they slew of the army in the field about four thousand men.

And when the people were come into the camp, the elders of Israel said, Wherefore has YAHWAH smitten us today before the Philistines? Let us fetch the ark of the covenant of YAHWAH out of Shiloh unto us, that, when it comes among us, it may DELIVER us out of the hand of our enemies.

So the people sent to Shiloh, that they might bring from thence the ark of the covenant of YAHWAH of Hosts, which dwells *between* the cherubims: and the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, *were* there with the ark of the covenant of the ELOHEEM.

And when the ark of the covenant of YAHWAH came into the camp, all Israel shouted with *a* great shout, so that the land rang again.

And when the Philistines heard the noise of the shout, they said, What *means* the noise of this great shout in the camp of the Hebrews? And they understood that the ark of YAHWAH was come into the camp.

And the Philistines were afraid, for they said, ELOHEEM is come into the camp. And they said, Woe unto us! for there has not been such *a* thing heretofore.

Woe unto us! who shall deliver us out of the hand of this mighty ELOHEEM? this *is* ELOHEEM that smote the Egyptians with all the plagues in the wilderness.

Be strong, and quit yourselves like men, O you all Philistines, that you all be not servants unto the Hebrews, as they have been to you: quit yourselves like men, and fight.

And the Philistines fought, and Israel was smitten, and they fled every man into his tent: and there was *a* very great slaughter; for there fell of Israel thirty thousand footmen.

And the ark of the ELOHEEM was taken; and the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, were slain.

And there ran *a* man of Benjamin out of the army, and came to Shiloh the same day with his clothes rent, and with ground upon his head.

And when he came, behold, Eli sat upon *a* seat by the wayside watching: for his heart trembled for the ark of the ELOHEEM. And when the man came into the city, and told *it*, all the city cried out.

And when Eli heard the noise of the crying, he said, What *means* the noise of this tumult? And the man came in hastily, and told Eli.

Now Eli was ninety and eight years old; and his eyes were dim, that he could not see.

And the man said to Eli, I *am* he that came out of the army, and I fled today out of the army. And he said, What is there done, my son?

And the messenger answered and said, Israel is fled before the Philistines, and there has been also *a* great slaughter among the people, and your two sons also, Hophni and Phinehas, are dead, and the ark of the ELOHEEM is taken.

And it came to pass, when he made mention of the ark of the ELOHEEM, that he fell from off the seat backward by the side of the gate, and his neck break, and he died: for he was *an* old man, and heavy. And he had judged Israel forty years.

And his daughter in law, Phinehas' wife, was with child, *near* to be delivered: and when she heard the tidings that the ark of the ELOHEEM was taken, and that her father in law and her husband were dead, she bowed herself and travailed; for her pains came upon her.

And about the time of her death the women that stood by her said to her, Fear not; for you have born *a* son. But she answered not, neither did she regard *it*.

And she named the child Ichabod, saying, The glory is departed from Israel: because the ark of the ELOHEEM was taken, and because of her father in law and her husband.

And she said, The glory is departed from Israel: for the ark of the ELOHEEM is taken.

CHAPTER 5

AND the Philistines took the ark of the ELOHEEM, and brought it from Ebenezer unto Ashdod.

When the Philistines took the ark of the ELOHEEM, they brought it into the house of Dagon, and set it by Dagon.

And when they of Ashdod arose early on the morrow, behold, Dagon *was* fallen upon his face to the land before the ark of YAHWAH. And they took Dagon, and set him in his place again.

And when they arose early on the morrow morning, behold, Dagon *was* fallen upon his face to the ground before the ark of YAHWAH; and the head of Dagon and both the palms of his hands *were* cut off upon the threshold; only *the stump of* Dagon was left to him.

Therefore neither the priests of Dagon, nor any that come into Dagon's house, tread on the threshold of Dagon in Ashdod unto this day.

But the hand of YAHWAH was heavy upon them of Ashdod, and he destroyed them, and smote them with emerods, *even* Ashdod and the coasts thereof.

And when the men of Ashdod saw that *it was* so, they said, The ark of the ELOHEEM of Israel shall not abide with us: for his hand is sore upon us, and upon Dagon our eloheem.

They sent therefore and gathered all the Lords of the Philistines unto them, and said, What shall we do with the ark of the ELOHEEM of Israel? And they answered, Let the ark of the ELOHEEM of Israel be carried about unto Gath. And they carried the ark of the ELOHEEM of Israel about *there*.

And it was *so*, that, after they had carried it about, the hand of YAHWAH was against the city with *a* very great destruction: and he smote the men of the city, both small and great, and they had emerods in their secret parts.

Therefore they sent the ark of the ELOHEEM to Ekron. And it came to pass, as the ark of the ELOHEEM came to Ekron, that the Ekronites cried out, saying, They have brought about the ark of the ELOHEEM of Israel to us, to slay us and our people.

So they sent and gathered together all the Lords of the Philistines, and said, Send away the ark of the ELOHEEM of Israel, and let it go again to his own place, that it slay us not, and our people: for there was *a*

deadly destruction throughout all the city; the hand of the ELOHEEM was very heavy there.
And the men that died not were smitten with the emerods: and the cry of the city went up to heaven.

CHAPTER 6

AND the ark of YAHWAH was in the country of the Philistines seven months.

And the Philistines called for the priests and the diviners, saying, What shall we do to the ark of YAHWAH? tell us wherewith we shall send it to his place.

And they said, If you all send away the ark of the ELOHEEM of Israel, send it not empty; but in any wise return him *a* trespass offering: then you all shall be healed, and it shall be known to you why his hand is not removed from you.

Then said they, What *shall be* the trespass offering which we shall return to him? They answered, Five golden emerods, and five golden mice, *according to* the number of the Lords of the Philistines: for one plague *was* on you all, and on your Lords.

Wherefore you all shall make images of your emerods, and images of your mice that mar the land; and you all shall give glory unto the ELOHEEM of Israel: peradventure he will lighten his hand from off you, and from off your eloheems, and from off your land.

Wherefore then do you all harden your hearts, as the Egyptians and Pharaoh hardened their hearts? when he had worked wonderfully among them, did they not let the people go, and they departed?

Now therefore make *a* new cart, and take two milch kine, on which there has come no yoke, and tie the kine to the cart, and bring their calves home from them:

And take the ark of YAHWAH, and lay it upon the cart; and put the jewels of gold, which you all return him *for a* trespass offering, in *a* coffer by the side thereof; and send it away, that it may go.

And see, if it goes up by the way of his own coast to Bethshemesh, *then* he has done us this great evil: but if not, then we shall know that *it is* not his hand *that* smote us; *it was a* chance *that* happened to us.

And the men did so; and took two milch kine, and tied them to the cart, and shut up their calves at home:

And they laid the ark of YAHWAH upon the cart, and the coffer with the mice of gold and the images of their emerods.

And the kine took the straight way to the way of Bethshemesh, *and* went along the highway, lowing as they went, and turned not aside *to* the right hand or *to* the left; and the Lords of the Philistines went after them unto the border of Bethshemesh.

And *they of* Bethshemesh *were* reaping their wheat harvest in the valley: and they lifted up their eyes, and saw the ark, and rejoiced to see *it*.

And the cart came into the field of YAHWASUA, *a* Bethshemite, and stood there, where *there was a* great stone: and they clave the wood of the cart, and offered the kine *a* burnt offering unto YAHWAH.

And the Levites took down the ark of YAHWAH, and the coffer that *was* with it, wherein the jewels of gold *were*, and put *them* on the great stone: and the men of Bethshemesh offered burnt offerings and sacrificed sacrifices the same day unto YAHWAH.

And when the five Lords of the Philistines had seen *it*, they returned to Ekron the same day.

And these *are* the golden emerods which the Philistines returned *for a* trespass offering unto YAHWAH; for Ashdod one, for Gaza one, for Askelon one, for Gath one, for Ekron one;

And the golden mice, *according to* the number of all the cities of the Philistines *belonging* to the five Lords, *both* of fenced cities, and of country villages, even unto the great *stone of* Abel, whereon they set down the ark of YAHWAH: *which stone remains* unto this day in the field of YAHWASUA, the Bethshemite.

And he smote the men of Bethshemesh, because they had looked into the ark of YAHWAH, even he smote of the people fifty thousand and seventy men: and the people lamented, because YAHWAH had smitten *many* of the people with *a* great slaughter.

And the men of Bethshemesh said, Who is able to stand before the sanctified YAHWAH ELOHEEM? and to

whom shall he go up from us?

And they sent messengers to the inhabitants of Kirjathjearim, saying, The Philistines have brought again the ark of YAHWAH; come you all down, *and* fetch it up to you.

CHAPTER 7

AND the men of Kirjathjearim came, and fetched up the ark of YAHWAH, and brought it into the house of Abinadab in the hill, and sanctified Eleazar his son to keep the ark of YAHWAH.

And it came to pass, while the ark abode in Kirjathjearim, that the time was long; for it was twenty years: and all the house of Israel lamented after YAHWAH.

And Samuel spoke unto all the house of Israel, saying, If you all do return unto YAHWAH with all your hearts, *then* put away the strange elohems and Ashtaroth from among you, and prepare your hearts unto YAHWAH, and serve him only: and he will deliver you out of the hand of the Philistines.

Then the children of Israel did put away Baalim and Ashtaroth, and served YAHWAH only.

And Samuel said, Gather all Israel to Mizpeh, and I will pray for you unto YAHWAH.

And they gathered together to Mizpeh, and drew water, and poured *it* out before YAHWAH, and fasted on that day, and said there, We have sinned against YAHWAH. And Samuel judged the children of Israel in Mizpeh.

And when the Philistines heard that the children of Israel were gathered together to Mizpeh, the Lords of the Philistines went up against Israel. And when the children of Israel heard *it*, they were afraid of the Philistines.

And the children of Israel said to Samuel, Cease not to cry unto YAHWAH ELOHEEM for us, that he will DELIVER us out of the hand of the Philistines.

And Samuel took *a* sucking lamb, and offered *it for a* burnt offering wholly unto YAHWAH: and Samuel cried unto YAHWAH for Israel; and YAHWAH heard him.

And as Samuel was offering up the burnt offering, the Philistines drew near to battle against Israel: but YAHWAH thundered with *a* great thunder on that day upon the Philistines, and discomfited them; and they were smitten before Israel.

And the men of Israel went out of Mizpeh, and pursued the Philistines, and smote them, until *they came* under Bethcar.

Then Samuel took *a* stone, and set *it* between Mizpeh and Shen, and called the name of it Ebenezer, saying, So far has YAHWAH helped us.

So the Philistines were subdued, and they came no more into the coast of Israel: and the hand of YAHWAH was against the Philistines all the days of Samuel.

And the cities which the Philistines had taken from Israel were restored to Israel, from Ekron even unto Gath; and the coasts thereof did Israel deliver out of the hands of the Philistines. And there was peace between Israel and the Amorites.

And Samuel judged Israel all the days of his life.

And he went from year to year in circuit to Bethel, and Gilgal, and Mizpeh, and judged Israel in all those places. And his return *was* to Ramah; for there *was* his house; and there he judged Israel; and there he built *an* altar unto YAHWAH.

CHAPTER 8

AND it came to pass, when Samuel was old, that he made his sons judges over Israel.

Now the name of his firstborn was Joel; and the name of his second, Abiah: *they were* judges in Beersheba.

And his sons walked not in his ways, but turned aside after lucre, and took bribes, and perverted judgment.

Then all the elders of Israel gathered themselves together, and came to Samuel unto Ramah,

And said to him, Behold, you are old, and your sons walk not in your ways: now make us *a* king to judge us like all the nations.

But the thing displeased Samuel, when they said, Give us *a* king to judge us. And Samuel prayed unto YAHWAH.

And YAHWAH said to Samuel, Hearken unto the voice of the people in all that they say to you: for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected me, that I should not reign over them.

According to all the works which they have done since the day that I brought them up out of Egypt even unto this day, wherewith they have forsaken me, and served other elohiems, so do they also unto you.

Now therefore hearken unto their voice: howbeit yet protest solemnly unto them, and show them the manner of the king that shall reign over them.

And Samuel told all the words of YAHWAH unto the people that asked of him *a* king.

And he said, This will be the manner of the king that shall reign over you: He will take your sons, and appoint *them* for himself, for his chariots, and *to be* his horsemen; and *some* shall run before his chariots.

And he will appoint him captains over thousands, and captains over fifties; and *will set them* to ear his ground, and to reap his harvest, and to make his instruments of war, and instruments of his chariots.

And he will take your daughters *to be* confectionaries, and *to be* cooks, and *to be* bakers.

And he will take your fields, and your vineyards, and your oliveyards, *even the best of them*, and give *them* to his servants.

