

The
FIRST BOOK OF SAMUEL 1 SAMUEL 1

Elkanah and Hannah go to Shiloh to sacrifice;

CHAPTER 1

1 And there was one man of Ramatha'im Zophim of Mount Ephraim, and his name was Elkanah,¹ the son of Jeroham, the son of Elihu, the son of Tohu, the son of Zuph, an Ephrathite,

2 And to him *were* two wives; the name of one, Hannah,² and the name of the second, Peninnah; and to Peninnah *were* children, and to Hannah there were no children.

3 And this man ascended out of his city from days to days to prostrate himself and to sacrifice to Jehovah of hosts^{3 a} in Shiloh.^{3 b} And the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, priests of Jehovah, *were* there.

4 And it was the day, and Elkanah sacrificed. And he gave to Peninnah, his wife, and to all her sons, and her daughters, portions;

5 And he gave to Hannah one double portion, because he loved Hannah, and Jehovah had shut up her womb.

¹ **1:1 Elkanah**, God Has Obtained.

² **1:2 Hannah**, Favored. **Peninnah**, A Pearl.

^{3a} **1:3 Jehovah of hosts**, *Jehovah of tsaba*. This is the first time this phrase appears in the Bible. Some few times it is the God of hosts, and the remainder are Jehovah of hosts. *Tsaba* means a mass of persons or things, especially an army organized for war. The hosts of the heavens, Gen 2;1, encompassing all heavenly bodies and angels. Jehovah is Lord over all the hosts in the heavens and in the earth. Beginning with Samuel, He is known as Jehovah of hosts.

^{3b} **1:3 Shiloh**, Peace, Security, a name for the Messiah. **Eli**, Lofty. **Hophni**, Combative. **Phinahas**, Mouth of a Serpent.

Hannah prays and weeps for a child

6 And troubling, her rival troubled her, in order to agitate her violently, because Jehovah had shut up her womb.

7 And so he did year by year; as often as she ascended to the house of Jehovah, just so she provoked her, and she wept, and did not eat.

8 And Elkanah, her husband, said to her, Hannah, why do you weep? And why do you not eat? And why is your heart broken up? Am I not better to you than ten sons?

9 And Hannah rose up after eating in Shiloh, and after drinking, and Eli the priest was sitting upon a throne by a door post of the temple⁹ of Jehovah.

10 And she was in bitterness of soul, and judged in prayer to Jehovah, and weeping, wept.

11 And she vowed a vow, and said, Oh Jehovah of hosts, if seeing, you see the affliction of your maidservant, and remember me, and not forget your maidservant, and will give to your maidservant a seed of men, then I will give him to Jehovah all the days of his life, and no razor shall ascend upon his head.

12 And it was, because she increased judging in prayer before the face of Jehovah, that Eli

⁹ **1:9 temple**, *heykal*, used from this point on for the temple of God, long before Solomon. It is no longer a tent, *ohel*, or tabernacle, *mishkan*, but the temple, *heykal*, as a permanent building. It is used of any permanent structure, as a shepherd's house, or a king's palace, or the temple of Jehovah.

1 SAMUEL 1 *Hannah gives birth to Samuel, and gives him to Jehovah as promised*

hedged about her mouth.

13 And Hannah was speaking in her heart; only her lips moved back and forth, and her voice was not attentively heard; and Eli calculated her *to be* drunk.

14 And Eli said to her, Until when will you be drunk? Turn away your wine from you.

15 And Hannah answered and said, No, my lord, I *am* a woman hardened by grief in spirit, and I have not drunk wine or hard liquor, but have poured out my soul before the face of Jehovah.

16 Do not give your maidservant *to be* as the face of a daughter of worthlessness, because I have spoken up to now out of the abundance of my uttered contemplation and provocation.

17 Then Eli answered, and said, Walk in peace, and the God of Israel give you your petition, what you have asked of him.

18 And she said, Let there be grace to your maidservant in your eyes. And the woman walked her way, and ate, and her *sad* face was not to her any longer.

19 And they loaded up early in the dawn, and prostrated themselves before the face of Jehovah, and turned back, and came to their house to Ramah; and Elkanah knew Hannah, his wife, and Jehovah remembered her.

20 And it was, as the days circled around Hannah conceived, and bore a son, and she called his name Samuel, *saying*,

Because I have asked him of Jehovah.

21 And the man, Elkanah, and all his house, ascended to sacrifice to Jehovah the sacrifice of the days, and his vow.

22 And Hannah did not ascend, because she said to her husband, I will not ascend until the child is weaned, and then I will bring him, that he may be seen before the face of Jehovah, and there sit down forever.

23 And Elkanah, her husband, said to her, Do what is good in your eyes; sit down until you have weaned him; only Jehovah cause his word to rise. And the woman sat down, and nursed her son until she weaned him.

24 And when she had weaned him she brought him up with her with three cattle, and one ephah of flour, and a skin bottle of wine, and she brought him to the house of Jehovah in Shiloh; and the child *was* a child.

25 And they slaughtered the cattle, and the child came to Eli.

26 And she said, Oh my lord, as your soul lives, my lord, I *am* the woman who was stationed with you that *day*, judging in prayer to Jehovah.

27 For this child I judged in prayer, and Jehovah has given me my petition, what I asked of him;

28 And, yes, I have caused him to be asked for Jehovah; as long as he lives he shall be one who was asked for Jehovah. And he prostrated himself to Jehovah there.

CHAPTER 2

1 And Hannah judged in prayer, and said, My heart leaps for joy in Jehovah; my horn is exalted in Jehovah; my mouth is enlarged over those who hate me, because I have rejoiced in your salvation.

2 There is none holy like Jehovah, because there is none except you; and there is no strong rock like our God.

3 Do not increase speaking arrogance arrogantly; do not let impudence go out of your mouth, because Jehovah *is* God of knowledge, and deeds are made even by him.

4 The bows of the mighty men are broken, and they who stumbled from weakness are girded with resources.

5 They who were satiated with food have hired out themselves, and they who were hungry have ceased *being hungry*; while the barren has born seven, and she with many children languishes.

6 Jehovah kills, and keeps alive; he brings down to the world of the dead, and brings up.

7 Jehovah drives out from possessions, and he causes to grow rich; he brings low, and he exalts.

8 He raises up out of the dust those dangling in need, and he exalts the poor from the dung-hill, to cause them to sit equal with the generous; yes, he causes them to inherit a throne of heavy glory, because the pillars of the

earth *are* Jehovah's, and he has placed on them the inhabited earth.

9 He hedges about the feet of his saints, and the wicked shall be still in darkness, because a man does not prevail by power.

10 Jehovah! Those who contend with him shall sink down; he is violently agitated out of the heavens against them; Jehovah judges the ends of the earth with a straight course; and he gives strength to his king, and exalts the horn of his anointed.

11 And Elkanah walked to Ramah to his house. And the child was one who ministered to Jehovah before the face of Eli, the priest.

12 And the sons of Eli were sons of worthlessness; they did not know Jehovah.

13 And the judged decree of the priests with the people *was*: every man sacrificed a sacrifice, and the priest's servant came with a fork of three teeth in his hand while the meat was boiling;

14 And he struck it into the bowl, or pot, or kettle, or skillet; the priest took all that the fork brought up for himself. Just so they did to all Israel who came there into Shiloh.

15 Even before they burnt the fat as incense, then the priest's servant came, and said to the man sacrificing, Give meat to roast for the priest, and he will not take from you boiled meat, but raw.

16 And the man said to him, Burning, burn as perfumed incense the fat today, and take for

1 SAMUEL 2 *Hannah blessed with more children; Eli rebukes his sons; a man of God prophesies*

yourself what your soul craves; and he said to him, No; but you shall give it now, and if not, I will take *it* by force.

17 And the sin of the young men was very great before the face of Jehovah, because men abhorred the offering of Jehovah.

18 And Samuel ministered before the face of Jehovah, a child, girded with a linen ephod.

19 And his mother made for him a little robe, and brought it up to him from days to days, when she came up with her husband to sacrifice the sacrifice of the days.

20 And Eli blessed Elkanah and his wife, and said, Jehovah shall give to you seed of this woman because of the petition which she asked of Jehovah. And they walked to their place.

21 Because Jehovah visited Hannah, and she conceived, and bore three sons and two daughters. And the child Samuel became great being bound together with Jehovah.

22 And Eli was very old, and attentively heard all that his sons did to all Israel, and that they lay down with the women who assembled at the door of the tent of appointed meeting.

23 And he said to them, Why do you do these words, which I attentively hear of your evil words from all these people.

24 No, my sons; because *it is* no good report that I attentively hear, causing the people to cross over against Jehovah.

25 If a man sins against a man, God shall judge in prayer for him, but if a man sins against Jehovah, who shall judge in prayer for him? And they did not attentively hear the voice of their father, because Jehovah was inclined to put them to death.

26 And the child Samuel walked on, and grew in stature and in good, both with Jehovah, and also with men.

27 And a man of God came to Eli, and said to him, Thus says Jehovah, Revealing, did I reveal myself to the house of your father, when they were in Egypt in the house of Pharaoh?

28 And did I prove him out of all the tribes of Israel to be my priest, to cause to ascend upon my altar, to burn perfumed incense, to lift an ephod before my face, and did I give to the house of your father all the burnt offerings of the children of Israel?

29 Why do you trample down my sacrifice and my food offering, which I commanded in the dwelling place, and make your sons heavy in importance above me, to create for yourselves the first of all the offerings of Israel my people?

30 Therefore, an oracle of Jehovah God of Israel: Saying, I said; Your house, and the house of your father, shall walk before my face forever; but now, an oracle of Jehovah: Far be it from me, because: he who makes me heavy in importance, I will make heavy in importance, and those

who despise me shall be made light of.

31 Behold, the days come, that I will cut down your arm, and the arm of your father's house, that there shall be no old man in your house. ^{1 Kings 2:27}

32 And you shall look intently at oppression *in your dwelling*, in all which should be soundness in Israel, and there shall not be an old man in your house all days.

33 And the man of yours I shall not cut off from my altar, shall be to end your eyes, and to languish your soul, and all the multitude of your house shall die men.

34 And this *shall be* the sign to you that shall come to your two sons, to Hophni and Phinehas: the two of them shall die in one day.

35 And I will cause to rise to me a faithful priest; he shall do what is in my heart and in my soul; and I will build for him a house of faithfulness; and he shall walk before the face of my anointed all days. ^{Heb 3:1-3}

36 And it shall be, all left in your house shall come, and prostrate himself to him for a piece of silver and a loaf of bread, and shall say, Scrape out *to me*, please, one of the priests' offices that I may eat a morsel of food.

CHAPTER 3

1 And the child Samuel ministered to Jehovah before the face of Eli. And the word^{1 a} of Jehovah was precious in those

days; *there was* no broken out vision.^{1 b}

2 And it was at that day, Eli was lying down in his place, and his eyes had begun to be weak; he was not able to see;

3 And the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of Jehovah, there where the ark of God *was*,

4 And Jehovah called to Samuel, and he said, Behold.

5 And he ran to Eli, and said, Lo, *here I am*, because you called for me. And he said, I did not call; turn back, and lie down. And he walked, and lay down.

6 And Jehovah called yet again, Samuel. And Samuel rose, and walked to Eli, and said, Lo, *here I am*, because you have called for me. And he said, I have not called, my son; turn back, and lie down.

7 And Samuel did not yet know Jehovah, and the word of Jehovah had not yet been revealed to him.

8 And again Jehovah called Samuel the third time. And he rose, and walked to Eli, and said, Lo *here I am*, because you have called me. And Eli understood

^{1 a} **3:1 the word of Jehovah**, the word of the LORD in KJV. It is used throughout the Bible from Gen 15:4 to indicate the Holy Spirit revealed communication from Jehovah God to His prophets.

^{1 b} **3:1 broken out vision**, *chazown*, is used from this point forward in the Hebrew Bible for the visions God gave His prophets. The word for **broken out**, *parats*, means to break out, to spread abroad, to increase mightily. Direct revelation from God was not breaking out or spreading out in the land. God's direct vision broke out and spread abroad through the prophet Samuel.

1 SAMUEL 4 *Samuel receives prophecy against Eli; Samuel becomes priest, prophet and judge*

that Jehovah had called the child.

9 And Eli said to Samuel, Walk, lie down; and it shall be, if he calls you, that you shall say, Speak, Oh Jehovah, because your servant attentively hears. And Samuel walked, and lay down in his place.

10 And Jehovah came, and stationed himself, and called as stroke by stroke, Samuel, Samuel. And Samuel said, Speak, because your servant attentively hears.

11 And Jehovah said to Samuel, Lo, I am doing a word in Israel, at which everyone attentively hearing, his two ears shall vibrate.

12 In that day I will cause to rise to Eli all which I have spoken to his house, *the beginning and the ending.*

13 And I have caused to stand out boldly to him that I am judging his house forever for the iniquity which he knows by seeing, because his sons made themselves of no value, and he did not disempower¹³ them.

14 And rightly I have sworn to the house of Eli, the iniquity of the house of Eli shall not be covered¹⁴ with sacrifice nor food offering forever.

¹³ **3:13 disempower**, *kahah*, to be weak. Eli had empowered his sons by anointing them, filling their hand for the priesthood. They abused that power by causing the people to abhor the sacrifices of Jehovah by their greed, 2:13-17, and by lying with the women who came to the temple, 2:22-25. Eli rebuked them, but they ignored him. He did not take away their authority as priests as he should have.

¹⁴ **3:14 covered**, *kaphar*, atonement.

15 And Samuel lay down until the dawn, and opened the doors of the house of Jehovah. And Samuel feared to cause the vision to stand out boldly to Eli.

16 And Eli called Samuel, and said, Samuel, my son. And he said, Lo *here I am.*

17 And he said, What *is* the word that Jehovah has spoken to you? Please! Do not hide *it* from me; God do so to you, and more also, if you hide any word from me of all the words that he spoke to you.

18 And Samuel caused every word to stand out boldly to him, and hid nothing from him. And he said, It *is* Jehovah; he will do what is good in his eyes.

19 And Samuel became great, and Jehovah was with him, and did not let any of his words fall to the ground.

20 And all Israel from Dan even to Beer Sheba knew by seeing that Samuel was believed as a prophet of Jehovah.

21 And again Jehovah appeared in Shiloh, because Jehovah revealed himself to Samuel in Shiloh by the word of Jehovah.

CHAPTER 4

1 And the word of Samuel was to all Israel. And Israel went out encountering the Palestinians in battle, and pitched above Eben Ezer; and the Palestinians pitched in Aphek.

2 And the Palestinians arranged themselves encountering Israel, and they thrust out in

battle, and Israel was defeated before the face of the Palestinians; and they fatally struck about four thousand men of the army in the field.

3 And the people came into the camp, and the elders of Israel said, Why has Jehovah defeated us today before the face of the Palestinians? Let us take to us out of Shiloh the ark of the covenant of Jehovah, and let it come into our midst, that it may save us out of the palm of those who hate us.

4 And the people sent to Shiloh, and they lifted from there the ark of the covenant of Jehovah of hosts, who sits above the cherubs; and there the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, *were* with the ark of the covenant of God.

5 And it was when the ark of the covenant of Jehovah came into the camp, all Israel shouted a great shout of joy so that the earth shook.

6 And the Palestinians attentively heard the sound of the shout, and said, What *is* the sound of this great shout in the camp of the Hebrews? And they knew by seeing that the ark of Jehovah had come into the camp.

7 And the Palestinians were afraid, because they said, God has come into the camp. And they said, Woe to us! Because there has not been this yesterday - the day before yesterday.

