

**The SECOND BOOK
OF CHRONICLES 2 CHRONICLES 1**

Solomon offers offerings, God appears to him,

CHAPTER 1

1 And Solomon, the son of David, was strengthened over his kingdom, and Jehovah, his God, was with him, and made him great from above.

2 And Solomon spoke to all Israel, to the chief rulers of thousands and of hundreds, and to those judging, and to every prince in all Israel, the chief rulers of the fathers.

3 And Solomon and all the congregation with him walked to the high place that was at Gibeon, because there *was* the tent of meeting of God which Moses, the servant of Jehovah, had made in the desert.

4 But David brought up the ark of God from Kirjath Jearim to *where* David had set up for it, because he had stretched out a tent for it at Jerusalem.

5 And he put before the face of the tabernacle of Jehovah the bronze altar that Bezaleel, the son of Uri, the son of Hur, had made, and Solomon and the congregation treaded seeking *God* at it.

6 And Solomon went up there to the bronze altar before the face of Jehovah, which *was* at the tent of meeting, and offered up a thousand burnt offerings upon it.

7 In that night God appeared to Solomon, and said to him, Ask what I shall give you.

8 And Solomon said to God, You have done great mercy to David, my father, and have made me to reign in his place.

his prayer for wisdom, God answers

9 Now, Oh Jehovah God, let your word to David, my father, be true and faithful, because you have made me king over a people in multitude like the dust of the earth.

10 Give me now wisdom and knowledge that I may go out and come in before the face of this people, because who can judge this your great people?

11 And God said to Solomon, Because this was in your heart, and you have not asked riches, wealth, and heavy glory, and the soul of those hating you, and also have not asked a multitude of days, and have asked wisdom and knowledge for yourself that you may judge my people, over whom I have made you king,

12 Wisdom and knowledge are given to you; and I will give you riches, and wealth, and heavy glory, as has existed to none of the kings who *were* before you, and there shall not be the like after you.

13 And Solomon came from the high place which *was* at Gibeon to Jerusalem, from before the face of the tent of meeting, and reigned over Israel.

14 And Solomon gathered chariots and horsemen, and to him were a thousand, four hundred chariots, and twelve thousand horsemen, which he deposited in the chariot cities and with the king at Jerusalem.

15 And the king gave silver and gold at Jerusalem as stones, and he gave cedar trees as the sycamore trees that *are* in the coastal

2 CHRONICLES 2 *Solomon's wealth, workers; asks Hiram for fabricators and lumber*

slopes for abundance.

16 And horses were brought out of Egypt to Solomon, and by herds; the king's merchants took the herds at a price.

17 And they brought up and brought out of Egypt a chariot for six hundred *shekels* of silver, and a horse for a hundred and fifty; and so for all the kings of the Hittites, and for the kings of Syria, by their hands they brought out.

CHAPTER 2

1 And Solomon said to build a house for the name of Jehovah and a house for his kingdom.

2 And Solomon tallied up seventy thousand men to bear burdens, and eighty thousand men to cut in the mountain, and three thousand, six hundred to give them light as superintendents.

3 And Solomon sent to Hiram, the king of Tyre, saying, When you dealt with David, my father, then you sent him cedars to build him a house in which to dwell.

4 Behold, I build a house to the name of Jehovah, my God, to sanctify to him, to burn before his face sweet perfumed incense, and the continual arrangement of *bread*, and for the burnt offerings dawn and dusk, on the Sabbaths, and on the new moons, and on the appointed feasts of Jehovah, our God; this *is* to Israel forever.

5 And the house which I build *is* great, because great *is* our God above all gods,

6 And who holds power to build him a house, because the heavens and the heaven of heav-

ens cannot contain him? And who *am* I, that I should build him a house, except to burn sacrifice before his face?

7 And now send me a man, wise to work in gold, and in silver, and in bronze, and in iron, and in purple, and crimson, and blue, and who knows *how* to open sculpture with the wise men who are with me in Judah and in Jerusalem, whom David, my father, set up.

8 Send me also cedar trees, cypress trees, and algum trees out of Lebanon, because I know by seeing that your servants know how to cut timber in Lebanon, and behold, my servants *shall be* with your servants,

9 Even to set up for me timber in abundance, because the house which I build *shall be* great and wonderful.

10 And behold, I will give to your servants, the cutters who cut timber, twenty thousand measures of beaten wheat, and twenty thousand measures of barley, and twenty thousand baths of wine, and twenty thousand baths of oil.

11 And Hiram, the king of Tyre, said in writing, which he sent to Solomon, Because Jehovah has loved his people he has given you as king over them.

12 And Hiram said, Blessed *is* Jehovah God of Israel, who made the heavens and the earth, and has given to David, the king, a wise son, knowing intelligent success and understanding that he might build a house for Jehovah and a house for his kingdom.

13 And now I have sent a wise man knowing discernment of Hiram-Abi,

14 The son of a woman out of the daughters of Dan, and his father *was* a man of Tyre, knowing how to work in gold, and in silver, in bronze, in iron, in stone, and in timber, in purple, in blue, and in fine linen, and in crimson; and to open all sculpturing, and to calculate every device which shall be given to him, with your wise men, and with the wise men of my lord, David, your father.