And he will take the tenth of your seed, and of your vineyards, and give to his officers, and to his servants.

And he will take your menservants, and your maidservants, and your goodliest young men, and your asses, and put *them* to his work.

He will take the tenth of your sheep: and you all shall be his servants.

And you all shall cry out in that day because of your king which you all shall have chosen you; and YAHWAH will not hear you in that day.

Nevertheless the people refused to obey the voice of Samuel; and they said, Nay; but we will have *a* king over us;

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.

And Samuel heard all the words of the people, and he rehearsed them in the ears of YAHWAH.

And YAHWAH said to Samuel, Hearken unto their voice, and make them *a* king. And Samuel said to the men of Israel, Go you all every man unto his city.

CHAPTER 9

NOW there was *a* man of Benjamin, whose name *was* Kish, the son of Abiel, the son of Zeror, the son of Bechorath, the son of Aphiah, *a* Benjamite, *a* mighty man of power.

And he had *a* son, whose name *was* Saul, *a* choice young man, and *a* goodly: and *there was* not among the children of Israel *a* goodlier man than he: from his shoulders and upward *he was* higher than any of the people.

And the asses of Kish Saul's father were lost. And Kish said to Saul his son, Take now one of the servants with you, and arise, go seek the asses.

And he passed through the mountain of Ephraim, and passed through the land of Shalisha, but they found *them* not: then they passed through the land of Shalim, and *there they were* not: and he passed through the land of the Benjamites, but they found *them* not.

And when they were come to the land of Zuph, Saul said to his servant that *was* with him, Come, and let us return; lest my father leave *caring* for the asses, and take thought for us.

And he said to him, Behold now, *there is* in this city *a* man of the ELOHEEM, and *he is a* honourable man; all that he said comes surely to pass: now let us go there; peradventure he can show us our way that we should go.

Then said Saul to his servant, But, behold, *if* we go, what shall we bring the man? for the bread is spent in our vessels, and *there is* not *a* present to bring to the man of the ELOHEEM: what have we?

And the servant answered Saul again, and said, Behold, I have here at hand the fourth part of *a* shekel of silver: *that* will I give to the man of the ELOHEEM, to tell us our way.

(Beforetime in Israel, when a man went to inquire of the ELOHEEM, thus he spoke, Come, and let us go to the

seer: for he that is now called a Prophet was beforetime called a Seer.)

Then said Saul to his servant, Well said; come, let us go. So they went unto the city where the man of the ELOHEEM *was*.

And as they went up the hill to the city, they found young maidens going out to draw water, and said to them, Is the seer here?

And they answered them, and said, He is; behold, *he is* before you: make haste now, for he came today to the city; for *there is a* sacrifice of the people today in the high place:

As soon as you all be come into the city, you all shall straightway find him, before he go up to the high place to eat: for the people will not eat until he come, because he does bless the sacrifice; *and* afterwards they eat that be bidden. Now therefore get you up; for about this time you all shall find him.

And they went up into the city: *and* when they were come into the city, behold, Samuel came out against them, for to go up to the high place.

Now YAHWAH had told Samuel in his ear *a* day before Saul came, saying,

Tomorrow about this time I will send you *a* man out of the land of Benjamin, and you shall anoint him *to be* captain over my people Israel, that he may DELIVER my people out of the hand of the Philistines: for I have looked upon my people, because their cry is come unto me.

And when Samuel saw Saul, YAHWAH said to him, Behold the man whom I spoke to you of! this same shall reign over my people.

Then Saul drew near to Samuel in the gate, and said, Tell me, I pray you, where the seer's house *is*.

And Samuel answered Saul, and said, I *am* the seer: go up before me unto the high place; for you all shall eat with me today, and tomorrow I will let you go, and will tell you all that *is* in your heart.

And as for your asses that were lost three days ago, set not your mind on them; for they are found. And on whom *is* all the desire of Israel? *Is it* not on you, and on all your father's house?

And Saul answered and said, *Am* not I *a* Benjamite, of the smallest of the tribes of Israel? and my family the least of all the families of the tribe of Benjamin? wherefore then speak you so to me?

And Samuel took Saul and his servant, and brought them into the parlour, and made them sit in the chiefest place among them that were bidden, which *were* about thirty men.

And Samuel said to the cook, Bring the portion which I gave you, of which I said to you, Set it by you.

And the cook took up the shoulder, and *that* which *was* upon it, and set *it* before Saul. And *Samuel* said, Behold that which is left! set *it* before you, *and* eat: for unto this time has it been kept for you since I said, I have invited the people. So Saul did eat with Samuel that day.

And when they were come down from the high place into the city, *Samuel* communed with Saul upon the top of the house.

And they arose early: and it came to pass about the spring of the day, that Samuel called Saul to the top of the house, saying, Up, that I may send you away. And Saul arose, and they went out both of them, he and Samuel, abroad.

And as they were going down to the end of the city, Samuel said to Saul, Bid the servant pass on before us, (*and he passed on,*) but stand you still *a* while, that I may show you the word of the ELOHEEM.

CHAPTER 10

THEN Samuel took *a* shallow bowl of oil, and poured *it* upon his head, and kissed him, and said, *Is it* not because YAHWAH has anointed you *to be* captain over his inheritance?

When you are departed from me today, then you shall find two men by Rachael's tomb in the border of Benjamin at Zelzah; and they will say to you, The asses which you went to seek are found: and, behold, your father has left the care of the asses, and sorrows for you, saying, What shall I do for my son?

Then shall you go on forward from thence, and you shall come to the plain of Tabor, and there shall meet you three men going up to the ELOHEEM to Bethel, one carrying three kids, and another carrying three loaves of

bread, and another carrying *a* bottle of wine:

And they will salute you, and give you two *loaves* of bread; which you shall receive of their hands.

After that you shall come to the hill of the ELOHEEM, where *is* the garrison of the Philistines: and it shall come to pass, when you are come there to the city, that you shall meet *a* company of prophets coming down from the high place with *a* psaltery, and *a* tabret, and *a* pipe, and *a* harp, before them; and they shall prophesy:

And the Spirit of YAHWAH will come upon you, and you shall prophesy with them, and shall be turned into another man.

And let it be, when these signs are come unto you, *that* you do as occasion serve you; for the ELOHEEM *is* with you.

And you shall go down before me to Gilgal; and, behold, I will come down unto you, to offer burnt offerings, *and* to sacrifice sacrifices of peace offerings: seven days shall you wait, till I come to you, and show you what you shall do.

And it was *so*, that when he had turned his back to go from Samuel, the ELOHEEM gave him another heart: and all those signs came to pass that day.

And when they came there to the hill, behold, *a* company of prophets met him; and the Spirit of the ELOHEEM came upon him, and he prophesied among them.

And it came to pass, when all that knew him beforetime saw that, behold, he prophesied among the prophets, then the people said one to another, What *is* this *that* is come unto the son of Kish? *Is* Saul also among the prophets?

And one of the same place answered and said, But who *is* their father? Therefore it became *a* proverb, *Is* Saul also among the prophets?

And when he had made *an* end of prophesying, he came to the high place.

And Saul's uncle said to him and to his servant, Where went you all? And he said, To seek the asses: and when we saw that *they were* no where, we came to Samuel.

And Saul's uncle said, Tell me, I pray you, what Samuel said to you.

And Saul said to his uncle, He told us plainly that the asses were found. But of the matter of the kingdom, whereof Samuel spoke, he told him not.

And Samuel called the people together unto YAHWAH to Mizpeh;

And said to the children of Israel, Thus said YAHWAH ELOHEEM of Israel, I brought up Israel out of Egypt, and delivered you out of the hand of the Egyptians, and out of the hand of all kingdoms, *and* of them that oppressed you:

And you all have this day rejected the ELOHEEM, who himself DELIVERED you out of all your adversities and your tribulations; and you all have said to him, *Nay*, but set *a* king over us. Now therefore present yourselves before YAHWAH by your tribes, and by your thousands.

And when Samuel had caused all the tribes of Israel to come near, the tribe of Benjamin was taken.

When he had caused the tribe of Benjamin to come near by their families, the family of Matri was taken, and Saul the son of Kish was taken: and when they sought him, he could not be found.

Therefore they inquired of YAHWAH further, if the man should yet come there. And YAHWAH answered, Behold, he has hid himself among the stuff.

And they ran and fetched him thence: and when he stood among the people, he was higher than any of the people from his shoulders and upward.

And Samuel said to all the people, See you all him whom YAHWAH has chosen, that *there is* none like him among all the people? And all the people shouted, and said, *God* DELIVER the king.

Then Samuel told the people the manner of the kingdom, and wrote *it* in *a* book, and laid *it* up before YAHWAH. And Samuel sent all the people away, every man to his house.

And Saul also went home to Gibeah; and there went with him *a* band of men, whose hearts the ELOHEEM had touched.

But the children of Belial said, How shall this man DELIVER us? And they despised him, and brought him no presents. But he held his peace.

CHAPTER 11

THEN Nahash the Ammonite came up, and encamped against Jabeshgilead: and all the men of Jabesh said to Nahash, Make *a* covenant with us, and we will serve you.

And Nahash the Ammonite answered them, On this *condition* will I make *a covenant* with you, that I may thrust out all your right eyes, and lay it *for a* reproach upon all Israel.

And the elders of Jabesh said to him, Give us seven days' respite, that we may send messengers unto all the coasts of Israel: and then, if *there be* no man to DELIVER us, we will come out to you.

Then came the messengers to Gibeah of Saul, and told the tidings in the ears of the people: and all the people lifted up their voices, and wept.

And, behold, Saul came after the herd out of the field; and Saul said, What *ails* the people that they weep? And they told him the tidings of the men of Jabesh.

And the Spirit of the ELOHEEM came upon Saul when he heard those tidings, and his anger was kindled greatly.

And he took *a* yoke of oxen, and hewed them in pieces, and sent *them* throughout all the coasts of Israel by the hands of messengers, saying, Whosoever comes not forth after Saul and after Samuel, so shall it be done unto his oxen. And the fear of YAHWAH fell on the people, and they came out with one consent.

And when he numbered them in Bezek, the children of Israel were three hundred thousand, and the men of Judah thirty thousand.

And they said to the messengers that came, Thus shall you all say to the men of Jabeshgilead, Tomorrow, by *that time* the sun be hot, you all shall have help. And the messengers came and showed *it* to the men of Jabesh; and they were glad.

Therefore the men of Jabesh said, Tomorrow we will come out unto you, and you all shall do with us all that seems good unto you.

And it was *so* on the morrow, that Saul put the people in three companies; and they came into the midst of the host in the morning watch, and slew the Ammonites until the heat of the day: and it came to pass, that they which remained were scattered, so that two of them were not left together.

And the people said to Samuel, Who *is* he that said, Shall Saul reign over us? bring the men, that we may put them to death.

And Saul said, There shall not *a* man be put to death this day: for today YAHWAH has worked deliverance in Israel.

Then said Samuel to the people, Come, and let us go to Gilgal, and renew the kingdom there.

And all the people went to Gilgal; and there they made Saul king before YAHWAH in Gilgal; and there they sacrificed sacrifices of peace offerings before YAHWAH; and there Saul and all the men of Israel rejoiced greatly.

CHAPTER 12

AND Samuel said to all Israel, Behold, I have hearkened unto your voice in all that you all said to me, and have made *a* king over you.

And now, behold, the king walks before you: and I am old and grayheaded; and, behold, my sons *are* with you: and I have walked before you from my childhood unto this day.

Behold, here I *am*: witness against me before YAHWAH, and before his anointed: whose ox have I taken? or whose ass have I taken? or whom have I defrauded? whom have I oppressed? or of whose hand have I received *any* bribe to blind my eyes therewith? and I will restore it you.

And they said, You have not defrauded us, nor oppressed us, neither have you taken ought of any man's hand.

And he said to them, YAHWAH *is* witness against you, and his anointed *is* witness this day, that you all have

not found ought in my hand. And they answered, *He is* witness.

And Samuel said to the people, *It is* YAHWAH that advanced Moses and Aaron, and that brought your fathers up out of the land of Egypt.

Now therefore stand still, that I may reason with you before YAHWAH of all the righteous acts of YAHWAH, which he did to you and to your fathers.

When Jacob was come into Egypt, and your fathers cried unto YAHWAH, then YAHWAH sent Moses and Aaron, which brought forth your fathers out of Egypt, and made them dwell in this place.

And when they forgat YAHWAH ELOHEEM, he sold them into the hand of Sisera, captain of the host of Hazor, and into the hand of the Philistines, and into the hand of the king of Moab, and they fought against them.