8 Woe to us! Who shall snatch us out of the hand of these mighty gods? These are the gods who struck the Egyptians with all

the blows in the desert.

9 Seize strength, and be men, Oh Palestinians, lest you become servants to the Hebrews, as they have been servants to you; be men, and devour.

10 And the Palestinians devoured, and Israel was struck, and every man fled to his tent; and there was a very great striking, and thirty thousand footmen of Israel fell.

11 And the ark of God was taken, and the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, died.

12 And a man of Benjamin ran out of the battle array, and came to Shiloh that day with his clothes torn, and with dirt on his head.

13 And he came, and lo, Eli sat upon the throne at hand by the way leaning to peer into the distance, because his heart was fearful over the ark of God. And the man came into the city, and caused it to stand out boldly, and all the city cried out.

14 And Eli attentively heard the sound of the screaming, and said, What *is* the sound of this tumult? And the man, flowing like liquid, came in, and caused it to stand out boldly to Eli.

15 And Eli was a son of ninety-eight years, and his eyes were risen fixed, and he was not able to see.

16 And the man said to Eli, I *am* he who came out of the battle array, and I fled today out of the battle array. And he said, What is the word, my son?

1 SAMUEL 5 *The Palestinian fish god, Dagon, falls before the Ark; Palestinians struck with tumors*

17 And he answered, the one who announced good tidings, and said, Israel has fled before the face of the Palestinians, and also there has been a great slaughter among the people, and also your two sons, Hophni and Phinehas, have died, and the ark of God is taken.

18 And it was, when he mentioned the ark of God, that he fell from off the throne backwards at hand near the gate, and his neck was broken, and he died, because the man was old and heavy. And he had judged Israel forty years.

19 And his daughter in law, the wife of Phinehas, was with child, about to bear, and she attentively heard the report that the ark of God was taken, and that her father in law, and her husband had died, and she bent down on her knees, and bore, because her pressure turned upon her.

20 And at the time of her death the women stationed over her said to her, Do not fear, because you have borne a son. And she did not answer, nor place her heart *on it*.

21 And she called the child Ichabod, saying, The heavy glory of Israel has been made naked, because of the taking of the ark of God, and her father in law and her husband.

22 And she said, The heavy glory has been made naked from Israel, because the ark of God has been taken.

CHAPTER 5

1 And the Palestinians took the ark of God, and brought it from Eben Ezer to Ashdod.

2 And the Palestinians took the ark of God, and brought it into the house of Dagon, and placed it at the side of Dagon.

3 And the Ashdodites loaded up early on the next day, and lo, Dagon, had fallen upon his face to the earth before the face of the ark of Jehovah. And they took Dagon, and turned him back to his place.

4 And they loaded up early in the dawn on the next day, and lo, Dagon had fallen upon his face to the earth before the face of the ark of Jehovah, and the head of Dagon, and the two palms of his hands were cut off toward the threshold; only the Dagon⁴ was left to him.

5 Therefore the priests of Dagon, and all who come into Dagon's house, do not tread on the threshold of Dagon in Ashdod until this day.

6 And the hand of Jehovah was heavy upon the Ashdodites, and he stunned them, and struck them with tumors, namely Ashdod and their boundaries.

⁴ **5:4 only the Dagon was left to him.** Only the fish tail of the idol was left. The Pulpit Commentary says, "We cannot in English render the full contemptuousness of this phrase, because Dagon is to us a mere proper name, with no significance. In the original it conveys the idea that the head, the emblem of reason, and the human hands, the emblems of intellectual activity, were no real parts of Dagon, but falsely assumed; and, deprived of them, he lay there in his true ugliness, a mere misshapen fish; for dag, as we have seen, means a fish, and Dagon is here a diminutive of contempt."

7 And the men of Ashdod saw that it was so, and they said, The ark of the God of Israel shall not sit down with us, because his hand is heavy upon us and upon Dagon our god.

8 And they sent, and gathered all the leaders of the Palestinians to them, and said, What shall we do with the ark of the God of Israel? And they said, Circle around the ark of the God of Israel to Gath. And they caused the ark of the God of Israel to circle around.

9 And it was after they had circled it about, the hand of Jehovah was against the city with a very great disturbance, and he struck the men of the city, from the small to the great, and broke forth on them tumors.⁹

10 And they sent the ark of God to Ekron. And it was, at the coming of the ark of God to Ekron, the Ekronites screamed, saying, They have circled about the ark of the God of Israel to me to put me and my people to death.

⁹ **5:9 broke forth on them tumors.** The KJV has emerods [hemorrhoids] in their secret parts. The word for tumors, *ophelim*, was never read in the synagogues. Wherever *ophelim* occurs the reader was instructed to say *tehorim*, the vowels which were attached to the consonants of *ophelim*, and does mean hemorrhoidal tumors.

When the Palestinians made images of the tumors, the word used is *tehorim*, the word always read in the synagogue, which means hemorrhoidal tumors, 6:11,17. We believe that the best understanding of these words is that they describe tumors which were deep under the skin and then broke forth in running sores or cancers and sometimes resulted in death, and especially manifested themselves in the anus and around the genitals.

11 So they sent, and gathered all the leaders of the Palestinians, and said, Send the ark of the God of Israel away, and turn it back to its own place, and do not put me and my people to death, because there was a deadly disturbance throughout all the city; the hand of God was exceedingly heavy there.

12 And the men who had not died were struck with tumors, and the outcry of the city ascended to the heavens.

CHAPTER 6

1 And the ark of Jehovah was in the field of the Palestinians seven months.

2 And the Palestinians called for the priests, and those who seek to determine the future by magic, saying, What shall we do to the ark of Jehovah? Cause us to know by seeing how we shall send it to its place.

3 And they said, If you send away the ark of the God of Israel, do not send it empty; but turning back, turn back to him a trespass offering; at that time you shall be healed, and it shall be known to you by seeing why his hand was not turned from you.

4 And they said, What is the trespass offering which we shall turn back to him? And they said, The number of the leaders of the Palestinians - five golden tumors, and five golden mice - because one plague was on you all and on your leaders.

1 SAMUEL 6

The Palestinians send the Ark back to Israel

5 And you shall make images of your tumors, and images of your mice that are destroying the land; and you shall give to the God of Israel heavy glory; perhaps he will lighten his hand from against you, and from against your god, and from against your land.

6 And why do you make heavy your hearts, as the Egyptians and Pharaoh made heavy their hearts? When he gleaned among them, did they not send them away?

7 And at this time make a new cart, and take two heifers giving milk, on which has ascended no yoke, and hitch the heifers to the cart, and turn back their calves from them to the house;

8 And take the ark of Jehovah, and give it with the cart; and the implements of gold, which you turn back to him for a trespass offering, put in a box by its side; and send it away, and let it walk.

9 And see; if it ascends by the way of its own border up to Beth Shemesh,⁹ he has done to us this great evil; and if not, then we shall know by seeing that his hand did not touch us; it was *just* something happening to us.

10 And the men did so, and took two heifers giving milk, and hitched them to the cart, and shut up their calves at the house;

11 And they put the ark of Jehovah on the cart, and the box with the mice of gold, and the images of their hemorrhoidal tumors.

1 Sam 5:9

12 And the heifers went right in the way on the way to Beth Shemesh; they walked on one highway, walking and bellowing, and did not turn to the right hand or to the left; and the leaders of the Palestinians walking after them as far as the border of Beth Shemesh.

13 And they of Beth Shemesh were reaping their harvest of wheat in the valley, and they lifted up their eyes, and saw the ark, and rejoiced to see.

14 And the cart had come into the field of Joshua, a Bethshemite, and stood there, where *was* a great stone; and they cleaved the wood of the cart, and they caused the heifers to ascend as a burnt offering to Jehovah.

15 And the Levites lowered the ark of Jehovah, and the box which *was* with it, in which *were* the implements of gold, and placed *them* on the great stone; and the men of Beth Shemesh caused to ascend burnt offerings, and sacrificed sacrifices that day to Jehovah.

16 And the five leaders of the Palestinians saw, and turned back to Ekron on that day.

17 And these *are* the golden hemorrhoidal tumors which the Palestinians turned back for a trespass offering to Jehovah; for Ashdod one, for Gaza one, for

⁹ 6:9 Beth Shemesh, House of the Sun, sun worship.

Askelon one, for Gath one, for Ekron one;

18 And the golden mice: the number of all the cities of the Palestinians for the five leaders, from the fortified city, even to the coverts of the lowland, even to the great stone upon which they deposited the ark of Jehovah, a witness until this day in the field of Joshua, the Bethshemite.

19 And he struck the men of Beth Shemesh, because they looked into the ark of Jehovah; yes, he struck fifty thousand and seventy men of the people; and the people mourned, because Jehovah had struck many of the people with a great blow.

20 And the men of Beth Shemesh said, Who is able to stand before the face of Jehovah, this holy God, and to whom shall he ascend from us?

21 And they sent messengers to the inhabitants of Kirjath Jearim, saying, The Palestinians have turned back the ark of Jehovah; come down, and take it up to you.

CHAPTER 7

1 And the men of Kirjath Jearim came, and took up the ark of Jehovah, and brought it into the house of Abinadab in the hill, and sanctified Eleazar, his son, to hedge about the ark of Jehovah.

2 And it was, from the day that the ark sat down in Kirjath Jearim, that the days increased; it was twenty years, and all the house of Israel gathered them-

selves together mourning² after Jehovah.

3 And Samuel said to all the house of Israel, saying, If with all your hearts you are turning back to Jehovah, turn off the gods of foreigners from your midst, and Ashtaroth, and set up your hearts to Jehovah, and serve him, him only; and he will snatch you out of the hand of the Palestinians.

4 And the children of Israel turned off Baals and Ashtaroths, and served Jehovah only.

5 And Samuel said, Gather all Israel to Mizpeh, and I will judge in prayer for you to Jehovah.

6 And they gathered together to Mizpeh, and drew water, and poured⁶ it out before the face of Jehovah, and fasted that day, and said there, We have

² **7:2 gathered themselves together mourning after Jehovah**, *nahah*, to mourn, bewail, cry aloud. The reflexive form here, according to Gesenius, means to gather together for the purpose of bewailing. If you note the events that had just happened - that they of Beth Shemesh had curiously looked inside the ark, and 50,070 men died, that Beth Shemesh means House of the Sun, and that the Israelites of Beth Shemesh probably worshipped the sun, that they got Kirjath Jearim to take the ark as soon as possible, and that they still worshipped Baals and Asteroths, 7:3 - you can see that their worship of Jehovah was a very sad and fearful religious exercise. Their ignorance cost them much apprehension and misery, the total opposite of one who rests in righteous faith in Jehovah God, Isa 26:3.

⁶ **7:6 drew water, and poured it out before the face of Jehovah**. They drew the water for the specific purpose of pouring it out before the face of Jehovah. This is the first place this ceremony is mentioned. It is the symbolic action of pouring out one's soul in repentance before God, and acknowledging that your strength is as weak as water. Their fasting and their confession that followed the pouring out of the water shows its significance. **We have sinned against Jehovah**. Ps 22:14 shows that Jesus was poured out like water in our place.

1 SAMUEL 8

The Palestinians defeated; when Samuel is old his sons are evil

sinned against Jehovah. And Samuel judged the children of Israel in Mizpeh.

7 And the Palestinians attentively heard that the children of Israel had gathered together to Mizpeh, and the leaders of the Palestinians ascended toward Israel. And the children of Israel heard it attentively, and they were afraid before the face of the Palestinians.

8 And the children of Israel said to Samuel, Do not cease to cry to Jehovah our God for us, that he saves us out of the hand of the Palestinians.

9 And Samuel took one lamb on milk, and caused to ascend a whole burnt offering to Jehovah; and Samuel cried to Jehovah for Israel, and Jehovah answered him.

10 And it was, *as* Samuel *was* causing the burnt offering to ascend, the Palestinians drew near to battle against Israel; and Jehovah violently agitated the Palestinians with his voice on that day, and put them in commotion; and they were defeated before the face of Israel.

11 And the men of Israel went out of Mizpeh, and ran after the Palestinians, and struck them as far as below Beth Kar.

12 And Samuel took one stone, and put *it* between Mizpeh and Shen, and called the name of it Eben Ezer, and said, To right here Jehovah has surrounded us with help.

13 And the Palestinians bent the knee, and they did not continue to come into the borders of Israel; and the hand of Jehovah was against the Palestinians all the days of Samuel.

14 And the cities which the Palestinians had taken from Israel were turned back to Israel, from Ekron even to Gath; and Israel snatched their borders out of the hands of the Palestinians. And there was peace between Israel and the Amorites.

15 And Samuel judged Israel all the days of his life.

16 And he walked regularly year to year, going in a circuit to Bethel, and Gilgal, and Mizpeh, and judged Israel all those places.

17 And his constant return *was* to Ramah, because there his house *was*, and there he judged Israel; and he built there an altar to Jehovah.

CHAPTER 8

1 And it was, when Samuel was old, that he put his sons to judge over Israel.

2 And the name of his first-born son was Joel, and the name of his second, Abiah; they judged in Beer Sheba.

3 And his sons did not walk in his ways, but stretched out after plunder, and took gifts, and stretched out judgment.

4 And all the elders of Israel gathered themselves together, and came to Samuel to Ramah,

5 And said to him, Lo, you are old, and your sons have not walked in your ways; at this time put us a king to judge us like all the peoples.

6 And it was an evil word in the eyes of Samuel, when they said, Give us a king to judge us. And Samuel judged in prayer to Jehovah.

7 And Jehovah said to Samuel, Attentively hear the voice of the people in all that they say to you, because they have not despised you, because they have despised me from reigning over them.

8 All the works which they have done since the day of my ascending them up out of Egypt even to this day, and have left me, and have served other gods, so they are doing also to you.

9 And now attentively hear their voice; only that repeating, repeat to them, and cause to stand out boldly to them the judgment of the king who shall reign over them.

10 And Samuel said all the words of Jehovah to the people who were asking from him a king,

11 And said, This will be the judgment of the king who shall reign over you: he will take your sons, and put them for himself among his chariots, and among his chariot horses, and they shall run before the face of his chariots.

12 And he will put for himself heads of thousands, and heads of fifties; and to plow his plowing, and to reap his harvest,

and to make his implements of war, and implements for his chariots.

13 And he will take your daughters for perfumers, and for cooks, and for bakers.

14 And he shall take the best of your fields, and your vineyards, and your olives, and give them to his servants.

15 And he will tithe your seed, and your vineyards, and give them to his eunuchs, and to his servants.

16 And he will take your menservants, and your maidservants, and your best young men, and your donkeys, and give them for his work.

17 He will tithe your flock, and you shall be to him servants.

18 And you will cry out in that day before the face of your king whom you have chosen for yourselves, and Jehovah will not answer you in that day.

19 And the people refused to attentively hear the voice of Samuel, and said, No! Because, lo! A king shall be over us,

20 And we shall be, yes, we shall be like all the peoples, and our king shall judge us, and shall go out before our face, and devour in our battles.

21 And Samuel attentively heard all the words of the people, and he spoke them in the ears of Jehovah.

22 And Jehovah said to Samuel, Attentively hear their voice, and cause a king to reign over them. And Samuel said to

1 SAMUEL 9

Saul seeks help from Samuel to find the donkeys;

the men of Israel, Walk, every man to his city.

CHAPTER 9

1 And there was a man of Benjamin, and his 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 resources.

2 And to him was a son, whose name *was* Saul, a young man, and good; and there was not among the children of Israel a better man than he; from his shoulder and upward higher than all the people.