And they cried unto YAHWAH, and said, We have sinned, because we have forsaken YAHWAH, and have served Baalim and Ashtaroth: but now deliver us out of the hand of our enemies, and we will serve you.

And YAHWAH sent Jerubbaal, and Bedan, and Jephthah, and Samuel, and delivered you out of the hand of your enemies on every side, and you all dwelled safe.

And when you all saw that Nahash the king of the children of Ammon came against you, you all said to me, Nay; but *a* king shall reign over us: when YAHWAH ELOHEEM *was* your king.

Now therefore behold the king whom you all have chosen, *and* whom you all have desired! and, behold, YAHWAH has set *a* king over you.

If you all will fear YAHWAH, and serve him, and obey his voice, and not rebel against the commandment of YAHWAH, then shall both you all and also the king that reigns over you continue following YAHWAH ELOHEEM:

But if you all will not obey the voice of YAHWAH, but rebel against the commandment of YAHWAH, then shall the hand of YAHWAH be against you, as *it was* against your fathers.

Now therefore stand and see this great thing, which YAHWAH will do before your eyes.

Is it not wheat harvest today? I will call unto YAHWAH, and he shall send thunder and rain; that you all may perceive and see that your wickedness *is* great, which you all have done in the sight of YAHWAH, in asking you *a* king.

So Samuel called unto YAHWAH; and YAHWAH sent thunder and rain that day: and all the people greatly feared YAHWAH and Samuel.

And all the people said to Samuel, Pray for your servants unto YAHWAH ELOHEEM, that we die not: for we have added unto all our sins *this* evil, to ask us *a* king.

And Samuel said to the people, Fear not: you all have done all this wickedness: yet turn not aside from following YAHWAH, but serve YAHWAH with all your heart;

And turn you all not aside: for *then should you all go* after vain *things*, which cannot profit nor deliver; for they *are* vain.

For YAHWAH will not forsake his people for his great name's sake: because it has pleased YAHWAH to make you his people.

Moreover as for me, forbid that I should sin against YAHWAH in ceasing to pray for you: but I will teach you the good and the right way:

Only fear YAHWAH, and serve him in truth with all your heart: for consider how great *things* he has done for you.

But if you all shall still do wickedly, you all shall be consumed, both you all and your king.

CHAPTER 13

SAUL reigned one year; and when he had reigned two years over Israel,

Saul chose him three thousand *men* of Israel; *whereof* two thousand were with Saul in Michmash and in the mountain of Bethel, and *a* thousand were with Jonathan in Gibeah of Benjamin: and the rest of the people he sent every man to his tent.

And Jonathan smote the garrison of the Philistines that *was* in Geba, and the Philistines heard *of it*. And Saul blew the trumpet throughout all the land, saying, Let the Hebrews hear.

And all Israel heard say *that* Saul had smitten *a* garrison of the Philistines, and *that* Israel also was had in abomination with the Philistines. And the people were called together after Saul to Gilgal.

And the Philistines gathered themselves together to fight with Israel, thirty thousand chariots, and six thousand horsemen, and people as the sand which *is* on the sea shore in multitude: and they came up, and pitched in Michmash, eastward from Bethaven.

When the men of Israel saw that they were in *a* strait, (*for the people were distressed*,) then the people did hide themselves in caves, and in thickets, and in rocks, and in high places, and in pits.

And *some of* the Hebrews went over Jordan to the land of Gad and Gilead. As for Saul, he *was* yet in Gilgal, and all the people followed him trembling.

And he waited seven days, according to the set time that Samuel *had appointed*: but Samuel came not to Gilgal; and the people were scattered from him.

And Saul said, Bring here *a* burnt offering to me, and peace offerings. And he offered the burnt offering.

And it came to pass, that as soon as he had made *an* end of offering the burnt offering, behold, Samuel came; and Saul went out to meet him, that he might salute him.

And Samuel said, What have you done? And Saul said, Because I saw that the people were scattered from me, and *that* you came not within the days appointed, and *that* the Philistines gathered themselves together at Michmash;

Therefore said I, The Philistines will come down now upon me to Gilgal, and I have not made supplication unto YAHWAH: I forced myself therefore, and offered *a* burnt offering.

And Samuel said to Saul, You have done foolishly: you have not kept the commandment of YAHWAH ELOHEEM, which he commanded you: for now would YAHWAH have established your kingdom upon Israel forever.

But now your kingdom shall not continue: YAHWAH has sought him *a* man after his own heart, and YAHWAH has commanded him *to be* captain over his people, because you have not kept *that* which YAHWAH commanded you.

And Samuel arose, and gat him up from Gilgal unto Gibeah of Benjamin. And Saul numbered the people *that were* present with him, about six hundred men.

And Saul, and Jonathan his son, and the people *that were* present with them, abode in Gibeah of Benjamin: but the Philistines encamped in Michmash.

And the spoilers came out of the camp of the Philistines in three companies: one company turned unto the way *that leads to* Ophrah, unto the land of Shual:

And another company turned the way *to* Bethhoron: and another company turned *to* the way of the border that looks to the valley of Zeboim toward the wilderness.

Now there was no smith found throughout all the land of Israel: for the Philistines said, Lest the Hebrews make *them* swords or spears:

But all the Israelites went down to the Philistines, to sharpen every man his share, and his coulter, and his axe, and his mattock.

Yet they had *a* file for the mattocks, and for the coulters, and for the forks, and for the axes, and to sharpen the goads.

So it came to pass in the day of battle, that there was neither sword nor spear found in the hand of any of the people that *were* with Saul and Jonathan: but with Saul and with Jonathan his son was there found.

And the garrison of the Philistines went out to the passage of Michmash.

CHAPTER 14

NOW it came to pass upon *a* day, that Jonathan the son of Saul said to the young man that bare his armour,

Come, and let us go over to the Philistines' garrison, that *is* on the other side. But he told not his father. And Saul waited in the uttermost part of Gibeah under *a* pomegranate tree which *is* in Migron: and the people that *were* with him *were* about six hundred men; And Ahiah, the son of Ahitub, Ichabod's brother, the son of Phinehas, the son of Eli, YAHWAH'S priest in Shiloh, wearing *an* ephod. And the people knew not that Jonathan was gone. And between the passages, by which Jonathan sought to go over unto the Philistines' garrison, *there was a* sharp rock on the one side, and *a* sharp rock on the other side: and the name of the one *was* Bozez, and the name of the other Seneh. The forefront of the one *was* situate northward over against Michmash, and the other southward over against Gibeah. And Jonathan said to the young man that bare his armour, Come, and let us go over unto the garrison of these uncircumcised: it may be that YAHWAH will work for us: for *there is* no restraint to YAHWAH to DELIVER by many or by few. And his armourbearer said to him, Do all that *is* in your heart: turn you; behold, I *am* with you according to your heart. Then said Jonathan, Behold, we will pass over unto *these* men, and we will discover ourselves unto them. If they say thus unto us, Wait until we come to you; then we will stand still in our place, and will not go up unto them. But if they say thus, Come up unto us; then we will go up: for YAHWAH has delivered them into our hand: and this *shall be a* sign unto us. And both of them discovered themselves unto the garrison of the Philistines: and the Philistines said, Behold, the Hebrews come forth out of the holes where they had hid themselves. And the men of the garrison answered Jonathan and his armourbearer, and said, Come up to us, and we will show you *a* thing. And Jonathan said to his armourbearer, Come up after me: for YAHWAH has delivered them into the hand of Israel. And Jonathan climbed up upon his hands and upon his feet, and his armourbearer after him: and they fell before Jonathan; and his armourbearer slew after him. And that first slaughter, which Jonathan and his armourbearer made, was about twenty men, within as it were *a* half acre of land, *which a* yoke of oxen might plow. And there was trembling in the host, in the field, and among all the people: the garrison, and the spoilers, they also trembled, and the land quaked: so it was *a* very great trembling. And the watchmen of Saul in Gibeah of Benjamin looked; and, behold, the multitude melted away, and they went on beating down *one another*. Then said Saul unto the people that *were* with him, Number now, and see who is gone from us. And when they had numbered, behold, Jonathan and his armourbearer *were* not *there*. And Saul said to Ahiah, Bring here the ark of the ELOHEEM. For the ark of the ELOHEEM was at that time with the children of Israel. And it came to pass, while Saul talked unto the priest, that the noise that *was* in the host of the Philistines went on and increased: and Saul said to the priest, Withdraw your hand. And Saul and all the people that *were* with him assembled themselves, and they came to the battle: and, behold, every man's sword was against his fellow, *and there was a* very great discomfiture. Moreover the Hebrews *that* were with the Philistines before that time, which went up with them into the camp *from the country* round about, even they also *turned* to be with the Israelites that *were* with Saul and Jonathan. Likewise all the men of Israel which had hid themselves in the mountain of Ephraim, *when* they heard that the Philistines fled, even they also followed hard after them in the battle. So YAHWAH DELIVERED Israel that day: and the battle passed over unto Bethaven. And the men of Israel were distressed that day: for Saul had adjured the people, saying, Cursed *be* the man that

eats *any* food until evening, that I may be avenged on my enemies. So none of the people tasted *any* food.

And all *they of* the land came to *a* wood; and there was honey upon the ground.

And when the people were come into the wood, behold, the honey dropped; but no man put his hand to his mouth: for the people feared the oath.

But Jonathan heard not when his father charged the people with the oath: wherefore he put forth the end of the rod that *was* in his hand, and dipped it in *a* honeycomb, and put his hand to his mouth; and his eyes were enlightened.

Then answered one of the people, and said, Your father straitly charged the people with *an* oath, saying, Cursed *be* the man that eats *any* food this day. And the people were faint.

Then said Jonathan, My father has troubled the land: see, I pray you, how my eyes have been enlightened, because I tasted *a* little of this honey.

How much more, if haply the people had eaten freely today of the spoil of their enemies which they found? for had there not been now *a* much greater slaughter among the Philistines?

And they smote the Philistines that day from Michmash to Aijalon: and the people were very faint.

And the people flew upon the spoil, and took sheep, and oxen, and calves, and slew *them* on the land: and the people did eat *them* with the blood.

Then they told Saul, saying, Behold, the people sin against YAHWAH, in that they eat with the blood. And he said, You all have transgressed: roll *a* great stone unto me this day.

And Saul said, Disperse yourselves among the people, and say to them, Bring me here every man his ox, and every man his sheep, and slay *them* here, and eat; and sin not against YAHWAH in eating with the blood. And all the people brought every man his ox with him that night, and slew *them* there.

And Saul built *an* altar unto YAHWAH: the same was the first altar that he built unto YAHWAH.

And Saul said, Let us go down after the Philistines by night, and spoil them until the morning light, and let us not leave *a* man of them. And they said, Do whatsoever seems good unto you. Then said the priest, Let us draw near here unto the ELOHEEM.

And Saul asked counsel of the ELOHEEM, Shall I go down after the Philistines? will you deliver them into the hand of Israel? But he answered him not that day.

And Saul said, Draw you all near here, all the chief of the people: and know and see wherein this sin has been this day.

For, *as* YAHWAH lives, which DELIVERETH Israel, though it be in Jonathan my son, he shall surely die. But *there was* not *a* man among all the people *that* answered him.

Then said he unto all Israel, Be you all on one side, and I and Jonathan my son will be on the other side. And the people said to Saul, Do what seems good unto you.

Therefore Saul said to YAHWAH ELOHEEM of Israel, Give *a* perfect *lot*. And Saul and Jonathan were taken: but the people escaped.

And Saul said, Cast *lots* between me and Jonathan my son. And Jonathan was taken.

Then Saul said to Jonathan, Tell me what you have done. And Jonathan told him, and said, I did but taste *a* little honey with the end of the rod that *was* in my hand, *and*, behold, I must die.

And Saul answered, the ELOHEEM do so and more also: for you shall surely die, Jonathan.

And the people said to Saul, Shall Jonathan die, who has worked this great DELIVERANCE in Israel? Forbid: *as* YAHWAH lives, there shall not one hair of his head fall to the land; for he has worked with the ELOHEEM this day. So the people rescued Jonathan, that he died not.

Then Saul went up from following the Philistines: and the Philistines went to their own place.

So Saul took the kingdom over Israel, and fought against all his enemies on every side, against Moab, and against the children of Ammon, and against Edom, and against the kings of Zobah, and against the Philistines: and wheresoever he turned himself, he vexed *them*.

And he gathered *a* host, and smote the Amalekites, and delivered Israel out of the hands of them that spoiled

them.

Now the sons of Saul were Jonathan, and Ishui, and Melchishua: and the names of his two daughters *were these*; the name of the firstborn Merab, and the name of the younger Michal:

And the name of Saul's wife *was* Ahinoam, the daughter of Ahimaaz: and the name of the captain of his host *was* Abner, the son of Ner, Saul's uncle.

And Kish *was* the father of Saul; and Ner the father of Abner *was* the son of Abiel.

And there was sore war against the Philistines all the days of Saul: and when Saul saw any strong man, or any valiant man, he took him unto him.

CHAPTER 15

SAMUEL also said to Saul, YAHWAH sent me to anoint you *to be* king over his people, over Israel: now therefore hearken you unto the voice of the words of YAHWAH.

Thus said YAHWAH of Hosts, I remember *that* which Amalek did to Israel, how he laid *wait* for him in the way, when he came up from Egypt.

Now go and smite Amalek, and utterly destroy all that they have, and spare them not; but slay both man and woman, infant and suckling, ox and sheep, camel and ass.

And Saul gathered the people together, and numbered them in Telaim, two hundred thousand footmen, and ten thousand men of Judah.

And Saul came to *a* city of Amalek, and laid wait in the valley.

And Saul said to the Kenites, Go, depart, get you down from among the Amalekites, lest I destroy you with them: for you all showed kindness to all the children of Israel, when they came up out of Egypt. So the Kenites departed from among the Amalekites.

And Saul smote the Amalekites from Havilah *until* you come to Shur, that *is* over against Egypt.

And he took Agag the king of the Amalekites alive, and utterly destroyed all the people with the edge of the sword.

But Saul and the people spared Agag, and the best of the sheep, and of the oxen, and of the fatlings, and the lambs, and all *that was* good, and would not utterly destroy them: but everything *that was* vile and refuse, that they destroyed utterly.

Then came the word of YAHWAH unto Samuel, saying,

It repents me that I have set up Saul *to be* king: for he is turned back from following me, and has not performed my commandments. And it grieved Samuel; and he cried unto YAHWAH all night.

And when Samuel rose early to meet Saul in the morning, it was told Samuel, saying, Saul came to Karmel, and, behold, he set him up *a* place, and is gone about, and passed on, and gone down to Gilgal.

And Samuel came to Saul: and Saul said to him, Blessed *be* you of YAHWAH: I have performed the commandment of YAHWAH.

And Samuel said, What *means* then this bleating of the sheep in my ears, and the lowing of the oxen which I hear?

And Saul said, They have brought them from the Amalekites: for the people spared the best of the sheep and of the oxen, to sacrifice unto YAHWAH ELOHEEM; and the rest we have utterly destroyed.

Then Samuel said to Saul, Stay, and I will tell you what YAHWAH has said to me this night. And he said to him, Say on.

And Samuel said, When you *were* little in your own sight, *were* you not *made* the head of the tribes of Israel, and YAHWAH anointed you king over Israel?

And YAHWAH sent you on *a* journey, and said, Go and utterly destroy the sinners the Amalekites, and fight against them until they be consumed.

Wherefore then did you not obey the voice of YAHWAH, but did fly upon the spoil, and did evil in the sight of YAHWAH?

And Saul said to Samuel, Yes, I have obeyed the voice of YAHWAH, and have gone the way which YAHWAH sent me, and have brought Agag the king of Amalek, and have utterly destroyed the Amalekites.

But the people took of the spoil, sheep and oxen, the chief of the things which should have been utterly destroyed, to sacrifice unto YAHWAH ELOHEEM in Gilgal.

And Samuel said, Has YAHWAH *as great* delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of YAHWAH? Behold, to obey *is* better than sacrifice, *and* to hearken than the fat of rams.

For rebellion *is as* the sin of divination, and stubbornness *is as* iniquity and idolatry. Because you have rejected the word of YAHWAH, he has also rejected you from *being* king.

And Saul said to Samuel, I have sinned: for I have transgressed the commandment of YAHWAH, and your words: because I feared the people, and obeyed their voice.

Now therefore, I pray you, pardon my sin, and turn again with me, that I may worship YAHWAH.

And Samuel said to Saul, I will not return with you: for you have rejected the word of YAHWAH, and YAHWAH has rejected you from being king over Israel.

And as Samuel turned about to go away, he laid hold upon the skirt of his mantle, and it rent.

And Samuel said to him, YAHWAH has rent the kingdom of Israel from you this day, and has given it to *a* neighbour of your, *that is* better than you.

And also the Strength of Israel will not lie nor repent: for he *is* not *an* adamite, that he should repent.

Then he said, I have sinned: *yet* honor me now, I pray you, before the elders of my people, and before Israel, and turn again with me, that I may worship YAHWAH ELOHEEM.

So Samuel turned again after Saul; and Saul worshipped YAHWAH.

Then said Samuel, Bring you all here to me Agag the king of the Amalekites. And Agag came unto him delicately. And Agag said, Surely the bitterness of death is past.

And Samuel said, As your sword has made women childless, so shall your mother be childless among women.

And Samuel hewed Agag in pieces before YAHWAH in Gilgal.

Then Samuel went to Ramah; and Saul went up to his house to Gibeah of Saul.

And Samuel came no more to see Saul until the day of his death: nevertheless Samuel mourned for Saul: and YAHWAH repented that he had made Saul king over Israel.

CHAPTER 16

AND YAHWAH said to Samuel, How long will you mourn for Saul, seeing I have rejected him from reigning over Israel? fill your horn with oil, and go, I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite: for I have provided me *a* king among his sons.

And Samuel said, How can I go? if Saul hear *it*, he will kill me. And YAHWAH said, Take *a* heifer with you, and say, I am come to sacrifice to YAHWAH.

And call Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do: and you shall anoint unto me *him* whom I name unto you.

And Samuel did that which YAHWAH spoke, and came to Bethlehem. And the elders of the town trembled at his coming, and said, Come you peaceably?

And he said, Peaceably: I am come to sacrifice unto YAHWAH: sanctify yourselves, and come with me to the sacrifice. And he sanctified Jesse and his sons, and called them to the sacrifice.

And it came to pass, when they were come, that he looked on Eliab, and said, Surely YAHWAH'S anointed *is* before him.

But YAHWAH said to Samuel, Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for *YAHWAH sees* not as adamites sees; for adamites look on the outward appearance, but YAHWAH looks on the heart.

Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. And he said, Neither has YAHWAH chosen this.

Then Jesse made Shammah to pass by. And he said, Neither has YAHWAH chosen this.

Again, Jesse made seven of his sons to pass before Samuel. And Samuel said to Jesse, YAHWAH has not chosen these.

And Samuel said to Jesse, Are here all *your* children? And he said, There remains yet the youngest, and, behold, he keeps the sheep. And Samuel said to Jesse, Send and fetch him: for we will not sit down till he come here.

And he sent, and brought him in. Now he *was* ruddy, *and* withal of *a* beautiful countenance, and goodly to look to. And YAHWAH said, Arise, anoint him: for this *is* he.

Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the midst of his brethren: and the Spirit of YAHWAH came upon David from that day forward. So Samuel rose up, and went to Ramah.

But the Spirit of YAHWAH departed from Saul, and *an* evil spirit from YAHWAH troubled him.

And Saul's servants said to him, Behold now, *an* evil spirit from the ELOHEEM troubles you.

Let our Lord now command your servants, *which are* before you, to seek out *a* man, *who is a* cunning player on *a* harp: and it shall come to pass, when the evil spirit from the ELOHEEM is upon you, that he shall play with his hand, and you shall be well.

And Saul said to his servants, Provide me now *a* man that can play well, and bring *him* to me.

Then answered one of the servants, and said, Behold, I have seen *a* son of Jesse the Bethlehemite, *that is* cunning in playing, and *a* mighty valiant man, and *a* man of war, and learned in matters, and *a* comely man, and YAHWAH *is* with him.

Wherefore Saul sent messengers unto Jesse, and said, Send me David your son, which *is* with the sheep.

And Jesse took *an* ass *laden* with bread, and *a* bottle of wine, and *a* kid, and sent *them* by David his son unto Saul.

And David came to Saul, and stood before him: and he loved him greatly; and he became his armourbearer.

And Saul sent to Jesse, saying, Let David, I pray you, stand before me; for he has found favour in my sight.

And it came to pass, when the *evil* spirit from the ELOHEEM was upon Saul, that David took *a* harp, and played with his hand: so Saul was refreshed, and was well, and the evil spirit departed from him.

CHAPTER 17

NOW the Philistines gathered together their armies to battle, and were gathered together at Shochoh, which *belongs* to Judah, and pitched between Shochoh and Azekah, in Ephesdammim.

And Saul and the men of Israel were gathered together, and pitched by the valley of Elah, and set the battle in array against the Philistines.

And the Philistines stood on *a* mountain on the one side, and Israel stood on *a* mountain on the other side: and *there was a* valley between them.

And there went out *a* champion out of the camp of the Philistines, named Goliath, of Gath, whose height *was* six cubits and *a* span.

And *he had a* helmet of brass upon his head, and he *was* armed with *a* coat of mail; and the weight of the coat *was* five thousand shekels of brass.

And *he had* greaves of brass upon his legs, and *a* target of brass between his shoulders.

And the staff of his spear *was* like *a* weaver's beam; and his spear's head *weighed* six hundred shekels of iron: and one bearing *a* shield went before him.

And he stood and cried unto the armies of Israel, and said to them, Why are you all come out to set *your* battle in array? *am* not I *a* Philistine, and you all servants to Saul? choose you *a* man for you, and let him come down to me.

If he be able to fight with me, and to kill me, then will we be your servants: but if I prevail against him, and kill him, then shall you all be our servants, and serve us.

And the Philistine said, I defy the armies of Israel this day; give me *a* man, that we may fight together.

When Saul and all Israel heard those words of the Philistine, they were dismayed, and greatly afraid.

Now David *was* the son of that Ephrathite of Bethlehemjudah, whose name *was* Jesse; and he had eight sons: and the man went among men *for an* old man in the days of Saul.

And the three eldest sons of Jesse went *and* followed Saul to the battle: and the names of his three sons that went to the battle *were* Eliab the firstborn, and next unto him Abinadab, and the third Shammah.

And David *was* the youngest: and the three eldest followed Saul.

But David went and returned from Saul to feed his father's sheep at Bethlehem.

And the Philistine drew near morning and evening, and presented himself forty days.

And Jesse said to David his son, Take now for your brethren *an* ephah of this parched *grain*, and these ten loaves, and run to the camp to your brethren;

And carry these ten cheeses unto the captain of *their* thousand, and look how your brethren fare, and take their pledge.

Now Saul, and they, and all the men of Israel, *were* in the valley of Elah, fighting with the Philistines.

And David rose up early in the morning, and left the sheep with *a* keeper, and took, and went, as Jesse had commanded him; and he came to the trench, as the host was going forth to the fight, and shouted for the battle.

For Israel and the Philistines had put the battle in array, army against army.

And David left his carriage in the hand of the keeper of the carriage, and ran into the army, and came and saluted his brethren.

And as he talked with them, behold, there came up the champion, the Philistine of Gath, Goliath by name, out of the armies of the Philistines, and spoke according to the same words: and David heard *them*.

And all the men of Israel, when they saw the man, fled from him, and were sore afraid.

And the men of Israel said, Have you all seen this man that is come up? surely to defy Israel is he come up: and it shall be, *that* the man who kills him, the king will enrich him with great riches, and will give him his daughter, and make his father's house free in Israel.

And David spoke to the men that stood by him, saying, What shall be done to the man that kills this Philistine, and takes away the reproach from Israel? for who *is* this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should defy the armies of the living ELOHEEM?

And the people answered him after this manner, saying, So shall it be done to the man that kills him.

And Eliab his eldest brother heard when he spoke unto the men; and Eliab's anger was kindled against David, and he said, Why came you down here? and with whom have you left those few sheep in the wilderness? I know your pride, and the naughtiness of your heart; for you are come down that you might see the battle.

And David said, What have I now done? *Is there* not *a* cause?

And he turned from him toward another, and spoke after the same manner: and the people answered him again after the former manner.

And when the words were heard which David spoke, they rehearsed *them* before Saul: and he sent for him.

And David said to Saul, Let no man's heart fail because of him; your servant will go and fight with this Philistine.

And 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.

And David said to Saul, Your servant kept his father's sheep, and there came *a* lion, and *a* bear, and took *a* lamb out of the flock:

And I went out after him, and smote him, and delivered *it* out of his mouth: and when he arose against me, I caught *him* by his beard, and smote him, and slew him.

Your servant slew both the lion and the bear: and this uncircumcised Philistine shall be as one of them, seeing he has defied the armies of the living ELOHEEM.

David said moreover, YAHWAH that delivered me out of the paw of the lion, and out of the paw of the bear, he will deliver me out of the hand of this Philistine. And Saul said to David, Go, and YAHWAH be with you.