3 And the donkeys of Kish, Saul's father, were lost. And Kish said to his son, Saul, Please take one of the young men with you, and rise, walk, *and* search out the donkeys.

4 And he crossed over Mount Ephraim, and crossed over the land of Shalisha, but they did not come forth; and they crossed over the land of Shalim - and nothing; and he crossed over the land of the Benjamites, but they did not come forth.

5 They came to the land of Zuph, and Saul said to his young man who *was* with him, Walk, and let us turn back lest my father cease from the donkeys, and be fearful for us.

6 And he said to him, Behold now, a man of God *is* in this city, and he is heavy *in character*; all that he speaks, coming, comes; now let us walk there; perhaps he can cause our way that we should walk to stand out

boldly to us.

7 And Saul said to his young man, Yes, lo, we walk, but what shall we bring the man? Because the food has disappeared in our vessels, and *there is* no gift to bring to the man of God. What *is* with us?

8 And again the young man answered Saul, and said, Lo, There is found in my hand a fourth of a shekel of silver I shall give to the man of God, and he will cause our way to stand out boldly to us.

9 Facing back in Israel, a man said like this when he walked to tread seeking⁹ God: Walk, and let us walk as far as the seer. Because a prophet today, facing back was called a seer.

10 And Saul said to his young man, Your word *is* good; walking, let us walk. So they walked to the city there where the man of God *was*.

11 And they ascended the elevation to the city, and they found young women going out to draw water, and said to them, Is the seer in this *place*?

12 And they answered them, and said, He is; behold, *he is* before your face; flow like liquid now, because he comes today to the city, because a sacrifice *is* today for the people in the high place;

13 At your coming into the city, just then you shall find him, before he ascends to the high

⁹ 9:9 to tread seeking, *darash*, to tread, to trample down, to beat a path to, to seek. See Note Gen 9:5.

place to eat, because the people will not eat until his coming, because he blesses the sacrifice; afterward they who are called will eat. And now, ascend, because at this time you shall find him.

14 And they ascended to the city; they were coming into the midst of the city, and behold, Samuel was coming out to meet them, to ascend to the high place.

15 And Jehovah had uncovered the ear of Samuel one day before the coming of Saul, saying,

16 At this time tomorrow I will send to you a man out of the land of Benjamin, and you shall anoint him commander over my people Israel, and he shall save my people out of the hand of the Palestinians, because I have seen my people, because their cry has come to me.

17 When Samuel saw Saul, Jehovah answered him, Behold the man of whom I spoke to you! This *one* shall enclose my people *with safety*.

18 And Saul drew near to Samuel in the center of the gate, and said, Please cause to stand out boldly to me where the house of the seer *is*?

19 And Samuel answered Saul, and said, I *am* the seer; ascend before my face to the high place, and eat with me today, and I will send you away in the dawn, and I will cause all that *is* in your heart to stand out boldly to you.

20 And as to your lost donkeys - today *makes* three days - do not put your heart on them,

because they are found. And on whom *is* all the desire of Israel? Is it not on you, and on all the house of your father?

21 And Saul answered, and said, Am I not a Benjamite, of the smallest of the tribes of Israel? And my family *is* the least of all the families of the tribe of Benjamin. Why have you spoken according to this word?

22 And Samuel took Saul and his young man, and brought them into a room, and gave them the place at the head of those called, and they *were* about thirty men.

23 And Samuel said to the butcher, Give the portion which I gave you, of which I said to you, Put it with you.

24 And the butcher raised up the leg, and that which *was* on it, and put it before the face of Saul. And he said, Behold that which is left! Put it before your face, and eat, because it has been hedged about for you for this appointed meeting, saying, I have called the people. And Saul ate with Samuel that day.

25 And they descended from the high place into the city, and Samuel spoke with Saul upon the roof of the house.

26 And they loaded up early, and it was about the ascending of the dawn, that Samuel called Saul on the roof of the house, saying, Rise, that I may send you away. And Saul rose, and they went out, the two of them, he and Samuel, outside separate.

1 SAMUEL 10 *Samuel anoints Saul; The Spirit of God prospers on Saul and he prophesies*

27 They were descending to the edge of the city, and Samuel said to Saul, Say to the young man, Cross on before our face (and he crossed on), but you standing, stand today, that I may cause you to attentively hear the word of God.

CHAPTER 10

1 And Samuel took the flask of oil, and poured out upon his head, and kissed him, and said, Is it not because Jehovah has anointed you commander over his inheritance?

2 When you have walked with me today, then you will find two men by Rachel's sepulcher in the border of Benjamin at Zelzah, and they shall say to you, The donkeys have come forth for which you walked to search, and lo, your father has thrust away the word about the donkeys, and is anxious for you, saying, What shall I do about my son?

3 And you will change some distance from there, and you will come to the oak of Tabor, and you will find there three men going up to God at Bethel, one bearing three young goats, and one bearing three loaves of bread, and one bearing a skin bottle of wine;

4 And they will extend peace to you, and give to you two of bread, which you shall take from their hand.

5 Afterwards you shall come to Gibeah of God, where there *is* the station of the Palestinians, and it will be, when you

come there to the city, you shall impinge upon a band of prophets descending from the high place, and a lyre before their face, and a tambourine, and a flute, and a harp, and they will be prophesying;

6 And the Spirit of Jehovah will prosper upon you, and you will prophesy with them, and will be turned into another man.

7 And it will be, when these signs come to you, do for yourself what comes forth to your hand, because God *is* with you.

8 And you will descend before my face to Gilgal, and behold, I will descend to you, to cause burnt offerings to ascend, and to sacrifice sacrifices of peace offerings; you shall wait seven days, until I come to you, and cause you to know by seeing what you shall do.

9 And it was, turning his back to walk from Samuel, God turned about to him another heart, and all those signs came that day.

10 And they came there to the hill, and behold, a band of prophets met him, and the Spirit of God prospered upon him, and he prophesied in their midst.

11 And it was, all who knew him in times past, saw, and behold, he prophesied with the prophets, and the people said, each man to his neighbor, What *is* this that has come to be to the son of Kish? *Is* Saul also among the prophets?

12 And a man from there answered and said, Now who is their father? Therefore it is a proverb, *Is Saul also among the prophets?*

13 And when he ended prophesying, he came to the high place.

14 And Saul's uncle said to him and to his young man, Where did you walk? And he said, To seek the donkeys; when we saw that they were not, we came to Samuel.

15 And Saul's uncle said, Cause it to stand out boldly to me, please, what Samuel said to you.

16 And Saul said to his uncle, Causing to stand out boldly, he caused to stand out boldly to us that the donkeys were found. But, he did not cause the word, what Samuel had said of the kingdom to stand out boldly to him.

17 And Samuel called the people together to Jehovah to Mizpeh,

18 And he said to the children of Israel, Thus says Jehovah God of Israel, I caused Israel to ascend out of Egypt, and snatched you out of the hand of the Egyptians, and out of the hand of all kingdoms who oppressed you;

19 And today you have despised your God, who himself saved you out of all your evil and your distresses, and you say to him, That you put a king over us. And now place yourselves before the face of Jehovah by your tribes and by your thousands.

20 And Samuel caused all the tribes of Israel to draw near, and the tribe of Benjamin was captured.

21 And he caused to draw near the tribe of Benjamin by their families, and the family of Matri was captured, and Saul the son of Kish was captured; and they searched for him, he did not come forth.

22 And they inquired again of Jehovah, Has the man come here yet? And Jehovah said, Behold, he is hiding himself among the implements.

23 And they ran, and took him there, and when he was placed in the midst of the people, he was higher than all the people from his shoulders and upward.

24 And Samuel said to all the people, Do you see him whom Jehovah has chosen, because none *is* like him among all the people? And all the people shouted, and said, May the king live.

25 Then Samuel spoke to the people the judgment of the kingdom, and wrote it in a book, and deposited it before the face of Jehovah. And Samuel sent away all the people, every man to his house.

26 And Saul also walked to his house in Gibeah, and there walked with him men of resources, whose hearts God had touched.

27 And the children of worthlessness said, How shall this *one* save us? And they despised him, and brought him no gifts. And he was devising *a plan*.

CHAPTER 11

1 Then Nahash, the Ammonite, ascended, and pitched against Jabesh Gilead; and all the men of Jabesh said to Nahash, Cut a covenant with us, and we will work for you.

2 And Nahash, the Ammonite, answered them, On this I will cut with you: when the right eye is bored out for all of you, then I will put it a reproach upon all Israel.

3 And the elders of Jabesh said to him, Slack off from us seven days, that we may send messengers to all the borders of Israel, and then, if there is no one to save us, we will come out to you.

4 And the messengers came to Gibeah of Saul, and spoke the words in the ears of the people; and all the people lifted their voices, and wept.

5 And behold, Saul came behind the cattle out of the field, and Saul said, What *is* with the people that they weep? And they tallied up to him the words of the men of Jabesh.

6 And the Spirit of God prospered upon Saul when he attentively heard those words, and his nostrils burned exceedingly.

7 And he took a yoke of oxen, and cut them in pieces, and sent throughout all the borders of Israel by the hands of messengers, saying, Whoever does not come out behind Saul, and behind

Samuel, so it shall be done to his cattle. And the fear of Jehovah fell on the people, and they came out as one man.

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

9 And they said to the messengers who came, Thus you shall say to the men of Jabesh Gilead: Tomorrow your salvation shall be *by the time* the sun *is* hot. And the messengers came, and caused it to stand out boldly to the men of Jabesh, and they rejoiced.

10 And the men of Jabesh said, Tomorrow we will come out to you, and you shall do with us all that *is* good in your eyes.

11 And it was on the next day, that Saul put the people in three heads, and they came into the midst of the camp in the dawn watch, and struck the Ammonites until the heat of the day; and it was, that the ones left were forcibly scattered, and there was not left two of them together.

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

13 And Saul said, There shall not a man be put to death this day, because today Jehovah has done deliverance in Israel.

14 And Samuel said to the people, Walk, and let us walk to Gilgal, and renew the kingdom there.

15 And all the people went to Gilgal, and there they caused Saul to reign before the face of Jehovah in Gilgal, and there they sacrificed sacrifices of peace offerings before the face of Jehovah, and there Saul and all the men of Israel rejoiced exceedingly.

CHAPTER 12

1 And Samuel said to all Israel, Behold, I have attentively heard your voice in all that you said to me, and have caused a king to reign over you.

2 And now, behold, the king is walking before your face, and I am old and gray headed; and behold, my sons are with you; and I have walked before your face from my youth to this day.

3 Lo, I; answer against me in front of Jehovah, and in front of his anointed. Whose cattle have I taken? And whose male donkey have I taken? And whom have I oppressed? Whom have I crushed to pieces? And from whose hand have I taken any covering to veil from my eyes with it? And I will turn it back to you.

4 And they said, You have not oppressed us, and you have not crushed us to pieces, and you have not taken a speck from the hand of any man.

5 And he said to them, Jehovah *is* a witness against you, and his anointed *is* a witness this day, that you have not found in my hand a speck. And they said, A witness!

6 And Samuel said to the people, *It is* Jehovah who caused Moses and Aaron, and who caused your fathers to ascend out of the land of Egypt.

7 And at this time place yourselves, that I may judge with you before the face of Jehovah of all the righteousness of Jehovah, which he did with you and with your fathers.

8 When Jacob came into Egypt, and your fathers cried to Jehovah, then Jehovah sent Moses and Aaron, and they caused your fathers to ascend out of Egypt, and sat them down in this place.

9 And they forgot Jehovah their God, and he sold them into the hand of Sisera, head of the host of Hazor, and into the hand of the Palestinians, and into the hand of the king of Moab, and they devoured them.

10 And they cried to Jehovah, and said, We have sinned, because we left Jehovah, and have served the Baals and the Ashtaroths; and now snatch us out of the hand of those who hate us, and we will serve you.

11 And Jehovah sent Jerubaal, and Barak, and Jephthah, and Samuel, and snatched you out of the hand of those who hate you on every side, and you sat down in safety.

12 And when you saw that Nahash, the king of the children of Ammon, came against you, you said to me, No, because a king shall reign over us, though Jehovah your God *is* your king.

1 SAMUEL 13 *Samuel continues his warning to Israel; Jonathan strikes the Palestinians*

13 And now behold, the king whom you have chosen, and whom you have asked for! And behold, Jehovah has given a king over you.

14 If you will fear Jehovah, and serve him, and attentively hear his voice, and not rebel against the mouth of Jehovah, then you, even you, and also the king who reigns over you, shall be after Jehovah your God;

15 And if you will not attentively hear the voice of Jehovah, and rebel against the mouth of Jehovah, then the hand of Jehovah shall be against you, as *it was* against your fathers.

16 And now also place yourselves, and see this great word, which Jehovah will do before your eyes.

17 *Is it* not wheat harvest today? I will call to Jehovah, and he shall give voices and rain, then know, and see that your evil *is* great, which you have done in the eyes of Jehovah, to ask for yourselves a king.

18 And Samuel called to Jehovah, and Jehovah gave voices and rain in that day; and all the people feared Jehovah and Samuel exceedingly.

19 And all the people said to Samuel, Judge in prayer for your servants to Jehovah your God, that we do not die, because we have added to all our sins this evil, to ask for ourselves a king.

20 And Samuel said to the people, Do not fear; you have done all this evil; only do not turn aside from after Jehovah, but

serve Jehovah with all your heart;

21 And do not turn aside after empty waste, which cannot ascend with value *to you* nor snatch *you* out of trouble, because they are empty waste. Gen 1:32

22 Because Jehovah will not thrust away his people on account of his great name, because Jehovah has yielded to make you a people for himself.

23 I also, far be it from me to sin against Jehovah by ceasing to judge in prayer for you, but I will make the good and the right way flow to you;

24 Only fear Jehovah, and serve him in truth with all your heart, because see that he has done great things for you!

25 And if doing evil, you do evil, both you and your king shall be scraped away.

CHAPTER 13

1 Saul *was* a son of a year in reigning, and he reigned two years over Israel,

2 And Saul chose for himself three thousand of Israel, and two thousand were with Saul in Michmash and in Mount Bethel; and a thousand were with Jonathan in Gibeah of Benjamin; and he sent what was left of the people each man to his tent.

3 And Jonathan struck the military post of the Palestinians that *was* in Geba, and the Palestinians attentively heard. And Saul blew the trumpet throughout all the land, saying, Let the Hebrews attentively hear.

4 And all Israel attentively heard, saying, Saul struck the military post of the Palestinians, and also, Israel stinks to the Palestinians. And the people were called together after Saul to Gilgal.

5 And the Palestinians gathered themselves together to devour Israel, thirty thousand chariots, and six thousand horses, and people as the sand which is on the lip of the sea for abundance; and they ascended, and pitched in Michmash, eastward from Beth Aven.

6 And the men of Israel saw that they were oppressed (because the people were driven), and the people hid themselves in caves, and in thorn thickets, and in lofty rocks, and in towers, and in pits.

7 And *some of the* Hebrews crossed over Jordan to the land of Gad and Gilead. And Saul *was* still in Gilgal, and all the people trembling after him.

8 And he waited seven days, according to that appointed meeting of Samuel, and Samuel did not come to Gilgal; and the people were scattered from him.

9 And Saul said, Bring near to me the burnt offering and the peace offering, and he caused the burnt offering to ascend.

10 And it was, when he ended causing the burnt offering to ascend, behold, Samuel came, and Saul went out to meet him to bless him.

11 And Samuel said, What have you done? And Saul said, Because I saw that the people were scattering from me, and you did not come in the appointed days, and the Palestinians were gathered at Michmash,

12 And I said, Now the Palestinians will descend upon me at Gilgal, and I have not rubbed the face of Jehovah; and I held fast, and caused the burnt offering to ascend.