And Saul armed David with his armour, and he put *a* helmet of brass upon his head; also he armed him with *a*

coat of mail.

And David girded his sword upon his armour, and he assayed to go; for he had not proved *it*. And David said to Saul, I cannot go with these; for I have not proved *them*. And David put them off him.

And he took his staff in his hand, and chose him five smooth stones out of the brook, and put them in *a* shepherd's bag which he had, even in *a* scrip; and his sling *was* in his hand: and he drew near to the Philistine.

And the Philistine came on and drew near unto David; and the man that bare the shield *went* before him.

And when the Philistine looked about, and saw David, he disdained him: for he was *but a* youth, and ruddy, and of *a* fair countenance.

And the Philistine said to David, *Am I a* dog, that you come to me with staves? And the Philistine cursed David by his eloheems.

And the Philistine said to David, Come to me, and I will give your flesh unto the fowls of the air, and to the beasts of the field.

Then said David to the Philistine, You come to me with *a* sword, and with *a* spear, and with *a* shield: but I come to you in the name of YAHWAH of Hosts, the ELOHEEM of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied.

This day will YAHWAH deliver you into my hand; and I will smite you, and take your head from you; and I will give the carcasses of the host of the Philistines this day unto the fowls of the air, and to the wild beasts of the land; that all the land may know that there is the ELOHEEM in Israel.

And all these leaders shall know that YAHWAH DELIVERETH not with sword and spear: for the battle *is* YAHWAH'S, and he will give you into our hands.

And it came to pass, when the Philistine arose, and came and drew near to meet David, that David hasted, and ran toward the army to meet the Philistine.

And David put his hand in his bag, and took thence *a* stone, and slang *it*, and smote the Philistine in his forehead, that the stone sunk into his forehead; and he fell upon his face to the land.

So David prevailed over the Philistine with *a* sling and with *a* stone, and smote the Philistine, and slew him; but *there was* no sword in the hand of David.

Therefore David ran, and stood upon the Philistine, and took his sword, and drew it out of the sheath thereof, and slew him, and cut off his head therewith. And when the Philistines saw their champion was dead, they fled.

And the men of Israel and of Judah arose, and shouted, and pursued the Philistines, until you come to the valley, and to the gates of Ekron. And the wounded of the Philistines fell down by the way to Shaaraim, even unto Gath, and unto Ekron.

And the children of Israel returned from chasing after the Philistines, and they spoiled their tents.

And David took the head of the Philistine, and brought it to Jerusalem; but he put his armour in his tent.

And when Saul saw David go forth against the Philistine, he said to Abner, the captain of the host, Abner, whose son *is* this youth? And Abner said, *As* your person lives, O king, I cannot tell.

And the king said, Inquire you whose son the stripling *is*.

And 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.

And Saul said to him, Whose son *are* you, *you* young man? And David answered, *I am* the son of your servant Jesse the Bethlehemite.

CHAPTER 18

AND it came to pass, when he had made *an* end of speaking unto Saul, that the person of Jonathan was knit with the person of David, and Jonathan loved him as his own person.

And Saul took him that day, and would let him go no more home to his father's house.

Then Jonathan and David made *a* covenant, because he loved him as his own person.

And Jonathan stripped himself of the robe that *was* upon him, and gave it to David, and his garments, even to his sword, and to his bow, and to his girdle.

And David went out wheresoever Saul sent him, *and* behaved himself wisely: and Saul set him over the men of war, and he was accepted in the sight of all the people, and also in the sight of Saul's servants.

And it came to pass as they came, when David was returned from the slaughter of the Philistine, that the women came out of all cities of Israel, singing and dancing, to meet king Saul, with tabrets, with joy, and with instruments of musick.

And the women answered *one another* as they played, and said, Saul has slain his thousands, and David his ten thousands.

And Saul was very wroth, and the saying displeased him; and he said, They have ascribed unto David ten thousands, and to me they have ascribed *but* thousands: and *what* can he have more but the kingdom?

And Saul eyed David from that day and forward.

And it came to pass on the morrow, that the evil spirit from the ELOHEEM came upon Saul, and he prophesied in the midst of the house: and David played with his hand, as at other times: and *there was a javelin* in Saul's hand.

And Saul cast the javelin; for he said, I will smite David even to the wall *with it*. And David avoided out of his presence twice.

And Saul was afraid of David, because YAHWAH was with him, and was departed from Saul.

Therefore Saul removed him from him, and made him his captain over *a* thousand; and he went out and came in before the people.

And David behaved himself wisely in all his ways; and YAHWAH *was* with him.

Wherefore when Saul saw that he behaved himself very wisely, he was afraid of him.

But all Israel and Judah loved David, because he went out and came in before them.

And Saul said to David, Behold my elder daughter Merab, her will I give you to wife: only be you valiant for me, and fight YAHWAH'S battles. For Saul said, Let not my hand be upon him, but let the hand of the Philistines be upon him.

And David said to Saul, Who *am* I? and what *is* my life, *or* my father's family in Israel, that I should be son in law to the king?

But it came to pass at the time when Merab Saul's daughter should have been given to David, that she was given unto Adriel the Meholathite to wife.

And Michal Saul's daughter loved David: and they told Saul, and the thing pleased him.

And Saul said, I will give him her, that she may be *a* snare to him, and that the hand of the Philistines may be against him. Wherefore Saul said to David, You shall this day be my son in law in *the one of* the two.

And Saul commanded his servants, *saying*, Commune 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.

And Saul's servants spoke those words in the ears of David. And David said, Seems it to you *a* light *thing* to be *a* king's son in law, seeing that I *am a* poor man, and lightly esteemed?

And the servants of Saul told him, saying, On this manner spoke David.

And Saul said, Thus shall you all say to David, The king desires not any dowry, but *a* hundred foreskins of the Philistines, to be avenged of the king's enemies. But Saul thought to make David fall by the hand of the Philistines.

And when his servants told David these words, it pleased David well to be the king's son in law: and the days were not expired.

Wherefore David arose and went, he and his men, and slew of the Philistines two hundred men; and David brought their foreskins, and they gave them in full tale to the king, that he might be the king's son in law. And Saul gave him Michal his daughter to wife.

And Saul saw and knew that YAHWAH *was* with David, and *that* Michal Saul's daughter loved him.

And Saul was yet the more afraid of David; and Saul became David's enemy continually.

Then the princes of the Philistines went forth: and it came to pass, after they went forth, *that* David behaved

himself more wisely than all the servants of Saul; so that his name was much set by.

CHAPTER 19

AND Saul spoke to Jonathan his son, and to all his servants, that they should kill David.

But Jonathan Saul's son delighted much in David: and Jonathan told David, saying, Saul my father seeks to kill you: now therefore, I pray you, take heed to yourself until the morning, and abide in *a secret place*, and hide yourself:

And I will go out and stand beside my father in the field where you *are*, and I will commune with my father of you; and what I see, that I will tell you.

And Jonathan spoke good of David unto Saul his father, and said to him, Let not the king sin against his servant, against David; because he has not sinned against you, and because his works *have been* to you-ward very good: For he did put his person in his hand, and slew the Philistine, and YAHWAH worked *a great DELIVERANCE* for all Israel: you saw *it*, and did rejoice: wherefore then will you sin against innocent blood, to slay David without *a cause*?

And Saul hearkened unto the voice of Jonathan: and Saul sware, *As YAHWAH lives*, he shall not be slain.

And Jonathan called David, and Jonathan showed him all those things. And Jonathan brought David to Saul, and he was in his presence, as in times past.

And there was war again: and David went out, and fought with the Philistines, and slew them with *a great slaughter*; and they fled from him.

And the evil spirit from YAHWAH was upon Saul, as he sat in his house with his javelin in his hand: and David played with *his hand*.

And Saul sought to smite David even to the wall with the javelin; but he slipped away out of Saul's presence, and he smote the javelin into the wall: and David fled, and escaped that night.

Saul also sent messengers unto David's house, to watch him, and to slay him in the morning: and Michal David's wife told him, saying, If you escape not your person tonight, tomorrow you shall be slain.

So Michal let David down through *a window*: and he went, and fled, and escaped.

And Michal took *an image*, and laid *it* in the bed, and put *a pillow of goats' hair* for his bolster, and covered *it* with *a cloth*.

And when Saul sent messengers to take David, she said, He *is sick*.

And Saul sent the messengers *again* to see David, saying, Bring him up to me in the bed, that I may slay him.

And when the messengers were come in, behold, *there was an image* in the bed, with *a pillow of goats' hair* for his bolster.

And Saul said to Michal, Why have you deceived me so, and sent away my enemy, that he is escaped? And Michal answered Saul, He said to me, Let me go; why should I kill you?

So David fled, and escaped, and came to Samuel to Ramah, and told him all that Saul had done to him. And he and Samuel went and dwelt in Naioth.

And it was told Saul, saying, Behold, David *is* at Naioth in Ramah.

And Saul sent messengers to take David: and when they saw the company of the prophets prophesying, and Samuel standing *as appointed* over them, the Spirit of the ELOHEEM was upon the messengers of Saul, and they also prophesied.

And when it was told Saul, he sent other messengers, and they prophesied likewise. And Saul sent messengers again the third time, and they prophesied also.

Then went he also to Ramah, and came to *a great well* that *is* in Sechu: and he asked and said, Where *are* Samuel and David? And *one* said, Behold, *they be* at Naioth in Ramah.

And he went there to Naioth in Ramah: and the Spirit of the ELOHEEM was upon him also, and he went on, and prophesied, until he came to Naioth in Ramah.

And he stripped off his clothes also, and prophesied before Samuel in like manner, and lay down naked all that

day and all that night. Wherefore they say, *Is* Saul also among the prophets?

CHAPTER 20

AND David fled from Naioth in Ramah, and came and said before Jonathan, What have I done? what *is* my iniquity? and what *is* my sin before your father, that he seeks my person?

And he said to him, forbid; you shall not die: behold, my father will do nothing either great or small, but that he will show it me: and why should my father hide this thing from me? *it is not so*.

And David sware moreover, and said, Your father certainly knows that I have found grace in your eyes; and he said, Let not Jonathan know this, lest he be grieved: but truly *as* YAHWAH lives, and *as* your person lives, *there is* but *a* step between me and death.

Then said Jonathan unto David, Whatsoever your person desires, I will even do *it* for you.

And David said to Jonathan, Behold, tomorrow *is* the new moon, and I should not fail to sit with the king at meat: but let me go, that I may hide myself in the field unto the third *day* at even.

If your father at all miss me, then say, David earnestly asked *leave* of me that he might run to Bethlehem his city: for *there is* a yearly sacrifice there for all the family.

If he say thus, *It is* well; your servant shall have peace: but if he be very wroth, *then* be sure that evil is determined by him.

Therefore you shall deal kindly with your servant; for you have brought your servant into *a* covenant of YAHWAH with you: notwithstanding, if there be in me iniquity, slay me yourself; for why should you bring me to your father?

And Jonathan said, Far be it from you: for if I knew certainly that evil were determined by my father to come upon you, then would not I tell it you?

Then said David to Jonathan, Who shall tell me? or what *if* your father answer you roughly?

And Jonathan said to David, Come, and let us go out into the field. And they went out both of them into the field.

And Jonathan said to David, O YAHWAH ELOHEEM of Israel, when I have sounded my father about tomorrow any time, *or* the third *day*, and, behold, *if there be* good toward David, and I then send not unto you, and show it you;

YAHWAH do so and much more to Jonathan: but if it please my father *to do* you evil, then I will show it you, and send you away, that you may go in peace: and YAHWAH be with you, as he has been with my father.

And you shall not only while yet I live show me the kindness of YAHWAH, that I die not:

But *also* you shall not cut off your kindness from my house forever: no, not when YAHWAH has cut off the enemies of David every one from the face of the ground.

So Jonathan made *a covenant* with the house of David, *saying*, Let YAHWAH even require *it* at the hand of David's enemies.

And Jonathan caused David to swear again, because he loved him: for he loved him as he loved his own person.

Then Jonathan said to David, Tomorrow *is* the new moon: and you shall be missed, because your seat will be empty.

And *when* you have stayed three days, *then* you shall go down quickly, and come to the place where you did hide yourself when the business was *in hand*, and shall remain by the stone Ezel.

And I will shoot three arrows on the side *thereof*, as though I shot at *a* mark.

And, behold, I will send *a* lad, *saying*, Go, find out the arrows. If I expressly say to the lad, Behold, the arrows *are* on this side of you, take them; then come you: for *there is* peace to you, and no hurt; *as* YAHWAH lives.

But if I say thus unto the young man, Behold, the arrows *are* beyond you; go your way: for YAHWAH has sent you away.

And *as touching* the matter which you and I have spoken of, behold, YAHWAH *be* between you and me forever.

So David hid himself in the field: and when the new moon was come, the king sat him down to eat meat. And the king sat upon his seat, as at other times, *even* upon *a* seat by the wall: and Jonathan arose, and Abner sat by Saul's side, and David's place was empty. Nevertheless Saul spoke not anything that day: for he thought, Something has befallen him, he *is* not clean; surely he *is* not clean. And it came to pass on the morrow, *which was* the second *day* of the month, that David's place was empty: and Saul said to Jonathan his son, Wherefore comes not the son of Jesse to meat, neither yesterday, nor today? And Jonathan answered Saul, David earnestly asked *leave* of me *to go* to Bethlehem: And he said, Let me go, I pray you; for our family has *a* sacrifice in the city; and my brother, he has commanded me *to be there*: and now, if I have found favour in your eyes, let me get away, I pray you, and see my brethren. Therefore he comes not unto the king's table. Then Saul's anger was kindled against Jonathan, and he said to him, You son of the perverse rebellious *woman*, do not I know that you have chosen the son of Jesse to your own confusion, and unto the confusion of your mother's nakedness? For as long as the son of Jesse lives upon the ground, you shall not be established, nor your kingdom. Wherefore now send and fetch him unto me, for he shall surely die. And Jonathan answered Saul his father, and said to him, Wherefore shall he be slain? what has he done? And Saul cast *a* javelin at him to smite him: whereby Jonathan knew that it was determined of his father to slay David. So Jonathan arose from the table in fierce anger, and did eat no meat the second day of the month: for he was grieved for David, because his father had done him shame. And it came to pass in the morning, that Jonathan went out into the field at the time appointed with David, and *a* little lad with him. And he said to his lad, Run, find out now the arrows which I shoot. *And* as the lad ran, he shot *an* arrow beyond him. And when the lad was come to the place of the arrow which Jonathan had shot, Jonathan cried after the lad, and said, *Is* not the arrow beyond you? And Jonathan cried after the lad, Make speed, haste, stay not. And Jonathan's lad gathered up the arrows, and came to his master. But the lad knew not anything: only Jonathan and David knew the matter. And Jonathan gave his artillery unto his lad, and said to him, Go, carry *them* to the city. *And* as soon as the lad was gone, David arose out of *a* place toward the south, and fell on his face to the ground, and bowed himself three times: and they kissed one another, and wept one with another, until David exceeded. And Jonathan said to David, Go in peace, forasmuch as we have sworn both of us in the name of YAHWAH, saying, YAHWAH be between me and you, and between my seed and your seed forever. And he arose and departed: and Jonathan went into the city.

CHAPTER 21

THEN came David to Nob to Ahimelech the priest: and Ahimelech was afraid at the meeting of David, and said to him, Why *are* you alone, and no man with you? And David said to Ahimelech the priest, The king has commanded me *a* business, and has said to me, Let no man know anything of the business whereabouts I send you, and what I have commanded you: and I have appointed *my* servants to such and such place. Now therefore what is under your hand? give *me* five *loaves* of bread in my hand, or what there is present. And the priest answered David, and said, *There is* no common bread under my hand, but there is sanctified bread; if the young men have kept themselves at least from women. And David answered the priest, and said to him, Of *a* truth women *have been* kept from us about these three

days, since I came out, and the vessels of the young men are sanctified, and *the bread is* in a manner common, yes, though it were sanctified this day in the vessel.

So the priest gave him sanctified *bread*: for there was no bread there but the showbread, that was taken from before YAHWAH, to put hot bread in the day when it was taken away.

Now *a* certain man of the servants of Saul *was* there that day, detained before YAHWAH; and his name *was* Doeg, *an* Edomite, the chiefest of the herdmen that *belonged* to Saul.

And David said to Ahimelech, And is there not here under your hand spear or sword? for I have neither brought my sword nor my weapons with me, because the king's business required haste.

And the priest said, The sword of Goliath the Philistine, whom you slew in the valley of Elah, behold, it *is here* wrapped in *a* cloth behind the ephod: if you will take that, take *it*: for *there is* no other beside that here. And David said, *There is* none like that; give it me.

And David arose, and fled that day for fear of Saul, and went to Achish the king of Gath.

And the servants of Achish said to him, *Is* not this David the king of the land? did they not sing one to another of him in dances, saying, Saul has slain his thousands, and David his ten thousands?

And David laid up these words in his heart, and was sore afraid of Achish the king of Gath.

And he changed his behaviour before them, and feigned himself mad in their hands, and scrabbled on the doors of the gate, and let his spittle fall down upon his beard.

Then said Achish unto his servants, Behold, you all see the man is mad: wherefore *then* have you all brought him to me?

Have I need of mad men, that you all have brought this *fellow* to play the mad man in my presence? shall this *fellow* come into my house?

CHAPTER 22

DAVID therefore departed thence, and escaped to the cave Adullam: and when his brethren and all his father's house heard *it*, they went down there to him.

And every one *that was* in distress, and every one that *was* in debt, and every one *that was* discontented, gathered themselves unto him; and he became *a* captain over them: and there were with him about four hundred men.

And David went thence to Mizpeh of Moab: and he said to the king of Moab, Let my father and my mother, I pray you, come forth, *and be* with you, till I know what the ELOHEEM will do for me.

And he brought them before the king of Moab: and they dwelt with him all the while that David was in the hold. And the prophet Gad said to David, Abide not in the hold; depart, and get you into the land of Judah. Then David departed, and came into the forest of Hareth.

When Saul heard that David was discovered, and the men that *were* with him, (*now Saul abode in Gibeah under a tree in Ramah, having his spear in his hand, and all his servants were standing about him,*)

Then Saul said to his servants that stood about him, Hear now, you all Benjamites; will the son of Jesse give every one of you fields and vineyards, *and* make you all captains of thousands, and captains of hundreds;

That all of you have conspired against me, and *there is* none that shows me that my son has made *a* league with the son of Jesse, and *there is* none of you that is sorry for me, or shows unto me that my son has stirred up my servant against me, to lie in wait, as at this day?

Then answered Doeg the Edomite, which was set over the servants of Saul, and said, I saw the son of Jesse coming to Nob, to Ahimelech the son of Ahitub.

And he inquired of YAHWAH for him, and gave him victuals, and gave him the sword of Goliath the Philistine. Then the king sent to call Ahimelech the priest, the son of Ahitub, and all his father's house, the priests that *were* in Nob: and they came all of them to the king.

And Saul said, Hear now, you son of Ahitub. And he answered, Here I *am*, my Lord.

And Saul said to him, Why have you all conspired against me, you and the son of Jesse, in that you have given

him bread, and *a* sword, and have inquired of the ELOHEEM for him, that he should rise against me, to lie in wait, as at this day?

Then Ahimelech answered the king, and said, And who *is so* faithful among all your servants as David, which is the king's son in law, and goes at your bidding, and is honourable in your house?

Did I then begin to inquire of the ELOHEEM for him? be it far from me: let not the king impute *anything* unto his servant, *nor* to all the house of my father: for your servant knew nothing of all this, less or more.

And the king said, You shall surely die, Ahimelech, you, and all your father's house.

And the king said to the footmen that stood about him, Turn, and slay the priests of YAHWAH; because their hand also *is* with David, and because they knew when he fled, and did not show it to me. But the servants of the king would not put forth their hand to fall upon the priests of YAHWAH.

And the king said to Doeg, Turn you, and fall upon the priests. And Doeg the Edomite turned, and he fell upon the priests, and slew on that day fourscore and five men that did wear *a* linen ephod.

And Nob, the city of the priests, smote he with the edge of the sword, both men and women, children and sucklings, and oxen, and asses, and sheep, with the edge of the sword.

And one of the sons of Ahimelech the son of Ahitub, named Abiathar, escaped, and fled after David.

And Abiathar showed David that Saul had slain YAHWAH'S priests.

And David said to Abiathar, I knew *it* that day, when Doeg the Edomite *was* there, that he would surely tell Saul: I have occasioned *the death* of all the men of your father's house.

Abide you with me, fear not: for he that seeks my person seeks your person: but with me you *shall be* in safeguard.

CHAPTER 23

THEN they told David, saying, Behold, the Philistines fight against Keilah, and they rob the threshingfloors.

Therefore David inquired of YAHWAH, saying, Shall I go and smite these Philistines? And YAHWAH said to David, Go, and smite the Philistines, and DELIVER Keilah.

And David's men said to him, Behold, we be afraid here in Judah: how much more then if we come to Keilah against the armies of the Philistines?

Then David inquired of YAHWAH yet again. And YAHWAH answered him and said, Arise, go down to Keilah; for I will deliver the Philistines into your hand.

So David and his men went to Keilah, and fought with the Philistines, and brought away their cattle, and smote them with *a* great slaughter. So David DELIVERED the inhabitants of Keilah.

And it came to pass, when Abiathar the son of Ahimelech fled to David to Keilah, *that* he came down *with an* ephod in his hand.

And it was told Saul that David was come to Keilah. And Saul said, the ELOHEEM has delivered him into my hand; for he is shut in, by entering into *a* town that has gates and bars.

And Saul called all the people together to war, to go down to Keilah, to besiege David and his men.

And David knew that Saul secretly practised mischief against him; and he said to Abiathar the priest, Bring here the ephod.

Then said David, O YAHWAH ELOHEEM of Israel, your servant has certainly heard that Saul seeks to come to Keilah, to destroy the city for my sake.

Will the men of Keilah deliver me up into his hand? will Saul come down, as your servant has heard? O YAHWAH ELOHEEM of Israel, I beseech you, tell your servant. And YAHWAH said, He will come down.

Then said David, Will the men of Keilah deliver me and my men into the hand of Saul? And YAHWAH said, They will deliver *you* up.

Then David and his men, *which were* about six hundred, arose and departed out of Keilah, and went wheresoever they could go. And it was told Saul that David was escaped from Keilah; and he forbore to go forth.

And David abode in the wilderness in strong holds, and remained in *a* mountain in the wilderness of Ziph. And Saul sought him every day, but the ELOHEEM delivered him not into his hand.

And David saw that Saul was come out to seek his person: and David *was* in the wilderness of Ziph in *a* wood. And Jonathan Saul's son arose, and went to David into the wood, and strengthened his hand in the ELOHEEM. And he said to him, Fear not: for the hand of Saul my father shall not find you; and you shall be king over Israel, and I shall be next unto you; and that also Saul my father knows.

And they two made *a* covenant before YAHWAH: and David abode in the wood, and Jonathan went to his house.

Then came up the Ziphites to Saul to Gibeah, saying, Does not David hide himself with us in strong holds in the wood, in the hill of Hachilah, which *is* on the south of Jeshimon?

Now therefore, O king, come down according to all the desire of your person to come down; and our part *shall be* to deliver him into the king's hand.

And Saul said, Blessed *be* you all of YAHWAH; for you all have compassion on me.

Go, I pray you, prepare yet, and know and see his place where his haunt is, *and* who has seen him there: for it is told me *that* he deals very subtilly.

See therefore, and take knowledge of all the lurking places where he hides himself, and come you all again to me with the certainty, and I will go with you: and it shall come to pass, if he be in the land, that I will search him out throughout all the thousands of Judah.

And they arose, and went to Ziph before Saul: but David and his men *were* in the wilderness of Maon, in the plain on the south of Jeshimon.

Saul also and his men went to seek *him*. And they told David: wherefore he came down into *a* rock, and abode in the wilderness of Maon. And when Saul heard *that*, he pursued after David in the wilderness of Maon.

And Saul went on this side of the mountain, and David and his men on that side of the mountain: and David made haste to get away for fear of Saul; for Saul and his men compassed David and his men round about to take them.

But there came *a* messenger unto Saul, saying, Haste you, and come; for the Philistines have invaded the land. Wherefore Saul returned from pursuing after David, and went against the Philistines: therefore they called that place Selahammahlekoth.

And David went up from thence, and dwelt in strong holds at Engedi.

CHAPTER 24

AND it came to pass, when Saul was returned from following the Philistines, that it was told him, saying, Behold, David *is* in the wilderness of Engedi.

Then Saul took three thousand chosen men out of all Israel, and went to seek David and his men upon the rocks of the wild goats.

And he came to the sheepcotes by the way, where *was a* cave; and Saul went in to cover his feet: and David and his men remained in the sides of the cave.

And the men of David said to him, Behold the day of which YAHWAH said to you, Behold, I will deliver your enemy into your hand, that you may do to him as it shall seem good unto you. Then David arose, and cut off the skirt of Saul's robe secretly.

And it came to pass afterwards, that David's heart smote him, because he had cut off Saul's skirt.