13 And Samuel said to Saul, You have shown yourself foolish; you have not hedged about the commandment of Jehovah your God, what he commanded you, because now Jehovah would have set up your kingdom over Israel forever;

14 And now your kingdom shall not rise; Jehovah has searched out for himself a man according to his own heart, and Jehovah has commanded him a commander over his people, because you have not hedged about what Jehovah commanded you.

15 And Samuel rose, and ascended from Gilgal to Gibeah of Benjamin. And Saul visited the people who were with him, about six hundred men.

16 And Saul, and Jonathan his son, and the people who were with them, sat down in Gibeah of Benjamin, but the Palestinians pitched in Michmash.

17 And the destroyers came out of the camp of the Palestinians in three heads; one head faced the way to Ophrah, to the land of Shual,

1 SAMUEL 14 *Israel is without weapons; Jonathan/his weapons bearer attack the Palestinians*

18 And one head faced the way to Beth Horon; and one head faced the way of the border that overlooks the valley of Zeboim toward the desert.

19 And a fabricator was not found in all the land of Israel, because the Palestinians said, Lest the Hebrews make swords or spears;

20 And all the Israelites descended to the Palestinians, to beat out every man his sickle, and his plow, and his ax, and his mattock,

21 When the mouth of the mattocks, and the plows, and the pitchforks, and the axes was blunt, and to set the goads.

22 And it was on the day of battle, that there was not found a sword or spear in the hand of all of the people who *were* with Saul and Jonathan, but there was *one* found for Saul and for his son Jonathan.

23 And the military post of the Palestinians went out to the passage of Michmash.

CHAPTER 14

1 And it was a *certain* day, and Jonathan, the son of Saul, said to the young man bearing his weapons, Walk, and let us cross over to the military post of the Palestinians, which *is* on the other side; and he did not cause it to stand out boldly to his father.

2 And Saul was sitting in the extremity of Gibeah under a pomegranate tree which *is* in Migron, and the people who *were*

with him *were* about six hundred men;

3 And Ahijah, the son of Ahitub, Ichabod's brother, the son of Phinehas, the son of Eli, the priest of Jehovah in Shiloh, was bearing an ephod, and the people knew not by seeing that Jonathan had walked.

4 And between the crossing places by which Jonathan searched out to cross over to the military post of the Palestinians, *there was* a tooth of a lofty rock on this side, and a tooth of a lofty rock on that side; and the name of one *was* Bozez, and the name of one *was* Seneh.

5 The tooth of one was a narrow column northward opposite Michmash, and one southward opposite Gibeah.

6 And Jonathan said to the young man bearing his weapons, Walk, and let us cross over to the military post of these uncircumcised; perhaps Jehovah will work for us, because Jehovah is not restricted to save by many or by few.

7 And the one bearing his weapons said to him, Do all that is in your heart; you stretch out to it; behold, I *am* with you according to your heart.

8 And Jonathan said, Behold, we will cross over to *these* men, and we will reveal ourselves to them.

9 If they say to us like this, Be still until we lay a hand to you, then we will stand in our place, and will not ascend to them.

10 But if they say like this, Ascend to us, then we will ascend, because Jehovah has given them into our hand; and this *shall be* a sign to us.

11 And the two of them revealed themselves to the military post of the Palestinians, and the Palestinians said, Behold, the Hebrews are coming out of the holes where they hid themselves there.

12 And the men of the military post answered Jonathan and the one bearing his weapons, and said, Ascend to us, and we will make you know by seeing a word. And Jonathan said to the one bearing his weapons, Ascend after me, because Jehovah has given them into the hand of Israel.

13 And Jonathan ascended upon his hands and upon his feet, and the one bearing his weapons after him; and they fell before the face of Jonathan, and the one bearing his weapons killed after him.

14 And the first blow which Jonathan and the one bearing his weapons struck *was* about twenty men, in half of a field of what a yoke *of oxen* could furrow *in a day*.

15 And there was trembling in fear in the camp in the field, and among all the people; the military post, and the destroyers also shook in terror, and the earth was agitated; and it was a fear of God.

16 And the one watching for Saul in Gibeah of Benjamin saw, and behold, the tumult melted

away, and they walked on striking down.

17 And Saul said to the people who *were* with him, Visit, please, and see who is walking with us. And when they had visited, behold, Jonathan and the one bearing his weapons were not there.

18 And Saul said to Ahijah, Bring near the ark of God, because the ark of God was in that day with the children of Israel.

19 And it was, while Saul spoke to the priest, the tumult that *was* in the camp of the Palestinians, walked on, walking, and increased; and Saul said to the priest, Withdraw your hand.¹⁹

20 And Saul, and all the people who *were* with him screamed for them to assemble, and they came to the battle; and lo, the sword of every man was against his neighbor, and a very great commotion.

21 And the Hebrews who were for the Palestinians yesterday *and* the day before yesterday, who ascended with them into the camp all around, even they also became with the Israelites who *were* with Saul and Jonathan.

22 And all the men of Israel who had hidden themselves in Mount Ephraim attentively heard

¹⁹ **14:19 Withdraw your hand.** The priest with the ephod of God was judging in prayer to God with hands raised to heaven at the request of Saul for direction about what was happening with Jonathan and the one bearing his weapons of war. Saul suddenly deemed it wise to break off the consultation with God, and join Jonathan in the battle. Therefore, Saul commanded the priest to withdraw his hands and stop the prayer in order to join Jonathan.

1 SAMUEL 14

Jonathan eats honey not knowing about his father's oath not to eat

that the Palestinians fled, and they also pursued after them in the battle.

23 And Jehovah saved Israel that day, and the battle crossed over to Beth Aven.

24 And the men of Israel were driven that day, and Saul had placed the people under an oath, saying, Cursed is the man who eats food until dusk, until I am avenged on those hating me, and none of the people tasted food.

25 And the whole land came into the forest, and there was honey upon the field.

26 And the people came into the forest, and behold, a flow of honey, but none reached his hand to his mouth, because the people feared the oath.

27 And Jonathan did not hear when his father placed the people under the oath, and he sent out the end of the rod that *was* in his hand, and plunged it in a honeycomb, and turned back his hand to his mouth; and his eyes brightened.

28 And a man from among the people answered, and said, Swearing, your father placed the people under an oath, saying, Cursed is the man who eats food this day; and the people were swooning from weakness.

29 And Jonathan said, My father has troubled the land; see, please, because my eyes have brightened, because I tasted a little of this honey.

30 Yes, would that eating, the people had eaten today of the plunder of those hating them which they have found, because now there has not been an increase of strikes against the Palestinians?

31 And they struck on that day among the Palestinians from Michmash to Aijalon, and the people were swooning from weakness.

32 And the people clothed themselves with the plunder, and took flock animals, and cattle, and calves of the cattle, and slaughtered them on the ground; and the people ate with the blood.

33 And they caused it to stand out boldly to Saul, saying, Behold, the people are sinning against Jehovah to eat with the blood. And he said, You have acted deceitfully; roll a great stone to me this day.

34 And Saul said, Scatter yourselves among the people, and say to them, Bring near to me every man his ox, and every man his flock animal, and slaughter here, and eat, and do not sin against Jehovah to eat with the blood. And all the people brought near, every man his ox in hand that night, and slaughtered there.

35 And Saul built an altar to Jehovah; with it he began to build altars to Jehovah.

36 And Saul said, Let us descend after the Palestinians tonight, and plunder them until the light of the dawn, and not leave

them a man. And they said, All that is good in your eyes, do! And the priest said, Let us draw near to God here.

37 And Saul inquired of God, Shall I descend after the Palestinians? Will you give them into the hand of Israel? And he did not answer him on that day.

38 And Saul said, Draw near here, all the chieftains of the people, and know, and see. How this sin has come to be today?

39 Because - Jehovah lives who saves Israel - because if it is in Jonathan, my son, dying, he shall die. And none from all the people answered him.

40 And he said to all Israel, You be on one opposite side, and I and Jonathan my son will be on one opposite side. And the people said to Saul, What *is* good in your eyes, do.

41 And Saul said to Jehovah God of Israel, Give perfection! And Jonathan and Saul were captured, and the people went out.

Note Exo 28:30

42 And Saul said, Make *lots* fall between me and Jonathan, my son. And Jonathan was captured.

43 And Saul said to Jonathan, Cause what you have done to stand out boldly to me. And Jonathan caused it to stand out boldly to him, and said, Tasting, I tasted with the end of the rod that *was* in my hand a little honey. Behold, I die!

44 And Saul said, God do thus and more also, because dying, Jonathan, you shall die.

45 And the people said to Saul, Shall Jonathan die, who has done this great salvation in Israel? That is an accursed thing - Jehovah lives - if a hair from his head falls to the ground, because he has done *things* with God this day. And the people loosed Jonathan, and he did not die.

46 And Saul ascended from after the Palestinians, and the Palestinians walked to their place.

47 And Saul captured the kingdom over Israel, and devoured all around all those hating him: Moab, and the children of Ammon, and Edom, and the kings of Zobah, and the Palestinians; and he condemned everywhere he faced about.

48 And he made resources, and struck the Amalekites, and snatched Israel out of the hands of those who plundered them.

49 And the sons of Saul are Jonathan, and Ishui, and Melchishua. And the names of his two daughters: the name of the firstborn, Merab, and the name of the younger, Michal.

50 And the name of Saul's wife, Ahinoam, the daughter of Ahimaaz; and the name of the chief ruler of his host was Abner, the son of Ner, Saul's uncle.

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

52 And there was strong war against the Palestinians all the days of Saul; when Saul saw any mighty man or any son of resources he gathered him to himself.

CHAPTER 15

1 And Samuel said to Saul, Jehovah sent me to anoint you king over his people, over Israel, and now attentively hear the voice of the words of Jehovah.

2 Thus says Jehovah of hosts, I will visit what Amalek did to Israel, what he put against him in the way when he ascended out of Egypt.

3 At this time walk, and strike Amalek, and devote³ all that *is* theirs, and do not spare them in pity; and put to death from man to woman, from those giving suck to those sucking, from the ox to the flock animal, from camel to donkey.

4 And Saul caused the people to attentively hear, and visited them in Telaim: two hundred thousand footmen, and ten thousand men of Judah.

5 And Saul came to a city of Amalek, and contended by the stream.

6 And Saul said to the Kenites, Walk, turn aside, descend from the midst of the Amalekites, lest I scrape you together with them, because you did mercy to all the children of Israel, when they ascended out of Egypt. And the Kenites departed from the midst of the Amalekites.

7 And Saul struck the Amalekites from Havilah until you come to Shur that *was* over against the face of Egypt.

³ 15:3 **devote**, *charam*, to seclude, to shut up by a ban, to devote to religious use, to consecrate to God's use, or devote to destruction because it is offensive to God.

8 And he captured Agag the king of the Amalekites alive, and devoted all the people with the mouth of the sword.

9 And Saul and the people spared Agag in pity, and the best of the flock animals, and of the cattle, and of the secondary animals, and the rams, and all the good, and did not breathe in agreement to devote them; and they devoted all property *that was* despised and melted away.

10 And the word of Jehovah was to Samuel, saying,

11 I comfort myself that I have caused Saul to reign as king, because he has turned back from after me; and he has not caused my words to rise; and Samuel burned in anger, and he cried to Jehovah all night.

12 And Samuel loaded up early to meet Saul in the dawn, and it was caused to stand out boldly to Samuel, saying, Saul came to Carmel, and behold, he stationed for himself a hand,¹² and circled around, and crossed over, and descended to Gilgal.

13 And Samuel came to Saul, and Saul said to him, You *are* blessed of Jehovah; I have caused to rise the word of Jehovah.

14 And Samuel said, And what *is* the sound of the flock animals that *is* in my ears, and the sound of the cattle which I attentively hear?

¹² 15:12 **a hand**, *yad*, meaning a monument of special recognition. See 2 Sam 18:18

15 And Saul said, They have brought from Amalek what the people spared in pity, the best of the flock animals, and of the cattle, in order to sacrifice to Jehovah, your God, and the rest we have devoted.

16 And Samuel said to Saul, Slack off, and I will cause to stand out boldly to you what Jehovah has spoken to me tonight. And he said to him, Speak.

17 And Samuel said, Is it not when you *were* little in your eyes, you *became* head of the tribes of Israel, and Jehovah anointed you king over Israel?

18 And Jehovah sent you on a journey, and said, Walk, and devote the sinners, Amalek, and devour them until they end them.

19 And why did you not attentively hear the voice of Jehovah, and rushed violently to the plunder, and did evil in the eyes of Jehovah?

20 And Saul said to Samuel, I have attentively heard the voice of Jehovah, and have walked the way which Jehovah sent me, and have brought Agag, the king of Amalek, and have devoted Amalek.

21 And the people took of the plunder, flock animals, and oxen, the firstfruits of that which is devoted, to sacrifice to Jehovah, your God, in Gilgal.

22 And Samuel said, Is there delight to Jehovah in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in hearing attentively the voice of Jehovah? Behold, to attentively hear is better than sacrifice, and to sharpen

your ears than the fat of rams.

23 Because rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness *is as* vanity and family healing images. Because you have despised the word of Jehovah, so he has despised you as king. See Notes, Dt 18:10; Gen 31:19

24 And Saul said to Samuel, I sinned, because I have crossed over against the mouth of Jehovah, and your words, because I feared the people, and attentively heard their voice.

25 And now, please lift my sin, and turn back with me, that I may prostrate myself to Jehovah.

26 And Samuel said to Saul, I will not turn back with you, because you have despised the word of Jehovah, and Jehovah has despised you from being king over Israel.

27 And Samuel turned around to walk, and he fastened upon the extremity of his robe, and it was torn.

28 And Samuel said to him, Jehovah has torn the kingdom of Israel from you today, and has given it to your neighbor who is better than you.

29 And also the Eternal One of Israel will not cheat nor have to comfort himself, because he does not have to comfort himself as a man.

30 And he said, I have sinned; at this time, please make me heavy in importance in front of the elders of my people, and in front of Israel, and turn back with me, that I may prostrate myself to Jehovah your God.

1 SAMUEL 16 *Samuel executes Agag, and seeks God's chosen king among the sons of Jesse*

31 And Samuel turned back after Saul, and Saul prostrated himself to Jehovah.

32 And Samuel said, Bring Agag, the king of Amalek, near to me. And Agag walked to him cheerfully. And Agag said, Surely the bitterness of death is turned away.

33 And Samuel said, As your sword has bereaved women of their children, so shall your mother be bereaved among women. And Samuel cut Agag in pieces before the face of Jehovah in Gilgal.

34 And Samuel walked to Ramah, and Saul ascended to his house in Gibeah of Saul.

35 And Samuel walked no more to see Saul until the day of his death, because Samuel mourned for Saul, and Jehovah comforted himself that he had caused Saul to ascend the throne over Israel.

CHAPTER 16

1 And Jehovah said to Samuel, Until when will you mourn for Saul, and I have despised him from reigning over Israel? Fill your horn with oil, and walk. I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, because I have seen a king among his sons for me.

2 And Samuel said, How can I walk? When Saul attentively hears, he will fatally strike me. And Jehovah said, Take a heifer cow in your hand, and say, I have come to sacrifice to Jehovah.

3 And call Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will make you know by seeing what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me him whom I say to you.

4 And Samuel did what Jehovah spoke, and came to Bethlehem. And the elders of the town trembled at meeting him, and said, Do you come in peace?

5 And he said, Peace; I have come to sacrifice to Jehovah; sanctify yourselves, and come with me to the sacrifice. And he sanctified Jesse and his sons, and called them to the sacrifice.