And he said to his men, YAHWAH forbid that I should do this thing unto my master, YAHWAH'S anointed, to stretch forth my hand against him, seeing he *is* the anointed of YAHWAH.

So David stayed his servants with these words, and suffered them not to rise against Saul. But Saul rose up out of the cave, and went on *his* way.

David also arose afterwards, and went out of the cave, and cried after Saul, saying, My Lord the king. And when Saul looked behind him, David stooped with his face to the land, and bowed himself.

And David said to Saul, Wherefore hear you men's words, saying, Behold, David seeks your hurt? Behold, this day your eyes have seen how that YAHWAH had delivered you today into my hand in the cave: and *some* bade *me* kill you: but *my eye* spared you; and I said, I will not put forth my hand against my Lord; for he *is* YAHWAH'S anointed.

Moreover, my father, see, yes, see the skirt of your robe in my hand: for in that I cut off the skirt of your robe, and killed you not, know you and see that *there is* neither evil nor transgression in my hand, and I have not sinned against you; yet you hunt my person to take it.

YAHWAH judge between me and you, and YAHWAH avenge me of you: but my hand shall not be upon you. As said the proverb of the ancients, Wickedness proceeds from the wicked: but my hand shall not be upon you. After whom is the king of Israel come out? after whom do you pursue? after *a* dead dog, after *a* flea.

YAHWAH therefore be judge, and judge between me and you, and see, and plead my cause, and deliver me out of your hand.

And it came to pass, when David had made *an* end of speaking these words unto Saul, that Saul said, *Is* this your voice, my son David? And Saul lifted up his voice, and wept.

And he said to David, You *are* more righteous than I: for you have rewarded me good, whereas I have rewarded you evil.

And you have showed this day how that you have dealt well with me: forasmuch as when YAHWAH had delivered me into your hand, you killed me not.

For if *a* man find his enemy, will he let him go well away? wherefore YAHWAH reward you good for that you have done unto me this day.

And now, behold, I know well that you shall surely be king, and that the kingdom of Israel shall be established in your hand.

Swear now therefore unto me by YAHWAH, that you will not cut off my seed after me, and that you will not destroy my name out of my father's house.

And David sware unto Saul. And Saul went home; but David and his men gat them up unto the hold.

CHAPTER 25

AND Samuel died; and all the Israelites were gathered together, and lamented him, and buried him in his house at Ramah. And David arose, and went down to the wilderness of Paran.

And *there was a* man in Maon, whose possessions *were* in Karmel; and the man *was* very great, and he had three thousand sheep, and *a* thousand goats: and he was shearing his sheep in Karmel.

Now the name of the man *was* Nabal; and the name of his wife Abigail: and *she was a* woman of good understanding, and of *a* beautiful countenance: but the man *was* churlish and evil in his doings; and he *was* of the house of Kaleb.

And David heard in the wilderness that Nabal did shear his sheep.

And David sent out ten young men, and David said to the young men, Get you up to Karmel, and go to Nabal, and greet him in my name:

And thus shall you all say to him that lives *in prosperity*, Peace *be* both to you, and peace *be* to your house, and peace *be* unto all that you have.

And now I have heard that you have shearers: now your shepherds which were with us, we hurt them not, neither was there ought missing unto them, all the while they were in Karmel.

Ask your young men, and they will show you. Wherefore let the young men find favour in your eyes: for we come in *a* good day: give, I pray you, whatsoever comes to your hand unto your servants, and to your son David.

And when David's young men came, they spoke to Nabal according to all those words in the name of David, and ceased.

And Nabal answered David's servants, and said, Who *is* David? and who *is* the son of Jesse? there be many

servants now *a* days that break away every man from his master.

Shall I then take my bread, and my water, and my flesh that I have killed for my shearers, and give *it* unto men, whom I know not where they *be*?

So David's young men turned their way, and went again, and came and told him all those sayings.

And David said to his men, Gird you all on every man his sword. And they girded on every man his sword; and David also girded on his sword: and there went up after David about four hundred men; and two hundred abode by the stuff.

But one of the young men told Abigail, Nabal's wife, saying, Behold, David sent messengers out of the wilderness to salute our master; and he railed on them.

But the men *were* very good unto us, and we were not hurt, neither missed we anything, as long as we were conversant with them, when we were in the fields:

They were *a* wall unto us both by night and day, all the while we were with them keeping the sheep.

Now therefore know and consider what you will do; for evil is determined against our master, and against all his household: for he *is such a* son of Belial, that *a man* cannot speak to him.

Then Abigail made haste, and took two hundred loaves, and two bottles of wine, and five sheep ready dressed, and five measures of parched *grain*, and *a* hundred clusters of raisins, and two hundred cakes of figs, and laid *them* on asses.

And she said to her servants, Go on before me; behold, I come after you. But she told not her husband Nabal.

And it was *so, as* she rode on the ass, that she came down by the covert of the hill, and, behold, David and his men came down against her; and she met them.

Now David had said, Surely in vain have I kept all that this *fellow* has in the wilderness, so that nothing was missed of all that *pertained* unto him: and he has requited me evil for good.

So and more also do the ELOHEEM unto the enemies of David, if I leave of all that *pertain* to him by the morning light any that pisses against the wall.

And when Abigail saw David, she hastened, and lighted off the ass, and fell before David on her face, and bowed herself to the land,

And fell at his feet, and said, Upon me, my Lord, *upon me let this* iniquity *be*: and let your handmaid, I pray you, speak in your audience, and hear the words of your handmaid.

Let not my Lord, I pray you, regard this man of Belial, *even* Nabal: for as his name *is*, so *is* he; Nabal *is* his name, and folly *is* with him: but I your handmaid saw not the young men of my Lord, whom you did send.

Now therefore, my Lord, *as* YAHWAH lives, and *as* your person lives, seeing YAHWAH has withholden you from coming to *shed* blood, and from DELIVERING yourself with your own hand, now let your enemies, and they that seek evil to my Lord, be as Nabal.

And now this blessing which your handmaid has brought unto my Lord, let it even be given unto the young men that follow my Lord.

I pray you, forgive the trespass of your handmaid: for YAHWAH will certainly make my Lord *a* sure house; because my Lord fights the battles of YAHWAH, and evil has not been found in you *all* your days.

Yet *an* adamite is risen to pursue you, and to seek your person: but the person of my Lord shall be bound in the bundle of life with YAHWAH ELOHEEM; and the persons of your enemies, them shall he sling out, *as out* of the middle of *a* sling.

And it shall come to pass, when YAHWAH shall have done to my Lord according to all the good that he has spoken concerning you, and shall have appointed you ruler over Israel;

That this shall be no grief unto you, nor offence of heart unto my Lord, either that you have shed blood causeless, or that my Lord has DELIVERED himself: but when YAHWAH shall have dealt well with my Lord, then remember your handmaid.

And David said to Abigail, Blessed *be* YAHWAH ELOHEEM of Israel, which sent you this day to meet me:

And blessed *be* your advice, and blessed *be* you, which have kept me this day from coming to *shed* blood, and

from DELIVERING myself with my own hand.

For in very deed, *as* YAHWAH ELOHEEM of Israel lives, which has kept me back from hurting you, except you had hasted and come to meet me, surely there had not been left unto Nabal by the morning light any that pisses against the wall.

So David received of her hand *that* which she had brought him, and said to her, Go up in peace to your house; see, I have hearkened to your voice, and have accepted you.

And Abigail came to Nabal; and, behold, he held *a* feast in his house, like the feast of *a* king; and Nabal's heart *was* merry within him, for he *was* very drunken: wherefore she told him nothing, less or more, until the morning light.

But it came to pass in the morning, when the wine was gone out of Nabal, and his wife had told him these things, that his heart died within him, and he became *as a* stone.

And it came to pass about ten days *after*, that YAHWAH smote Nabal, that he died.

And when David heard that Nabal was dead, he said, Blessed *be* YAHWAH, that has pleaded the cause of my reproach from the hand of Nabal, and has kept his servant from evil: for YAHWAH has returned the wickedness of Nabal upon his own head. And David sent and communed with Abigail, to take her to him to wife.

And when the servants of David were come to Abigail to Karmel, they spoke unto her, saying, David sent us unto you, to take you to him to wife.

And she arose, and bowed herself on *her* face to the land, and said, Behold, *let* your handmaid *be a* servant to wash the feet of the servants of my Lord.

And Abigail hasted, and arose, and rode upon *an* ass, with five damsels of hers that went after her; and she went after the messengers of David, and became his wife.

David also took Ahinoam of Jezreel; and they were also both of them his wives.

But Saul had given Michal his daughter, David's wife, to Phalti the son of Laish, which *was* of Gallim.

CHAPTER 26

AND the Ziphites came unto Saul to Gibeah, saying, Does not David hide himself in the hill of Hachilah, *which is* before Jeshimon?

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.

And Saul pitched in the hill of Hachilah, which *is* before Jeshimon, by the way. But David abode in the wilderness, and he saw that Saul came after him into the wilderness.

David therefore sent out spies, and understood that Saul was come in very deed.

And David arose, and came to the place where Saul had pitched: and David beheld the place where Saul lay, and Abner the son of Ner, the captain of his host: and Saul lay in the trench, and the people pitched round about him.

Then answered David and said to Ahimelech the Hittite, and to Abishai the son of Zeruiah, brother to Joab, saying, Who will go down with me to Saul to the camp? And Abishai said, I will go down with you.

So David and Abishai came to the people by night: and, behold, Saul lay sleeping inside of the trench, and his spear stuck in the land at his bolster: but Abner and the people lay round about him.

Then said Abishai to David, ELOHEEM has delivered your enemy into your hand this day: now therefore let me smite him, I pray you, with the spear even to the land at once, and I will not *smite* him the second time.

And David said to Abishai, Destroy him not: for who can stretch forth his hand against YAHWAH'S anointed, and be guiltless?

David said furthermore, *As* YAHWAH lives, YAHWAH shall smite him; or his day shall come to die; or he shall descend into battle, and perish.

YAHWAH forbid that I should stretch forth my hand against YAHWAH'S anointed: but, I pray you, take you

now the spear that *is* at his bolster, and the cruse of water, and let us go.

So David took the spear and the cruse of water from Saul's bolster; and they gat them away, and no man saw *it*, nor knew *it*, neither awaked: for they *were* all asleep; because *a* deep sleep from YAHWAH was fallen upon them.

Then David went over to the other side, and stood on the top of *a* hill afar off; *a* great space *being* between them:

And David cried to the people, and to Abner the son of Ner, saying, Answer you not, Abner? Then Abner answered and said, Who *are* you *that* cries to the king?

And David said to Abner, *Are* not you *a* valiant man? and who *is* like to you in Israel? wherefore then have you not kept your Lord the king? for there came one of the people in to destroy the king your Lord.

This thing *is* not good that you have done. *As* YAHWAH lives, you all *are* worthy to die, because you all have not kept your master, YAHWAH'S anointed. And now see where the king's spear *is*, and the cruse of water that *was* at his bolster.

And Saul knew David's voice, and said, *Is* this your voice, my son David? And David said, *It is* my voice, my Lord, O king.

And he said, Wherefore does my Lord thus pursue after his servant? for what have I done? or what evil *is* in my hand?

Now therefore, I pray you, let my Lord the king hear the words of his servant. If YAHWAH have stirred you up against me, let him accept *an* offering: but if *they be* the children of adamites, cursed *be* they before YAHWAH; for they have driven me out this day from abiding in the inheritance of YAHWAH, saying, Go, serve other elohheems.

Now therefore, let not my blood fall to the land before the face of YAHWAH: for the king of Israel is come out to seek *a* flea, as when one does hunt *a* partridge in the mountains.

Then said Saul, I have sinned: return, my son David: for I will no more do you harm, because my person was precious in your eyes this day: behold, I have played the fool, and have erred exceedingly.

And David answered and said, Behold the king's spear! and let one of the young men come over and fetch it.

YAHWAH render to every man his righteousness and his faithfulness: for YAHWAH delivered you into *my* hand today, but I would not stretch forth my hand against YAHWAH'S anointed.

And, behold, as your person was much set by this day in my eyes, so let my person be much set by in the eyes of YAHWAH, and let him deliver me out of all tribulation.

Then Saul said to David, Blessed *be* you, my son David: you shall both do great *things*, and also shall still prevail. So David went on his way, and Saul returned to his place.

CHAPTER 27

AND David said in his heart, I shall now perish one day by the hand of Saul: *there is* nothing better for me than that I should speedily escape into the land of the Philistines; and Saul shall despair of me, to seek me anymore in any coast of Israel: so shall I escape out of his hand.

And David arose, and he passed over with the six hundred men that *were* with him unto Achish, the son of Maoch, king of Gath.

And David dwelt with Achish at Gath, he and his men, every man with his household, *even* David with his two wives, Ahinoam the Jezreelitess, and Abigail the Karmelitess, Nabal's wife.

And it was told Saul that David was fled to Gath: and he sought no more again for him.

And David said to Achish, If I have now found grace in your eyes, let them give me *a* place in some town in the country, that I may dwell there: for why should your servant dwell in the royal city with you?

Then Achish gave him Ziklag that day: wherefore Ziklag pertains unto the kings of Judah unto this day.

And the time that David dwelt in the country of the Philistines was *a* full year and four months.

And David and his men went up, and invaded the Geshurites, and the Gezrites, and the Amalekites: for those

peoples were of old the inhabitants of the land, as you go to Shur, even unto the land of Egypt.

And David smote the land, and left neither man nor woman alive, and took away the sheep, and the oxen, and the asses, and the camels, and the apparel, and returned, and came to Achish.

And Achish said, Where have you all made *a* road today? And David said, Against the south of Judah, and against the south of the Jerahmeelites, and against the south of the Kenites.

And David kept neither man nor woman alive, to bring *tidings* to Gath, saying, Lest they should tell on us, saying, So did David, and so *will be* his manner all the while he dwells in the country of the Philistines.

And Achish believed David, saying, He has made his people Israel utterly to abhor him; therefore he shall be my servant forever.

CHAPTER 28

AND it came to pass in those days, that the Philistines gathered their armies together for warfare, to fight with Israel. And Achish said to David, Know you assuredly, that you shall go out with me to battle, you and your men.

And David said to Achish, Surely you shall know what your servant can do. And Achish said to David, Therefore will I make you keeper of my head forever.

Now Samuel was dead, and all Israel had lamented him, and buried him in Ramah, even in his own city. And Saul had put away the spiritualists, and the wizards, out of the land.

And the Philistines gathered themselves together, and came and pitched in Shunem: and Saul gathered all Israel together, and they pitched in Gilboa.

And when Saul saw the host of the Philistines, he was afraid, and his heart greatly trembled.

And when Saul inquired of YAHWAH, YAHWAH answered him not, neither by dreams, nor by Urim, nor by prophets.

Then said Saul unto his servants, Seek me *a* woman that is *a* spiritualists, that I may go to her, and inquire of her. And his servants said to him, Behold, *there is a* woman that is *a* spiritualists at Endor.

And Saul disguised himself, and put on other raiment, and he went, and two men with him, and they came to the woman by night: and he said, I pray you, divine unto me by spiritualism, and bring me *him* up, whom I shall name unto you.

And the woman said to him, Behold, you know what Saul has done, how he has cut off those that are spiritualists, and the wizards, out of the land: wherefore then lay you *a* snare for my person, to cause me to die?

And Saul swore to her by YAHWAH, saying, *As* YAHWAH lives, there shall no punishment happen to you for this thing.

Then said the woman, Whom shall I bring up unto you? And he said, Bring me up Samuel.

And 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.

And the king said to her, Be not afraid: for what saw you? And the woman said to Saul, I saw ELOHEEM ascending out of the land.

And he said to her, What form *is* he of? And she said, *An* old man comes up; and he *is* covered with *a* mantle. And Saul perceived that it *was* Samuel, and he stooped with *his* face to the land, and bowed himself.

And Samuel said to Saul, Why have you disquieted me, to bring me up? And Saul answered, I am sore distressed; for the Philistines make war against me, and the ELOHEEM is departed from me, and answers me no more, neither by prophets, nor by dreams: therefore I have called you, that you may make known unto me what I shall do.

Then said Samuel, Wherefore then do you ask of me, seeing YAHWAH is departed from you, and is become your enemy?

And YAHWAH has done to him, as he spoke by me: for YAHWAH has rent the kingdom out of your hand, and given it to your neighbour, *even* to David:

Because you obeyed not the voice of YAHWAH, nor executed his fierce wrath upon Amalek, therefore has YAHWAH done this thing unto you this day.

Moreover YAHWAH will also deliver Israel with you into the hand of the Philistines: and tomorrow *shall* you and your sons *be* with me: YAHWAH also shall deliver the host of Israel into the hand of the Philistines.

Then Saul fell straightway all along on the land, and was sore afraid, because of the words of Samuel: and there was no strength in him; for he had eaten no bread all the day, nor all the night.

And the woman came unto Saul, and saw that he was sore troubled, and said to him, Behold, your handmaid has obeyed your voice, and I have put my person in my hand, and have hearkened unto your words which you spake unto me.

Now therefore, I pray you, hearken you also unto the voice of your handmaid, and let me set *a* morsel of bread before you; and eat, that you may have strength, when you go on your way.

But he refused, and said, I will not eat. But his servants, together with the woman, compelled him; and he hearkened unto their voice. So he arose from the land, and sat upon the bed.

And the woman had *a* fat calf in the house; and she hastened, and killed it, and took flour, and kneaded *it*, and did bake unleavened bread thereof:

And she brought *it* before Saul, and before his servants; and they did eat. Then they rose up, and went away that night.

CHAPTER 29

NOW the Philistines gathered together all their armies to Aphek: and the Israelites pitched by *a* fountain which *is* in Jezreel.

And the Lords of the Philistines passed on by hundreds, and by thousands: but David and his men passed on in the rearward with Achish.

Then said the princes of the Philistines, What *do* these Hebrews *here*? And Achish said to the princes of the Philistines, *Is* not this David, the servant of Saul the king of Israel, which has been with me these days, or these years, and I have found no fault in him since he fell *unto me* unto this day?

And the princes of the Philistines were wroth with him; and the princes of the Philistines said to him, Make this fellow return, that he may go again to his place which you have appointed him, and let him not go down with us to battle, lest in the battle he be *an* adversary to us: for wherewith should he reconcile himself unto his master? *should it* not *be* with the heads of these men?

Is not this David, of whom they sang one to another in dances, saying, Saul slew his thousands, and David his ten thousands?

Then Achish called David, and said to him, Surely, *as* YAHWAH lives, you have been upright, and your going out and your coming in with me in the host *is* good in my sight: for I have not found evil in you since the day of your coming unto me unto this day: nevertheless the Lords favour you not.

Wherefore now return, and go in peace, that you displease not the Lords of the Philistines.

And David said to Achish, But what have I done? and what have you found in your servant so long as I have been with you unto this day, that I may not go fight against the enemies of my Lord the king?

And Achish answered and said to David, I know that you *are* good in my sight, as *an* angel of the ELOHEEM: notwithstanding the princes of the Philistines have said, He shall not go up with us to the battle.

Wherefore now rise up early in the morning with your master's servants that are come with you: and as soon as you all be up early in the morning, and have light, depart.

So David and his men rose up early to depart in the morning, to return into the land of the Philistines. And the Philistines went up to Jezreel.

CHAPTER 30

AND it came to pass, when David and his men were come to Ziklag on the third day, that the Amalekites had invaded the south, and Ziklag, and smitten Ziklag, and burned it with fire;

And had taken the women captives, that *were* therein: they slew not any, either great or small, but carried *them* away, and went on their way.

So David and his men came to the city, and, behold, *it was* burned with fire; and their wives, and their sons, and their daughters, were taken captives.

Then David and the people that *were* with him lifted up their voice and wept, until they had no more power to weep.

And David's two wives were taken captives, Ahinoam the Jezreelitess, and Abigail the wife of Nabal the Karmelite.

And David was greatly distressed; for the people spoke of stoning him, because the person of all the people was grieved, every man for his sons and for his daughters: but David encouraged himself in YAHWAH ELOHEEM. And David said to Abiathar the priest, Ahimelech's son, I pray you, bring me here the ephod. And Abiathar brought there the ephod to David.

And David inquired at YAHWAH, saying, Shall I pursue after this troop? shall I overtake them? And he answered him, Pursue: for you shall surely overtake *them*, and without fail recover *all*.

So David went, he and the six hundred men that *were* with him, and came to the brook Besor, where those that were left behind stayed.

But David pursued, he and four hundred men: for two hundred abode behind, which were so faint that they could not go over the brook Besor.

And they found *an* Egyptian in the field, and brought him to David, and gave him bread, and he did eat; and they made him drink water;

And they gave him *a* piece of *a* cake of figs, and two clusters of raisins: and when he had eaten, his spirit came again to him: for he had eaten no bread, nor drunk *any* water, three days and three nights.

And David said to him, To whom *belong* you? and where *are* you? And he said, I *am* a young man of Egypt, servant to *an* Amalekite; and my master left me, because three days ago I fell sick.

We made *an* invasion *upon* the south of the Cherethites, and upon *the coast* which *belongs* to Judah, and upon the south of Kaleb; and we burned Ziklag with fire.

And David said to him, Can you bring me down to this company? And he said, Swear unto me by ELOHEEM, that you will neither kill me, nor deliver me into the hands of my master, and I will bring you down to this company.

And when he had brought him down, behold, *they were* spread abroad upon all the land, eating and drinking, and dancing, because of all the great spoil that they had taken out of the land of the Philistines, and out of the land of Judah.

And David smote them from the twilight even unto the evening of the next day: and there escaped not *a* man of them, except four hundred young men, which rode upon camels, and fled.

And David recovered all that the Amalekites had carried away: and David rescued his two wives.

And there was nothing lacking to them, neither small nor great, neither sons nor daughters, neither spoil, nor anything that they had taken to them: David recovered all.

And David took all the flocks and the herds, *which* they drave before those *other* cattle, and said, This *is* David's spoil.

And David came to the two hundred men, which were so faint that they could not follow David, whom they had made also to abide at the brook Besor: and they went forth to meet David, and to meet the people that *were* with him: and when David came near to the people, he saluted them.

Then answered all the wicked men and *men* of Belial, of those that went with David, and said, Because they went not with us, we will not give them *ought* of the spoil that we have recovered, except to every man his wife and his children, that they may lead *them* away, and depart.

Then said David, You all shall not do so, my brethren, with that which YAHWAH has given us, who has preserved us, and delivered the company that came against us into our hand.

For who will hearken unto you in this matter? but as his part *is* that goes down to the battle, so *shall* his part *be* that carries by the stuff: they shall part alike.

And it was *so* from that day forward, that he made it *a* statute and *an* ordinance for Israel unto this day.

And when David came to Ziklag, he sent of the spoil unto the elders of Judah, *even* to his friends, saying, Behold *a* present for you of the spoil of the enemies of YAHWAH;

To *them* which *were* in Bethel, and to *them* which *were* in south Ramoth, and to *them* which *were* in Jattir,

And to *them* which *were* in Aroer, and to *them* which *were* in Siphmoth, and to *them* which *were* in Eshtemoa,

And to *them* which *were* in Rachael, and to *them* which *were* in the cities of the Jerahmeelites, and to *them* which *were* in the cities of the Kenites,

And to *them* which *were* in Hormah, and to *them* which *were* in Chorashan, and to *them* which *were* in Athach,

And to *them* which *were* in Hebron, and to all the places where David himself and his men were wont to haunt.

CHAPTER 31

NOW the Philistines fought against Israel: and the men of Israel fled from before the Philistines, and fell down slain in the mountain of Gilboa.

And the Philistines followed hard upon Saul and upon his sons; and the Philistines slew Jonathan, and Abinadab, and Malchishua, Saul's sons.

And the battle went sore against Saul, and the archers hit him; and he was sore wounded of the archers.

Then said Saul unto his armourbearer, Draw your sword, and thrust me through therewith; lest these uncircumcised come and thrust me through, and abuse me. But his armourbearer would not; for he was sore afraid. Therefore Saul took *a* sword, and fell upon it.

And when his armourbearer saw that Saul was dead, he fell likewise upon his sword, and died with him.

So Saul died, and his three sons, and his armourbearer, and all his men, that same day together.

And when the men of Israel that *were* on the other side of the valley, and *they* that *were* on the other side Jordan, saw that the men of Israel fled, and that Saul and his sons were dead, they forsook the cities, and fled; and the Philistines came and dwelt in them.

And it came to pass on the morrow, when the Philistines came to strip the slain, that they found Saul and his three sons fallen in the mountain of Gilboa.

And they cut off his head, and stripped off his armour, and sent into the land of the Philistines round about, to publish *it in* the house of their idols, and among the people.

And they put his armour in the house of Ashtaroth: and they fastened his body to the wall of Bethshan.

And when the inhabitants of Jabeshgilead heard of that which the Philistines had done to Saul;

All the valiant men arose, and went all night, and took the body of Saul and the bodies of his sons from the wall of Bethshan, and came to Jabesh, and burnt them there.

And they took their bones, and buried *them* under *a* tree at Jabesh, and fasted seven days.

This concludes the book of 1st Samuel.