6 And it was, in their coming, that he saw Eliab, and said, Surely his anointed *is* in front of Jehovah.

7 And Jehovah said to Samuel, Do not look intently at his appearance, or at the elevation of his height, because I have despised him; because *it is* not as man sees, because man sees the eyes, but Jehovah sees the heart.

8 And Jesse called Abinadab, and he crossed over before the face of Samuel. And he said, Also Jehovah has not chosen this *one*.

9 And Jesse caused Shammah to cross over. And he said, Also this *one* Jehovah has not chosen.

10 And Jesse caused his seven sons to cross over before the face of Samuel. And Samuel said to Jesse, Jehovah has not chosen these.

11 And Samuel said to Jesse, *Your* young men are complete? And he said, There is left the youngest, and lo, he is shepherding the flock animals. And Samuel said to Jesse, Send, and take him, because we will not circle around *the table* until he comes here.

12 And he sent, and brought him. Now he was reddish, and equally of beautiful eyes and good looking. And Jehovah said, Rise, anoint him, because this *is* he.

13 And Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the midst of his brothers; and the Spirit of Jehovah prospered upon David from that day forward. And Samuel rose, and walked to Ramah.

14 And the Spirit of Jehovah turned away from Saul, and an evil spirit from Jehovah terrified him.

15 And Saul's servants said to him, Behold now, an evil spirit from God terrifies you.

16 Let our lord now say to your servants before your face, Search out a man who knows *how* to play on a harp; and it shall be, when the evil spirit from God is upon you, then his hand will play, and you will be well.

17 And Saul said to his servants, See now for me a man who can play well, and bring *him* to me.

18 And one of the young men answered, and said, Behold, I have seen a son of Jesse the Bethlehemite, who knows *how* to

play, and a mighty man of resources, and a man of war, and understanding in words, and a man of handsome appearance, and Jehovah *is* with him.

19 And Saul sent messengers to Jesse, and said, Send to me David, your son, who *is* with the flock.

20 And Jesse took a donkey, food, and a skin bottle of wine, and one kid of the goats, and he sent *them* by the hand of David, his son, to Saul.

21 And David came to Saul, and stood before his face; and he loved him greatly; and he was the one bearing his weapons.

22 And Saul sent to Jesse, saying, Let David, please, stand before my face, because he has found grace in my eyes.

23 And it was, when the *evil* spirit *from* God was upon Saul, that David took a harp, and played with his hand, and Saul breathed freely, and it was good for him, and the evil spirit turned away from him.

CHAPTER 17

1 And the Palestinians gathered their camp of troops to battle, and were gathered at Shochoh, which *is* to Judah, and they pitched between Shochoh and Azekah in Ephes Dammim.

2 And Saul and the men of Israel were gathered, and pitched by the valley of Elah, and set the battle in array meeting the Palestinians.

1 SAMUEL 17 *Goliath's challenge to all Israel; David sent to visit his brothers in the army*

3 And the Palestinians stood on a mountain on that *side*, and Israel stood on a mountain on this *side*; and the valley *was* between them.

4 And a man went out in the space between, from the camp of the Palestinians, Goliath *was* his name, from Gath; his height *was* six cubits and a *handspan*.

5 And a helmet of bronze *was* on his head, and a body armor of metal plates like scales; and the weight of the body armor *was* five thousand shekels of bronze.

6 And he had shin plates of bronze down to his feet, and a javelin of bronze between his shoulders.

7 And the wood *handle* of his spear *was* like the beam of a weaver; and the blade of his spear *weighed* six hundred shekels of iron; and one bearing a shield walked before his face.

8 And he stood, and called to the armies of Israel, and said to them, Why do you come out to set the battle in array? *Am* I not a Palestinian, and you, servants to Saul? Choose for yourselves a man, and let him descend to me.

9 If he is able to devour me and to strike me, then we will be your servants; but if I prevail against him, and strike him, then you shall be our servants and serve us.

10 And the Palestinian said, I expose the armies of Israel this day; give me a man, and let us devour together.

11 And Saul and all Israel heard these words of the Palestinian, and they broke down, and were exceedingly afraid.

12 And David *was* the son of a man, an Ephrathite; this *man was* from Bethlehem Judah, and his name *was* Jesse; and to him *were* eight sons; and the man *was* old going among men in the days of Saul.

13 And the three oldest sons of Jesse walked, and walked after Saul to the battle; and the names of his three sons who walked to the battle were: Eliab, the firstborn, and his second, Abinadab, and the third, Shammah,

14 And David *was* the youngest; and the three greater walked after Saul.

15 And David walked, and turned back from Saul to tend his father's flock at Bethlehem.

16 And the Palestinian loaded up in the morning and at dusk, and stationed himself forty days.

17 And Jesse said to David his son, Please take to your brothers an ephah of this roasted *grain* and these ten loaves, and run to the camp to your brothers;

18 And these ten cuts of cultured milk to the captain of their thousand, and you shall visit your brothers *to inquire of* their peace, and you shall receive their token of security.

19 And Saul, and they, and all the men of Israel, *were* in the valley of Elah, devouring equally with the Palestinians.

20 And David loaded up early in the dawn, and thrust off the flock with one to hedge them about, and lifted *the supplies*, and walked, what Jesse commanded him; and he came to the rampart of wagons, and the resources going out to the battle array, and they shouted for the battle.

21 And Israel and the Palestinians put the battle in order, army against army.

22 And David thrust off the supplies on him into the hand of one to hedge about the supplies, and ran into the army, and came, and inquired of the peace of his brothers.

23 And he was speaking with them, and behold, the man in the space between the two armies - Goliath *was* his name, the Palestinian from Gath - ascended out of the armies of the Palestinians, and he spoke according to these words, and David attentively heard *them*.

24 And all the men of Israel, when they saw the man, fled from before his face, and were exceedingly afraid.

25 And the men of Israel said, Have you seen this man who is ascending? Because he has ascended to reproach Israel; and it shall be, the man who strikes him, the king will enrich him with great wealth, and will give him his daughter, and make his father's house exempt from public burden in Israel.

26 And David said to the men standing with him, saying, What shall be done to the man who strikes this Palestinian, and turns away the reproach against Israel, because who *is* this uncircumcised Palestinian, that he has reproached the armies of the living God?

27 And the people said to him according to this word, saying, It shall be done like this to the man who strikes him.

28 And Eliab, his oldest brother, attentively heard when he spoke to the men, and Eliab's nostrils burned against David, and he said, Why *is* this that you descended? And upon whom did you thrust off those few flock animals in the desert? I know by seeing your arrogance, and the evil of your heart, because you have descended to see the battle.

29 And David said, Now what have I done? Is there not *some* word?

30 And he circled around to the side opposite another, and said according to this word; and the people turned him back a word like the first word.

31 And the words were attentively heard which David spoke, and they caused them to stand out boldly before the face of Saul; and he took him.

32 And David said to Saul, Let no man's heart fall because of him; your servant will walk, and devour this Palestinian.

1 SAMUEL 17 *David's words of faith against Goliath; brought before Saul; the words of Goliath*

33 And Saul said to David, You are not able to walk to this Palestinian to devour him, because you *are* a youth, and he *is* a man of war from his youth.

34 And David said to Saul, Your servant was tending his father's flock, and a lion came, and a bear, and lifted a flock animal out of the flock;

35 And I went out after him, and struck him, and snatched it out of his mouth; and he rose against me, I fastened upon his beard, and struck him, and killed him.

36 Your servant struck both the lion and the bear, and this uncircumcised Palestinian shall be as one of them, because he has reproached the armies of the living God.

37 And David said, Jehovah who snatched me out of the hand of the lion, and out of the hand of the bear, will snatch me out of the hand of this Palestinian. And Saul said to David, Walk, and Jehovah be with you.

38 And Saul clothed David with his garments, and he gave a helmet of bronze upon his head; also he clothed him with a body armor.

39 And David girded his sword upon his garments, and he yielded to walk, because he had not tested *it*. And David said to Saul, I am not able to walk with these, because I have not tested *them*. And David turned them aside from him.

40 And he took his staff in his hand, and chose for himself five smooth stones out of the stream, and put them in the shepherd's bag which *was* his, even in his wallet; and his sling *was* in his hand; and he drew near to the Palestinian.

41 And walking, the Palestinian walked, and drew near to David, and the man bearing the shield before his face.

42 And the Palestinian looked intently about, and saw David, and he despised him, because he was a youth, and reddish, and with a handsome appearance.

43 And the Palestinian said to David, *Am* I a dog that you come to me with sticks? And the Palestinian made light of David by his gods.

44 And the Palestinian said to David, Come to me, and I will give your meat to the birds of the heavens, and to the animals of the field.

45 And David said to the Palestinian, You are coming to me with a sword, and with a spear, and with a javelin, and I am coming to you in the name of Jehovah of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have reproached.

46 This day Jehovah will shut you up in my hand, and I shall strike you, and take off your head from you; and I will give the carcasses of the army of the Palestinians this day to the birds of the heavens, and to the living creatures of the earth, that all the earth may know by seeing that God is in Israel.

47 And all this assembly shall know by seeing that Jehovah saves not with sword and spear, because the battle is Jehovah's, and he has given you into our hand.

48 And it was, when the Palestinian rose, and walked and drew near to meet David, that David flowed like liquid, and ran toward the army to meet the Palestinian.

49 And David put his hand in his bag, and took there a stone, and slung, and struck the Palestinian in his forehead, and the stone sunk into his forehead; and he fell upon his face to the earth.

50 And David prevailed over the Palestinian with a sling and with a stone, and struck the Palestinian and killed him, and a sword was not in the hand of David.

51 And David ran, and stood by the Palestinian, and took his sword, and drew it out of its sheath, and killed him, and cut off his head with it. And the Palestinians saw their mighty one was dead, and fled.

52 And the men of Israel and of Judah rose and shouted and ran after the Palestinians until you come to the valley and to the gates of Ekron. And the polluted of the Palestinians fell down by the way to Shaaraim, even to Gath and to Ekron.

53 And the children of Israel turned back from flaming out after the Palestinians, and they plundered their camp.

54 And David took the head of the Palestinian, and brought it to Jerusalem; and he put his weapons in his tent.

55 And when Saul saw David go out to meet the Palestinian, he said to Abner, the captain of the host, Whose son is this youth, Abner? And Abner said, As your soul lives, Oh king, I do not know by seeing.

56 And the king said, You inquire whose son *is* the young man.

57 And David turned back from striking the Palestinian, and Abner took him, and brought him before the face of Saul, and the head of the Palestinian in his hand.

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

CHAPTER 18

1 And it was, when he ended speaking to Saul, that the soul of Jonathan was bound with the soul of David, and Jonathan loved him as his own soul.

2 And Saul took him that day, and did not give in for him to turn back to the house of his father.

3 And Jonathan and David cut a covenant, because he loved him as his own soul.

4 And Jonathan stripped himself of the robe that was on him, and gave it to David, and his garments, with his sword, and his bow, and his girdle.

1 SAMUEL 18 *David becomes very successful as a warrior for Saul; Saul becomes very jealous*

5 And David went out everywhere Saul sent him, and was intelligently successful; and Saul put him over the men of war, and it was good in the eyes of all the people, and also in the eyes of Saul's servants.

6 And it was as they came, when David was turned back from striking the Palestinian, that the women came out from all the cities of Israel with singing and the dance to meet king Saul with tambourines with joy and with triangled instruments.

7 And the women - those laughing in play - answered, and said, Saul has struck his thousands, and David his ten thousands.

8 And it burned Saul exceedingly, and this word was evil in his eyes; and he said, They have given to David ten thousands, and to me they have given thousands; and *what more is there to give him?* Only the kingdom!

9 And it was, Saul jealously eyed David from that day and forward.

10 And it was on the next day, that the evil spirit from God prospered upon Saul, and he prophesied in the midst of the house; and David was playing with his hand, as day by day; and the spear *was* in Saul's hand.

11 And Saul threw the spear, and said, I will strike David even to the wall. And David circled around from his face *several* strokes.

12 And Saul was afraid of the face of David, because Jehovah was with him, and he had turned away from Saul.

13 And Saul turned him away from himself, and put him as his captain over a thousand; and he went out and came in before the face of the people.

14 And David was in all his ways intelligently successful, and Jehovah *was* with him.

15 And Saul saw that he was very intelligently successful, and was afraid of him.

16 And all Israel and Judah loved David, because he went out and came in before their face.

17 And Saul said to David, Behold my older daughter Merab! I will give her to you for a wife; only, you be for me a son of resources, and devour in the battles of Jehovah. And Saul said, My hand shall not be upon him, but the hand of the Palestinians will be upon him.

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

19 And it was, at the time to give Merab, the daughter of Saul, to David, that she was given to Adriel, the Meholathite, for a wife.

20 And Michal, the daughter of Saul, loved David, and they caused it to stand out boldly to Saul, and the word was right in his eyes.

21 And Saul said, I will give her to him, and she will be a snare to him, and the hand of the Palestinians will be against him. And Saul said to David, you shall be my son in law double today.

22 And Saul commanded his servants, saying, Speak to David in secret, and say, Behold, the king is inclined to you, and all his servants love you; and at this time be son in law to the king.

23 And Saul's servants spoke those words in the ears of David. And David said, Is it a light *thing* in your eyes to be son in law to the king, and I a poor man, and lightly esteemed?

24 And the servants of Saul caused it to stand out boldly to him, saying, David has spoken according to these words.

25 And Saul said, You shall say thus to David, There is no desire in the king in bride-price, but in a hundred foreskins of the Palestinians, to be avenged on those hating the king. And Saul calculated to cause David to fall by the hand of the Palestinians.

26 And his servants caused these words to stand out boldly to David, and it was the right word in the eyes of David to be son in law to the king. And the days were not fulfilled,

27 And David rose, and walked, he and his men, and struck of the Palestinians two hundred men; and David brought their foreskins, and in full, to the king, to be son in law to the king. And Saul gave him Michal, his daughter, for a wife.

28 And Saul saw, and knew by seeing that Jehovah *was* with David, and Michal, the daughter of Saul, loved him.

29 And Saul was more afraid of David still, and Saul was hating David all the days.

30 And the commanders of the Palestinians came out; and it was, as often as they came out, that David was more intelligently successful than all the servants of Saul, and his name was very heavy.

CHAPTER 19

1 And Saul spoke to Jonathan, his son, and to all his servants, to kill David.

2 And Jonathan, the son of Saul, inclined strongly to David, and Jonathan caused it to stand out boldly to David, saying, Saul, my father, is seeking to kill you; at this time, please, hedge yourself about in the dawn, and sit down under cover, and hide yourself;

3 And I will go out, and stand at the hand of my father in the field where you *are* there, and I will speak of you to my father; and shall see what *he says*, and I will cause it to stand out boldly to you.

4 And Jonathan spoke good of David to Saul, his father, and said to him, Do not let the king sin against his servant, against David, because he has not sinned against you, and because his works *have been* exceedingly good for you;

1 SAMUEL 19

Saul tries to kill David but he escapes

5 He put his soul in the palm of his hand, and struck the Palestinian, and Jehovah did a great deliverance for all Israel; you saw it, and rejoiced; why will you sin against innocent blood to kill David for no reason?

6 And Saul attentively heard the voice of Jonathan, and Saul swore, Jehovah lives! He shall not be killed.

7 And Jonathan called David, and Jonathan caused all these words to stand out boldly to him. And Jonathan brought David to Saul, and he was before his face, as yesterday *and* day before yesterday.

8 And again there was war, and David went out, and devoured the Palestinians, and struck them a great blow; and they fled from his face.

9 And the evil spirit from Jehovah was on Saul, and he was sitting in his house, and his spear in his hand; and David was playing with his hand.

10 And Saul sought to strike David through with the spear, even to the wall, and he split away from the face of Saul, and he struck the spear into the wall; and David fled, and escaped that night.

11 Saul also sent messengers to the house of David to hedge him about, and to kill him at dawn; and Michal, his wife, caused it to stand out boldly to David, saying, If you do not cause your soul to escape tonight, tomorrow you will be killed.

12 And Michal descended David through a window, and he walked, and fled, and escaped.

13 And Michal took a family healing image, and put it in the bed, and put a plaiting of goats' *hair* for his headpiece, and covered it with a cover.

14 And when Saul sent messengers to take David, she said, He *is* worn out.

15 And Saul sent the messengers to see David, saying, Cause him to ascend in the bed to me, to kill him.

16 And the messengers came in, and behold, the family healing image *was* in the bed, and a plaiting of goats' *hair* his headpiece.

17 And Saul said to Michal, Why have you so hurt me, and have sent away the one hating me, and he is escaped? And Michal answered Saul, He said to me, Send me away; why should I kill you?

18 And David fled, and escaped, and came to Samuel at Ramah, and caused to stand out boldly to him all that Saul had done to him. And he and Samuel walked and sat down in Naioth.

19 And it was caused to stand out boldly to Saul, saying, Behold, David *is* at Naioth in Ramah.

20 And Saul sent messengers to take David, and they saw the assembly of the prophets prophesying, and Samuel standing stationed over them, and the Spirit of God was upon the messengers of Saul, and they also prophesied.

21 And they caused it to stand out boldly to Saul, and he sent other messengers, and they prophesied also. And again Saul sent messengers the third time, and they prophesied also.

22 And he walked, even he, to Ramah, and came to a great cistern which *is* in Sechu; and he inquired, and said, What place *are* Samuel and David? And *one* said, Behold, in Naioth in Ramah.

23 And he walked there to Naioth in Ramah, and the Spirit of God was upon him, him also, and he walked, walking, and prophesied, until he came into Naioth in Ramah.

24 And he stripped off, even he, his clothes, and prophesied before the face of Samuel also, and fell down naked all that day and all that night. Therefore they say, Is Saul also among the prophets?

CHAPTER 20

1 And David fled from Naioth in Ramah, and came, and said before the face of Jonathan, What have I done? What is my iniquity? And what is my sin before the face of your father, that he searches for my soul?

2 And he said to him, Far be it *from you!* You shall not die; behold, my father will do no word, great or small word, and not reveal it to my ear; and why should my father hide from me this word? This is nothing.

3 And David swore again, and said, Knowing, your father knows by seeing that there is grace toward me in your eyes, and he says, Do not let Jonathan know this lest he be grieved; however, *as* Jehovah lives and as your soul lives *there is* but a step between me and death.

4 And Jonathan said to David, Whatever your soul says, I will also do it for you.

5 And David said to Jonathan, Behold, the new moon is tomorrow, and I sitting, should sit with the king to eat; but send me away, and I shall be hidden in the field until the third *day at* dusk.

6 If visiting, your father visits for me, then say, David requesting, requested of me to run to Bethlehem, his city, because the sacrifice of the days *is* there for all the family.

7 If he says like this, Good! Peace to your servant. And if burning, he burns, know by seeing that evil is *a finished plan* with him.

8 And you shall do mercy to your servant, because you have brought your servant into a covenant of Jehovah with you, and if there is in me iniquity, you kill me, because why should you bring this to your father?

9 And Jonathan said, Far be it from you! Because if knowing, I knew by seeing that evil were *a finished plan* with my father to come upon you, then would I not cause it to stand out boldly to you?

1 SAMUEL 20

Jonathan secretly meets David

10 And David said to Jonathan, Who shall cause it to stand out boldly to me? Or what if your father answers you hard?

11 And Jonathan said to David, Walk, and let us go out into the field. And they went out, the two of them, into the field.

12 And Jonathan said to David, Jehovah God of Israel! Because I will search out my father this time tomorrow, or the third day, and behold, *if it is* good toward David, and will I not send to you, and reveal it to your ear?

13 May Jehovah do so to Jonathan and more, but if it is good to my father for evil upon you, then I will uncover *it* to your ear, and send you away, and you shall walk in peace; and Jehovah be with you as he was with my father.

14 And not only while I am yet alive you shall do with me the mercy of Jehovah that I do not die;

15 But you shall not cut off your mercy from my house forever, not even when Jehovah has cut off those hating David, every man, from the face of the soil.

16 So Jonathan cut *a covenant* with the house of David: Let Jehovah search it out at the hand of those hating David.

17 And again Jonathan caused David to swear, because he loved him - because as the love of his own soul, he loved him.

18 And Jonathan said to him, Tomorrow *is* the new moon, and you shall be visited, because your seat will be visited.

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19 And the third *day* you shall descend exceedingly, and come to the place there where you hid yourself the day of the deed¹⁹, and shall sit down by the stone Ezel.

20 And I will cause three arrows to flow on the side, as though I sent out at *someone guarded* in prison.

21 And behold, I will send a young man: Walk, find the arrows. If saying, I say to the young man, Behold, the arrows *are* from you, and here, take them; then you come, because *there is* peace to you, and there exists not a word²¹. Jehovah lives!

22 And if I say to the young man like this, Behold, the arrows *are* to the distance beyond you; walk your way, because Jehovah has sent you away.

23 And the word which we have spoken, I and you, behold, Jehovah *is* between you and me forever.

24 And David was hidden in the field, and it was the new moon, and the king sat down to the food to eat.

25 And the king sat upon his seat, as stroke by stroke²⁵, on the seat by the wall, and Jonathan rose, and Abner sat by the side of Saul, and David's place was visited.

¹⁹ 20:19 **the day of the deed**, meaning the day when David hid before, and when Jonathan consulted with his father, 19:2; 20:41.

²¹ 20:21 **there exists not a word**, meaning not a word of this reported evil from Saul which David so strongly feared. Jonathan was not yet convinced that his father was actually trying to kill David.

²⁵ 20:25 **as stroke by stroke**, means the usual routine that takes place, each one taking his normal seat at the table, etc.

26 And Saul did not speak a speck that day, because he said, Something has happened to him; *he* is not clean; because he *is* not clean.

27 And it was on the next day, the second *day* of the new moon, and David's place was visited; and Saul said to Jonathan, his son, Why does the son of Jesse not come to the food, both yesterday and today?

28 And Jonathan answered Saul, Requesting, David requested of me *to go* to Bethlehem;

29 And he said, Send me away, please, because a family sacrifice is to us in the city, and my brother himself has commanded me; and now, if there is grace toward me in your eyes, let me escape, please, and see my brothers. Therefore he did not come to the table of the king.

30 Then Saul's nostrils burned against Jonathan, and he said to him, Son of crooked rebelliousness! Do I not know by seeing that you are choosing the son of Jesse to your shame, and to the shame of the nakedness of your mother?

31 Because all the days the son of Jesse lives upon the soil you shall not be set up, you and your kingdom. At this time send and take him to me because he *is* a son of death.

32 And Jonathan answered Saul, his father, and said to him, Why shall he be killed? What has he done?

33 And Saul threw a spear at him to strike him, and Jonathan knew by seeing that it was complete with his father to kill David.

34 And Jonathan rose from the table with his nostrils burning, and did not eat food on the second day of the new moon, because he was grieved for David, because his father had reproached him.

35 And it was in the dawn, that Jonathan went out into the field at the appointed meeting with David, and a little young man with him.

36 And he said to his young man, Run, find, please, the arrows which I cause to flow. And as the young man ran, he caused an arrow to flow crossing over him.

37 And the young man came to the place of the arrow which Jonathan had caused to flow, and Jonathan called after the young man, and said, Is not the arrow to the distance beyond you?

38 And Jonathan called after the young man, Quickly, hurry, do not stand still. And Jonathan's young man picked up the arrows, and came to his master.

39 And the young man did not know by seeing a speck; only Jonathan and David knew the word.

40 And Jonathan gave his weapons to his young man, and said to him, Walk! Go to the city.

1 SAMUEL 21

David goes to the priest at Nob who gives him Goliath's sword

41 And the young man was gone, and David rose out from Ezel toward the Negev, and fell on his nostrils to the earth, and prostrated himself three times, and they kissed each man his friend, and each man wept with his friend, while David *wept* greatly.

42 And Jonathan said to David, Walk in peace since we have sworn, the two of us, in the name of Jehovah, saying, Jehovah shall be between me and you, and between my seed and your seed forever. And he rose, and walked, and Jonathan went into the city.

CHAPTER 21

1 And David went to Nob to Ahimelech, the priest, and Ahimelech trembled at meeting David; and said to him, *Why are* you separate, and no man with you?

2 And David said to Ahimelech, the priest, The king commanded me a word, and he said to me, Do not let a man know by seeing a speck of the word about which I send you, and which I command you; and I caused my young men to know *to go to* such and such a place.

3 And at this time what is under your hand? Give me five *loaves* of bread in my hand, or whatever comes forth.

4 And the priest answered David, and said, There is no unconsecrated bread under my hand, because there is only holy bread; if only the young men have

hedged themselves about from women.

5 And David answered the priest, and said to him, No, women have been hedged about from us yesterday and the day before yesterday, since I came out, and the vessels of the young men are holy; although the way is unconsecrated, surely today it is sanctified in the vessels.

6 And the priest gave to him the holy *bread*, because there was no bread there except the bread of his face, which was turned from before the face of Jehovah, to put hot bread in the day it was taken away.

7 And a certain man of the servants of Saul *was* there on that day, enclosed before the face of Jehovah; and his name was Doeg, an Edomite, the mightiest of the shepherds which *were* to Saul.

8 And David said to Ahimelech, And is there not here under your hand spear or sword? Because both my sword and my weapons I have not taken in my hand, because the word of the king was urgent.

9 And the priest said, The sword of Goliath, the Palestinian, whom you struck in the valley of Elah, behold, it is wrapped in a cloth behind the ephod; if you will take it for yourself, take *it*, because there is no other except that. And David said, There is nothing like it; give it to me.

10 And David rose, and fled that day from the face of Saul, and went to Achish, the king of Gath.

11 And the servants of Achish said to him, Is not this David, the king of the land? Is it not this one of whom they answered one to another in dances, saying, Saul has struck his thousands, and David his ten thousands?

12 And David put these words in his heart, and greatly feared the face of Achish, the king of Gath.

13 And he folded his taste in their eyes, and shined as foolish in their hands, and scratched on the doors of the gate, and let his saliva descend upon his beard.

14 And Achish said to his servants, Lo, you see the man raves insanely; why have you brought him to me?

15 *Am* I without raving insane men that you have brought this *one* to rave insanely against me? Shall this *one* come into my house?

CHAPTER 22

1 And David walked from there, and escaped to the cave Adullam; and his brothers, and all his father's house attentively heard, and they descended to him there.

2 And every man in distress, and every one who was obligated in debt, and every man bitter in soul, gathered themselves to him; and he became captain over them; and there were with him about four hundred men.

3 And David walked there to Mizpeh of Moab, and he said to the king of Moab, Let my father and my mother, please, come out with you, until I know by seeing what God will do for me.

4 And he led them before the face of the king of Moab, and they sat down with him all the days that David was in the stronghold.

5 And the prophet Gad said to David, Do not stay set down in the stronghold; walk, and come yourself into the land of Judah. And David walked, and came into the forest of Hareth.

6 And Saul attentively heard that David was known by being seen, and the men who *were* with him, and Saul was sitting in Gibeah under a tree in Ramah, his spear in his hand, and all his servants stationed about him;

7 And Saul said to his servants stationed about him, Attentively hear now, Benjamites; will the son of Jesse give fields and vineyards to all of you, and put all of you captains of thousands, and captains of hundreds?

8 Because all of you have bound yourselves together against me, and none was uncovering my ear that my son has cut *a covenant* with the son of Jesse, and none of you has rubbed me, or uncovered to me that my son has raised up my servant against me to lie in wait this day?

9 And Doeg, the Edomite, answered, and he was stationed over the servants of Saul, and said, I saw the son of Jesse coming to Nob, to Ahimelech, the son of Ahitub.

10 And he inquired of Jehovah for him, and gave him food, and gave him the sword of Goliath, the Palestinian.

1 SAMUEL 22 *Saul kills Ahimelech the priest who helped David; his son Abiathar escapes*

11 And the king sent to call Ahimelech, the son of Ahitub, the priest, and all his father's house, the priests who *were* in Nob, and they came, all of them to the king.

12 And Saul said, Attentively hear now, son of Ahitub. And he said, Lo, my lord.

13 And Saul said to him, Why have you bound yourselves together against me, you and the son of Jesse, by your giving to him bread, and a sword, and have inquired of God for him, to rise against me to lie in wait this day?

14 Then Ahimelech answered the king, and said, And who among all your servants is so faithful as David, and son in law to the king, and turns at your audience, and is heavy in honor in your house?

15 Today I began to inquire of God for him? Be it far from me! Do not let the king put a word against his servant, nor against all the house of my father, because your servant knew not a word of all this, little or great.

16 And the king said, Dying, you shall die, Ahimelech, you, and all the house of your father.

17 And the king said to the runners stationed about him, Turn around, and kill the priests of Jehovah, because their hand also *is* with David, and because they knew by seeing that he was fleeing, and did not uncover it to my ear. But the servants of the king did not breathe in agreement to send out their hand to impinge upon the priests of Jehovah.

18 And the king said to Doeg, You turn around, and impinge upon the priests. And Doeg, the Edomite, turned around, and he impinged upon the priests, and killed on that day eighty-five men bearing a linen ephod.

19 And he struck Nob, the city of the priests, with the mouth of the sword, from men even to women, children even to sucklings, and cattle, and donkeys, and flock animals, with the mouth of the sword.

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

21 And Abiathar caused to stand out boldly to David that Saul had fatally struck the priests of Jehovah.

22 And David said to Abiathar, I knew by seeing that day, because Doeg, the Edomite, *was* there, that he, causing it to stand out, would cause it to stand out boldly to Saul; I have caused to turn around upon myself all the souls of the house of your father.

23 You sit down with me; do not fear, because he who seeks my soul seeks your soul, but with me you shall be safely guarded.

CHAPTER 23

1 And they caused it to stand out boldly to David, saying, Lo, the Palestinians devour Keilah, and they plunder the threshingfloors.

2 And David inquired of Jehovah, saying, Shall I walk, and strike these Palestinians? And Jehovah said to David, Walk, and strike the Palestinians, and save Keilah.

3 And the men of David said to him, Lo, we are afraid here in Judah; how much more if we walk to Keilah to the armies of the Palestinians?

4 And again David inquired more of Jehovah. And Jehovah answered him, and said, Rise, descend to Keilah, because I will give the Palestinians into your hand.

5 And David and his men went to Keilah, and devoured the Palestinians, and drove away their cattle, and struck them a great blow. And David saved the inhabitants of Keilah.

6 And it was, when Abiathar the son of Ahimelech fled to David to Keilah, an ephod descended *with him* in his hand.

7 And it was caused to stand out boldly to Saul that David had come to Keilah. And Saul said, God has caused him to be recognized *to give him* into my hand, because he is shut in by going into a city with gates and bar.

8 And Saul caused all the people to attentively hear *to come to war* to descend to Keilah to press a siege against David and his men.

9 And David knew by seeing that Saul was fabricating evil against him, and he said to Abiathar, the priest, Bring near the ephod.

10 And David said, Oh Jehovah God of Israel, hearing attentively, your servant has attentively heard that Saul seeks to come to Keilah, to destroy the city on account of me.

11 Will the men of Keilah shut me up into his hand? Will Saul descend, what your servant has attentively heard? Oh Jehovah God of Israel, please, cause it to stand out boldly to your servant. And Jehovah said, He will descend.

12 And David said, Will the men of Keilah shut me up and my men into the hand of Saul? And Jehovah said, They will shut you up.

13 And David and his men rose, about six hundred men, and went out of Keilah, and walked wherever they could walk. And it was caused to stand out boldly to Saul that David escaped from Keilah; and he ceased to go out.

14 And David sat down in the desert in the strongholds, and sat down in a mountain in the desert of Ziph. And Saul searched for him all the days, but God did not give him into his hand.

15 And David saw that Saul had come out to seek his soul, and David *was* in the desert of Ziph in a forest.

1 SAMUEL 24

Saul pursues David; turns back to fight the Palestinians

16 And Jonathan the son of Saul rose, and walked to David in the forest, and he strengthened his hand in God.

17 And he said to him, Do not fear, because the hand of Saul, my father, shall not find you; and you shall reign over Israel, and I shall be second to you; and also Saul, my father, knows by seeing it is so.

18 And they cut, the two of them, a covenant before the face of Jehovah, and David sat down in the forest, and Jonathan walked to his house.

19 And the Ziphites ascended to Saul at Gibeah, saying, Is not David hiding himself with us in strongholds in the forest, in the hill of Hachilah, which *is* toward the Negev from Jeshimon?

20 At this time, according to all the longing of your soul, Oh king, descending, descend, and *it is* for us to shut him up into the hand of the king.

21 And Saul said, You *are* blessed of Jehovah, because you have spared me in pity.

22 Walk, please, set up more, and know, and see his place where is his foot, who has seen him there, because it is said to me that he is a cunning smooth tree.

23 And see and know all the hiding places there where he hides himself, and you turn back to me with the set up, and I will walk with you; and it shall be, if he exists in the land, that I will seek him throughout all the thousands of Judah.

24 And they rose and walked to Ziph before the face of Saul, and David and his men *were* in the desert of Maon, in the desert on the south of Jeshimon.

25 And Saul and his men walked to search. And they caused it to stand out boldly to David, and he descended to the lofty rock, and sat down in the desert of Maon. And Saul attentively heard, and he ran after David in the desert of Maon.

26 And Saul walked on this side of the mountain, and David, and his men on that side of the mountain; and David hurried in fear to walk from the face of Saul; and Saul and his men encircled David and his men to seize them.

27 And a messenger came to Saul, saying, Flow like liquid, and walk, because the Palestinians have spread out in the land.

28 And Saul turned back from running after David, and walked against the Palestinians; therefore they called that place Sela Hammah Lekoth.²⁸

29 And David ascended from there, and sat down in strongholds at En Gedi.²⁹

CHAPTER 24

1 And it was, when Saul turned back from after the Palestinians, that they caused it to stand out boldly to him, saying, Lo, David *is* in the desert of En Gedi.

²⁸ 23:28 Rock of the Divisions

²⁹ 23:29 Eye of a Kid Goat

2 And Saul took three thousand chosen men out of all Israel, and walked to search out David and his men upon the face of the strong rocks of the ibex.

3 And he came to the enclosures of flock animals on the way, and there *was* a cave, and Saul went in to entwine his feet; and David and his men were sitting in the recesses of the cave.

4 And the men of David said to him, Lo, the day of which Jehovah said to you, Lo, I will give the one hating you into your hand, and you shall do to him what is good in your eyes. And David rose, and covertly cut off the edge of the robe which *was* on Saul.

5 And it was just after, that the heart of David struck him, because he had cut off the edge of that which *was* Saul's.

6 And he said to his men, Far be it from me, by Jehovah, if I do this word to my lord, to the anointed of Jehovah, to send out my hand against him, because he *is* the anointed of Jehovah.

7 And David tore his servants *from their purpose* with the words, and did not give in to them to rise against Saul. And Saul rose out of the cave, and walked on his way.

8 And David rose just after, and walked out of the cave, and called after Saul, saying, My lord, the king. And Saul looked intently behind him, and David bowed with his nostrils to the earth, and prostrated himself.

9 And David said to Saul, Why do you attentively hear the words of men, saying, Lo, David is searching out to do you evil?

10 Lo, this day- today - your eyes have seen how Jehovah had given you into my hand in the cave; and *one* said to strike you fatally, but I had covered for you; and I said, I will not send out my hand against my lord, because he *is* the anointed of Jehovah.

11 And my father, see, yes, see the edge of your robe in my hand, because in that I cut off the edge of your robe, and did not strike you fatally, you know and see that there does not exist in my hand evil or transgression, and I have not sinned against you; yet you lie in wait for my soul to take it.

12 Jehovah judge between me and you, and Jehovah avenge me of you; and my hand shall not be on you.

13 As says the proverb of the ancients from the east, Wrong goes out from the condemned, and my hand shall not be on you.

14 After whom has the king of Israel come out? After whom are you running? After a dead dog? After one flea?

15 And Jehovah is judge, and has judged between me and you, and he sees, and defends my cause, and judges me out of your hand.

16 And it was, when David had ended speaking these words to Saul, that Saul said, Is this your voice, my son David? And Saul lifted up his voice, and wept.

1 SAMUEL 25 *Saul talks to David and weeps; David sends men to Nabal*

17 And he said to David, You *are* more righteous than I, because you have done good to me, and I have done evil to you.

18 And you have caused to stand out boldly this day how that you have done good by me; when Jehovah had shut me into your hand, you did not strike me fatally.

19 Because a man finds the one hating him, will he send him on his way with good? And Jehovah complete good to you after this day - what you have done to me.

20 And now, lo, I know by seeing that reigning, you will reign, and the kingdom of Israel will rise in your hand.

21 And now swear to me by Jehovah, that you shall not cut off my seed after me, and that you shall not desolate my name out of the house of my father.

22 And David swore to Saul. And Saul walked to his house, and David and his men ascended to the stronghold.

CHAPTER 25

1 And Samuel died, and all Israel gathered together, and mourned for him, and buried him in his house at Ramah. And David rose, and descended to the desert of Paran.

2 And *there was* a man in Maon, and his work in Carmel; and the man was very great, and he had three thousand sheep, and a thousand she goats; and he was shearing his flock in Carmel.

3 And the name of the man *was* Nabal, and the name of his wife, Abigail; and the woman *was* good in intelligent success, and of a beautiful form; and the man *was* hard and evil in his acts; and he *was* a Calebite.

4 And David attentively heard in the desert that Nabal sheared his flock.

5 And David sent out ten young men, and David said to the young men, Ascend to Carmel, and go to Nabal, and inquire of his peace in my name;

6 And say to him like this: Life to you in peace, and to your house, and to all that is yours, peace!

7 And now, I have attentively heard that there are shearers to you; now, shepherds which *were* yours have been with us; we did not reproach them, and all the days they were in Carmel not a speck was visited⁷ upon them.

8 Ask your young men, and they will cause it to stand out boldly to you. And let there be grace toward the young men in your eyes, because we have come in a good day; give, please, whatever comes forth to your hand to your servants, and to your son David.

⁷ 25:7 **visited upon them**, *paqad*, *visited* is the same word used throughout the Bible for official visits of masters to their subjects to conscript them, to punish them, to bless them, to fulfill a word that was promised - whether by human master, or by Jehovah God. David is saying that he and his men guarded Nabal's shepherds and flocks in the mountains, and never once visited those shepherds or flocks to require pay for the protection they rendered all those days. These words set up the story that shows that Nabal was hard and evil, and his wife, Abigail, was good in intelligent success 25:3.

9 And the young men of David came, and spoke to Nabal according to all these words in the name of David, and rested.

10 And Nabal answered the servants of David, and said, Who *is* David? And who is the son of Jesse? Today servants have multiplied who have broken away, a man from his master.

11 And I take my bread, and my water, and my meat that I have slaughtered for my shearers, and give it to men whose whereabouts I have not known by seeing?

12 And the young men of David turned on their way, and turned back, and came, and caused to stand out boldly to him all these words.

13 And David said to his men, Every man gird on his sword. And every man girded on his sword, and David also girded on his sword; and there ascended after David about four hundred men; and two hundred sat down by the supplies.

14 And one young man of the youth caused it to stand out boldly to Abigail, the wife of Nabal, saying, David sent messengers out of the desert to bless our master; and he swooped down angrily upon them.

15 And the men *were* exceedingly good to us, and we were not reproached, and not a speck was visited *upon us*,¹⁵ all the days we walked with them, while we were in the fields:

¹⁵ 25:15 not a speck was visited upon us, see Note 25:7

16 They have been a wall to us both by night and day, all the days of our being with them shepherding the flock.

17 And now know by seeing, and see what you will do, because evil is finished against our master, and against all his house; and he *is* such a son of worthlessness to speak to.

18 And Abigail flowed like liquid, and took two hundred loaves, and two skin bottles of wine, and five sheep done, and five measures of roasted grain, and a hundred clusters of raisins, and two hundred cakes of figs, and put them on donkeys.

19 And she said to her young men, Cross on before my face; behold, I am coming after you. And she did not cause it to stand out boldly to her husband, Nabal.

20 And it was, she was riding on the donkey, and descending by the cover of the mountain, and behold, David and his men were descending to meet her; and she came in contact with them.

21 And David had said, Surely I have hedged about all that is to this *man* in the desert, so that not a speck was visited of all that *was* to him for nothing, and he has turned back to me evil for good.

22 May God do to those hating David like this, and more also, if I leave of all that *is* his by the dawn any that urinates against the wall²².

²² 25:22 any that urinates against the wall. This is the literal rendering of what David said. He means that he is going to kill all of Nabal's house that uses the toilet, simply meaning everyone.

1 SAMUEL 25

Abigail's brings supplies to David and apologies for Nabal's foolishness

23 And Abigail saw David, and she flowed as liquid, and descended from the donkey, and fell on her nostrils to David on her face, and prostrated herself to the earth,

24 And fell at his feet, and said, Let the iniquity be upon me, me, my lord! And please let your maidservant speak in your ears, and attentively hear the words of your maidservant!

25 Please, my lord, do not put *your* heart toward this man of worthlessness, Nabal, because as his name, so *is* he; Nabal *is* his name, and foolishness *is* with him; and I, your maidservant, did not see the young men of my lord whom you sent.

26 And now, my lord - Jehovah lives, and your soul lives - in that Jehovah has restrained you from coming in with blood, and has saved your hand for yourself - and now, let be as Nabal those hating you, and those seeking evil to my lord.

27 And now this blessing which your maidservant has brought to my lord - and let it be given to the young men who walk at the foot of my lord.

28 Lift, please, the transgression of your maidservant, because Jehovah making, will make for my lord a faithful house; because in the battles of Jehovah my lord devours, and evil has not been found in you *all your* days.

29 And man rises to pursue you, and to seek your soul; and the soul of my lord is bound in

the bundle of life with Jehovah your God; and the souls of your enemies? He slings them out from the midst of the palm of the sling.

30 And it shall be, when Jehovah has done to my lord according to all the good that he has spoken concerning you, and has commanded you *to be* commander over Israel,

31 And this shall not be a stumbling block to you, or an hindrance of heart to my lord, either to shed blood for no reason, or to save my lord himself; and Jehovah *will* do good to my lord, and *you will* remember me, your maidservant.

32 And David said to Abigail, Bless Jehovah God of Israel who sent you this day to meet me!

33 And blessed *is* your taste, and bless you, who has shut me off this day from coming to blood, and saving my hand for myself.

34 On the contrary, Jehovah God of Israel lives who has kept me back from doing evil to you. Unless you had flowed like liquid, and had come to meet me, truly there would not have been left to Nabal by the light of the dawn any urinating against the wall.

35 And David took from her hand what she had brought him, and said to her, Ascend in peace to your house; see, I have attentively heard your voice, and have lifted your face.

Abigail comes to David; Jehovah struck Nabal; Saul pursues David **1 SAMUEL 26**

36 And Abigail came to Nabal, and lo, he drank in his house the drinking of a king; and Nabal's heart was *feeling* good within him, and he was very drunk; and she did not cause a word, less or more, to stand out boldly to him until the light of the dawn.

37 And it was in the dawn, the wine had gone out of Nabal, and his wife caused these words to stand out boldly to him; and his heart died within him, and he became *as* a stone.

38 And it was in about ten days, and Jehovah struck Nabal, and he died.

39 And David attentively heard that Nabal had died, and he said, Bless Jehovah, who has defended the controversy of my reproach from the hand of Nabal, and has kept back his servant from evil; and Jehovah has turned back the evil of Nabal upon his head. And David sent, and spoke with Abigail, to take her to himself for a wife.

40 And the servants of David came to Abigail to Carmel, and spoke to her, saying, David sent us to you, to take you to him for a wife.

41 And she rose, and prostrated herself with her nostrils to the earth, and said, Behold, your maidservant reaches out as a family servant to wash the feet of the servants of my lord.

42 And Abigail flowed as liquid, and rose, and rode upon a donkey, with five of her young women who walked on foot after

her; and she walked after the messengers of David, and became a wife to him.

43 And David took Ahinoam of Jezreel, and they were both, the two of them, his wives.

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

CHAPTER 26

1 And the Ziphites came to Saul to Gibeah, saying, Is not David hiding himself in the hill of Hachilah, before the face of Jeshimon?

2 And Saul rose, and descended to the desert of Ziph, and with him three thousand chosen men of Israel, to search out David in the desert of Ziph.

3 And Saul pitched in the hill of Hachilah, which *is* before the face of Jeshimon, by the way. And David sat down in the desert, and he saw that Saul came after him into the desert.

4 And David sent out *men* to walk as spies, and to know by seeing that Saul had come to set up.

5 And David rose, and came to the place where Saul had pitched; and David saw the place where Saul lay down, and Abner the son of Ner, the commander of his host; and Saul lay down in the trench, and the people pitched around him.

6 And David answered, and said to Ahimelech, the Hittite, and to Abishai, the son

1 SAMUEL 26

David takes Saul's spear and water bowl and chides Abner; David appeals to Saul

of Zeruiah, brother to Joab, saying, Who will descend with me to Saul to the camp? And Abishai said, I will descend with you.

7 And David and Abishai came to the people by night, and lo, Saul lay down sleeping in the trench, and his spear pierced into the earth at his headrest; and Abner and the people lay down around him.

8 And Abishai said to David, God has shut up the one hating you into your hand this day; and now, please let me strike him with the spear to the earth one stroke, and I will not strike him again.

9 And David said to Abishai, Do not destroy him, because who can send out his hand against the anointed of Jehovah, and be clean?

10 And David said, Jehovah lives! Because when Jehovah strikes him, or his day shall come and he dies, or he shall descend into battle and be scraped away -

11 Far be it from me, by Jehovah, that I should send out my hand against the anointed of Jehovah! And now take, please, the spear that is at his headrest, and the platter of water, and we walk away.

12 And David took the spear and the platter of water from the headrest of Saul, and they walked away, and none saw, and none knew by seeing, and none awoke, because they were all asleep - because a deep sleep from Jehovah had fallen over them.

13 And David crossed over to the opposite side, and stood on the head of a hill far off, a great space between them;

14 And David called to the people and to Abner the son of Ner, saying, Do you not answer, Abner? And Abner answered, and said, Who *are* you, calling to the king?

15 And David said to Abner, *Are* you not a man? And who *is* like you in Israel? And why have you not hedged about your lord, the king? - Because there came in one of the people to destroy the king, your lord.

16 This *is* not a good word which you have done. Jehovah lives! Because you are a son of death, in that you have not hedged about your lord, the anointed of Jehovah. And now, see where the king's spear is and the platter of water that *was* at his headrest.

17 And Saul recognized as strange David's voice, and said, *Is* this your voice, my son, David? And David said, My voice, my lord, Oh king!

18 And he said, Why this? My lord runs after his servant! Because, what have I done? Or what in my hand *is* evil?

19 And at this time attentively hear, please, my lord, the king, the words of his servant. If Jehovah has prodded you against me, let him smell an offering; and if the children of men *have incited you*, cursed *are* they before the face of Jehovah, because they have driven me out this day,

scraping me out from the inheritance of Jehovah, saying, Walk, serve other gods.

20 And now, do not let my blood fall to the earth in front of the face of Jehovah, because the king of Israel has come out to search for one flea, as when one runs after a partridge in the mountains.

21 And Saul said, I have sinned; turn back, my son, David, because I will not do evil to you any more, because my soul was heavy in value in your eyes this day; behold, I have been foolish, and have strayed in abundance exceedingly.

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

23 Jehovah turn back to every man his righteousness and his firm faithfulness, since that Jehovah gave you into my hand today, and I did not breathe in agreement to send out my hand against the anointed of Jehovah.

24 And behold, that your soul this day was great *in importance* in my eyes, so let my soul be great *in importance* in the eyes of Jehovah, and let him snatch me out of all distress.

25 And Saul said to David, Bless you, my son, David. Both doing, you shall do, and also being able, you shall be able. And David walked on his way, and Saul turned back to his place.

CHAPTER 27

1 And David said to his heart, Now I shall be scraped off one day by the hand of Saul. Nothing is better for me than that I should escape into the land of the Palestinians; and Saul shall despair of me, to search for me any more in any border of Israel, and I shall escape out of his hand.

2 And David rose, and he crossed over, he with the six hundred men who *were* with him, to Achish, the son of Maach, king of Gath.

3 And David sat down with Achish at Gath, he and his men, every man with his house; David with his two wives, Ahinoam, the Jezreelitess, and Abigail, the wife of Nabal, the Carmelitess.

4 And it was caused to stand out boldly to Saul that David had fled to Gath, and he did not again any more search for him.

5 And David said to Achish, Please, if there is grace toward me in your eyes, let them give me a place in one town in the country, that I may sit down there, for why should your servant sit down in the royal city with you?

6 And the same day Achish gave him Ziklag; just so Ziklag exists to the kings of Judah until this day.

7 And the number of days that David sat down in the country of the Palestinians was *a year of days* and four new moons.

1 SAMUEL 28 *David's deception of Achish; Saul seeks to contact Samuel among the dead*

8 And David and his men ascended and spread out in hostile array towards the Geshurites, and the Gezrites, and the Amalekites, because those were the inhabitants of the land always as you go to Shur, and as far as the land of Egypt.

9 And David struck the land, and did not leave alive man nor woman, and took the flock animals, and the cattle, and the donkeys, and the camels, and the clothing, and turned back, and came to Achish.

10 And Achish said, Where have you spread out in hostile array today? And David said, Against the Negev of Judah, and against the Negev of the Jerahmeelites, and against the Negev of the Kenites.

11 And David did not save alive man and woman, to bring to Gath, saying, Lest they should cause to stand out boldly against us, saying, David did like this; and his judgment *was* like this all the days while he dwelt in the country of the Palestinians.

12 And Achish believed David, saying, Making himself stink, he has made himself stink to his people, Israel, and he shall be my servant always.

CHAPTER 28

1 And it was in those days, that the Palestinians gathered their camps together for a host to devour Israel. And Achish said to David, Knowing, know by seeing, that you shall go out with me in the camp, you and your men.

2 And David said to Achish, Surely you shall know by seeing what your servant does. And Achish said to David, So I will put you to hedge about my head all days.

3 And Samuel died, and all Israel mourned for him, and buried him in Ramah, in his own city. And Saul had caused those who channel³ and the occult false prophets to depart out of the land.

4 And the Palestinians gathered themselves together, and came, and pitched in Shunem; and Saul gathered all Israel together, and they pitched in Gilboa.

5 And Saul saw the camp of the Palestinians, and he was afraid, and his heart trembled exceedingly.

6 And Saul inquired of Jehovah, and Jehovah did not answer him - neither by dreams, nor by Urim, nor by prophets.

7 And Saul said to his servants, Search out for me a woman lord who channels, that I may walk to her, and tread to inquire of her. And his servants said to him, Behold, a woman lord who channels *is* at Endor.

8 And Saul searched covertly, and put on other clothing, and walked, he and two men with him, and they came to the woman at night; and he said, Please seek the future by magic for me by channeling, and cause to ascend to me whom I say to you.

³ 28:3 those who channel, *obe*. See Lev 19:26-31; Deu 18:9-16.

9 And the woman said to him, Behold, you know by seeing what Saul has done in that he has cut off those who channel and occult false prophets out of the land; and why are you laying a snare for my soul to get me killed?

10 And Saul swore to her by Jehovah, saying, Jehovah lives! No evil shall happen *to you* for this word.

11 Then the woman said, Whom shall I cause to ascend to you? And he said, Cause Samuel to ascend to me.

12 And the woman saw Samuel, and she screamed with a great voice; and the woman said to Saul, saying, Why have you deceived me - and you *are* Saul!

13 And the king said to her, Do not be afraid, because what have you seen? And the woman said to Saul, I have seen gods ascending out of the earth.

14 And he said to her, In what form? And she said, An old man is ascending, and he is wrapped in a robe. And Saul knew by seeing that it was Samuel, and he bowed with his nostrils to the ground, and prostrated himself.

15 And Samuel said to Saul, Why have you agitated me, to cause me to ascend? And Saul said, I am pressed exceedingly, because the Palestinians devour me, and God has turned away from me, and does not answer me any more, neither by the hand of prophets, nor by dreams; and I have called you, for you to make me know by seeing what I shall do.

16 And Samuel said, And why do you ask of me, and Jehovah has turned away from you, and is the one hating you?

17 And Jehovah has done to him what he spoke by my hand, and Jehovah has torn the kingdom out of your hand, and given it to your neighbor, to David,

18 Because you have not attentively heard the voice of Jehovah, and you have not done the burning of his nostrils upon Amalek - therefore Jehovah has done this word to you this day.

19 And Jehovah will give Israel with you into the hand of the Palestinians, and tomorrow you and your sons *shall be* with me; and Jehovah shall give the camp of Israel into the hand of the Palestinians.

20 And Saul became liquid, and fell his full height to the earth, and was exceedingly afraid of the words of Samuel; and no strength was in him, because he had not eaten food all day and all night.

21 And the woman came to Saul, and saw that he trembled exceedingly, and said to him, Behold, your maidservant has attentively heard your voice, and I have put my soul in my palm, and have attentively heard your words which you spoke to me.

22 And now, please, attentively hear the voice of your maidservant, and let me put a morsel of food before your face, and eat that there may be power in you to cause you to walk on your way.

1 SAMUEL 29 *The Palestinians refuse to allow David to go to battle with them*

23 And he refused, and said, I will not eat. And his servants, together with the woman, broke him down; and he attentively heard their voice. And he rose from the earth, and sat down on the bed.

24 And to the woman *was* a stall *fed* steer in the house, and she flowed as liquid, and slaughtered it, and took flour, and kneaded, and baked unleavened bread;

25 And she brought it before the face of Saul and before the face of his servants, and they ate. And they rose up, and walked that night.

CHAPTER 29

1 And the Palestinians gathered together all their camps to Aphek, and Israel pitched by a fountain which *is* in Jezreel.

2 And the leaders of the Palestinians crossed over by hundreds and by thousands, and David and his men crossed over last with Achish.

3 And the commanders of the Palestinians said, Why *are* these Hebrews *here*? And Achish said to the commanders of the Palestinians, *Is* not this David, the servant of Saul, the king of Israel, who has been with me these days, or these years, and I have found not a speck in him *since* the day he fell to me until this day?

4 And the commanders of the Palestinians burst out in rage against him, and the commanders of the Palestinians said to him,

Turning back, turn this man back, to his place there where you have visited him, and he shall not descend with us to battle, and not be to us an adversary in the battle; and how shall this one satisfy his debt to his master, if not with the heads of these men?

5 *Is* not this David of whom they answered one to another in dances, saying, Saul struck his thousands, and David his ten thousands?

6 And Achish called David, and said to him, Jehovah lives! Because you have been upright, and your going out and your coming in with me in the camp *is* good in my eyes, because I have not found in you evil since the day of your coming to me until this day; but in the eyes of the leaders you are not good.

7 And now turn back, and walk in peace, and do not do evil in the eyes of the leaders of the Palestinians.

8 And David said to Achish, Because what have I done, and what is there in your servant the days that I have been before your face until this day, so that I may not go to devour those hating my lord, the king?

9 And Achish answered, and said to David, I know by seeing that you *are* good in my eyes - a messenger of God - only the commanders of the Palestinians have said, He shall not ascend with us to the battle.

10 And now load up early in the dawn with the servants of your lord who have come with you, and *when* you load up early in the dawn, and *there is* light to you, walk.

11 And David loaded up early, he and his men, to walk in the dawn, to turn back into the land of the Palestinians. And the Palestinians ascended to Jezreel.

CHAPTER 30

1 And it was, David and his men came to Ziklag on the third day, and the Amalekites had spread out in hostile array toward the Negev and Ziklag, and struck Ziklag, and burned it with fire;

2 And had transported into captivity the women who *were* there; they did not kill any man small or great, and drove them away, and walked on their way.

3 And 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 transported into captivity.

4 And David and the people who *were* with him lifted up their voice and wept until there was no power to them to weep.

5 And the two wives of David were transported into captivity, Ahinoam, the Jezreelitess, and Abigail, the wife of Nabal, the Carmelite.

6 And David was exceedingly distressed, because the people spoke of stoning him, because the soul of all the people was bitter, every man over his sons and

over his daughters; and David seized strength for himself in Jehovah his God.

7 And David said to Abiathar, the priest, the son of Ahimelech, Please bring the ephod near to me. And Abiathar brought the ephod near to David.

8 And David inquired of Jehovah, saying, Shall I pursue after this army? Shall I reach them? And he answered him, Pursue, because reaching, you will reach them, and snatching away, you will snatch *them* away.

9 And David walked, he, and the six hundred men who *were* with him, and came to the stream Besor, where those were left standing behind.

10 And David pursued, he and four hundred men, and two hundred stood, who were so exhausted that they could not cross over the stream Besor.

11 And they found an Egyptian man in the field, and brought him to David, and gave him food, and he ate; and they caused him to drink water;

12 And they gave him a slice of a cake of figs and two cakes of pressed raisins; and he ate, and his spirit turned back to him, because he had eaten no food, and had not drunk water three days and three nights.

13 And David said to him, Whose *are* you, and from where *are* you? And he said, I *am* a young man of Egypt, servant to an Amalekite, and my lord left me, because I was worn *out* three days *ago*.

1 SAMUEL 30

David retakes their wives/ possessions, decrees that all share equally in what is taken

14 We spread out in hostile array against the Negev of the Cherethites, and against what *is* to Judah, and against the Negev of Caleb; and we burned Ziklag with fire.

15 And David said to him, Can you bring me down to this army? And he said, Swear to me by God that you will not kill me, and you will not shut me into the hand of my lord, and I will bring you down to this army.

16 And he descended him, and behold, they were thrust out upon the face of all the earth, eating, and drinking, and circling in procession, with all the great plunder that they had taken out of the land of the Palestinians, and out of the land of Judah.

17 And David struck them from the twilight breeze of dusk until the dusk of the next day, and there escaped not a man of them, except four hundred young men, who rode on camels and fled.

18 And David snatched away all that the Amalekites had taken, and David snatched out his two wives.

19 And nothing was lacking to them from the small to the great, neither sons, nor daughters, neither plunder, nor the whole that they had taken to them; David returned all.

20 And David took all of the flock and the herd *of the Amalekites*; they drove *them* before the face of these *their own* cattle, and said, This is David's plunder.

21 And David came to the two hundred men who were too exhausted to walk after David, and whom he caused to sit down at the stream Besor, and they went out to meet David and to meet the people who *were* with him; and David came near to the people, and he inquired of their peace.

22 And all the evil men of worthlessness, of the men who walked with David, answered, and said, Since they did not walk with us, we will not give them of the plunder which we have snatched away, except to every man his wife and his children to lead them away and walk.

23 And David said, You are not doing right, my brothers, with what Jehovah has given us, who has hedged us about, and given the army who came against us into our hand.

24 And who will hear you attentively in this word? Because as his allotment who descends to the battle, so *is* his allotment who sits by the supplies; their allotment *is* alike.

25 And it was, from that day forward, he put it an enactment and a judgment for Israel until this day.

26 And David came to Ziklag, and he sent of the plunder to the elders of Judah, to his friends, saying, Behold a blessing for you of the plunder of those hating Jehovah:

27 To them who *were* in Bethel, and to them who *were* in Ramoth Negev, and to them who *were* in Jattir,

28 And to them who *were* in Aroer, and to them who *were* in Siphmoth, and to them who *were* in Eshtemoa,

29 And to them who *were* in Rachal, and to them who *were* in the cities of the Jerahmeelites, and to them who *were* in the cities of the Kenites,

30 And to them who *were* in Hormah, and to them who *were* in Chorashan, and to them who *were* in Athach,

31 And to them who *were* in Hebron, and to all the places there where David himself walked, and his men.

CHAPTER 31

1 And the Palestinians devoured against Israel, and the men of Israel fled from before the face of the Palestinians, and fell polluted in Mount Gilboa.

2 And the Palestinians stuck like glue to Saul and his sons, and the Palestinians struck Jonathan, and Abinadab, and Melchishua, sons of Saul.

3 And the battle was heavy against Saul, and the men with bows caused *arrows* to flow finding him, and he was twisting around from the flowing of arrows to him.

4 And Saul said to the one bearing his weapons, Pull out your sword and stab me with it, lest these uncircumcised come and stab and glean⁴ me; and the one bearing his weapons did not breathe in agreement *to kill him*, because he was exceedingly afraid. And Saul took the sword, and fell upon it.

5 And the one bearing his weapons saw that Saul was dead, and he fell also on his sword and died with him.

6 And Saul died, and his three sons, and the one bearing his weapons, and all his men, that same day together.

7 And they saw - the men of Israel who *were* in the region across the valley, and they who *were* in the region across Jordan - that the men of Israel fled, and that Saul, and his sons were dead, and they left the cities and fled; and the Palestinians came and sat down in them.

8 And it was the next day, and the Palestinians came to spread out to strip the polluted, and they found Saul and his three sons fallen in Mount Gilboa.

9 And they cut off his head, and stripped off his weapons, and sent around into the land of the Palestinians, to announce good tidings in the house of their idols and to the people.

10 And they put his weapons in the house of Ashtaroth, and they nailed his body to the wall of Bethshan.

11 And the inhabitants of Jabesh Gilead attentively heard what the Palestinians had done to Saul;

⁴ 31:4 glean is *alal*, to glean after harvest, to go back and get everything that can be gotten. Saul did not want to be left alive for the Palestinians to glean from him all the pain and agony they could glean until the last breath of life left him.

1 SAMUEL 31

Burial of Saul and his sons

12 All the men of resources rose, and walked all night, and took the body of Saul and the bodies of his sons from the wall of Bethshan, and came to Jabesh, and burned them there. Note 2 Chr 16:14

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