15 And now the wheat and the barley, the oil and the wine, which my lord has said, let him send to his servants,

16 And we will cut timber out of Lebanon, all you shall need, and we will bring it to you in rafts by sea to Joppa; and you shall bring it up to Jerusalem.

17 And Solomon tallied up all the foreign men who *were* in the land of Israel, after the census which David, his father, had tallied up, and they were found *to be* a hundred and fifty-three thousand, six hundred. Notes 2 Chr 8:8; 10:4

18 And he made seventy thousand of them to be bearers of burdens, and eighty thousand cutters in the mountain, and three thousand, six hundred to give light as superintendents to cause the people to work.

CHAPTER 3

1 And Solomon began to build the house of Jehovah at Jerusalem in Mount Moriah, where he appeared to David, his father, in

the place that David had set up in the threshingfloor of Ornan, the Jebusite.

2 And he began to build in the second of the second new moon, in the fourth year of his reign.

3 And these were set by Solomon for the building of the house of God; the length in cubits (according to the first³ measure) *was* sixty cubits, and the width twenty cubits.

4 And the porch that *was* on the face *of the house*: its length *was* according to the face of the house, twenty cubits, and the height *was* a hundred and twenty; and he sheeted over the interior with pure gold.

5 And he covered the greater house with cypress wood, which he covered with good gold, and caused palm pilasters and chains to ascend upon it.

6 And he overlaid the house with precious stones for splendor, and the gold *was* gold of Parvaim.

7 And he covered the house, the beams, the posts, and its walls, and its doors, with gold, and opened cherubs on the walls.

8 And he made the house of the holy of holies: the length *was* according to the face of the width of the house, twenty cubits, and its width twenty cubits; and he covered it with good gold, six hundred talents.

9 And the weight of the nails *was* fifty shekels of gold, and he covered the upper rooms with gold.

³ 3:3 first refers to the ancient measure of a cubit as always used by Israel from Moses forward, meaning the first measure that was originally used.

2 CHRONICLES 4 *The cherubs, veil, columns, bronze altar, poured sea, lampstands, tables*

10 And in the house of the holy of holies he made two cherubs of sculptured work, and sheeted them over with gold.

11 And the wings of the cherubs *were* twenty cubits long; one wing was five cubits, touching the wall of the house; and the other five cubits, touching the wing of the other cherub.

12 And one wing of the other cherub *was* five cubits, touching the wall of the house, and the other wing *was* five cubits, joined to the wing of the other cherub.

13 The wings of these cherubs spread themselves out twenty cubits; and they stood on their feet, and their faces were inward.

14 And he made the veil of blue, and purple, and crimson, and fine linen, and ascended cherubs upon it.

15 And he made on the face of the house two columns of thirty-five cubits high, and the crown that was on the head was five cubits.

16 And he made chains as in the oracular sanctuary,¹⁶ and gave them on the heads of the columns; and made a hundred pomegranates, and put them on the chains.

17 And he raised up the columns upon the face of the temple, one on the right hand, and the other on the left; and called the name of that on the right hand, Jachin, and the name of that on the left, Boaz.

CHAPTER 4

1 And he made an altar of bronze, twenty cubits its length, and twenty cubits its width, and ten cubits its height.

2 And he made a poured sea of ten cubits from lip to lip, circular all around, and five cubits its height; and a line of thirty cubits circled it all around.

3 And under it was the likeness of oxen, which encircled it all around; ten in a cubit, encircling the sea all around; two rows of oxen were poured when it was poured.

4 It stood upon twelve oxen, three facing toward the north, and three facing toward the west, and three facing toward the south, and three facing toward the east; and the sea *was* above upon them, and all their rears were inward.

5 And the thickness of it was a handwidth, and the lip of it like the work of the lip of a cup with blooms of lilies; its capacity held three thousand baths.

6 And he made ten washbowls, and gave five on the right hand and five on the left to wash in them; they washed what they offered for the burnt offering in them; and the sea *was* for the priests to wash in.

7 And he made ten lampstands of gold according to their judged decree, and gave them in the temple, five on the right hand, and five on the left.

8 He also made ten tables, and deposited them in the temple, five on the right side and five on the left; and he made a hundred sprinkling bowls of gold.

¹⁶ 3:16 oracular sanctuary, *debyr*. See note on 1 Kngs 6:5.

The court of the priests, poured sea, columns, all the vessels, completion **2 CHRONICLES 5**

9 And he made the court of the priests, and the great court, and doors for the court, and sheeted over their doors with bronze.

10 And he gave the sea on the right side of the east, fronting toward the south.

11 And Hiram made the pots, and the shovels, and the sprinkling bowls; and Hiram finished making the work that he made for King Solomon for the house of God:

12 Two columns, and the bowls, and the crowns which were on the head of the two columns, and the two wreaths to cover the two bowls of the crowns, which were on the head of the columns;

13 And four hundred pomegranates on the two wreaths; two rows of pomegranates on each wreath, to cover the two bowls of the crowns which were upon the columns.

14 And he made pedestals, and he made washbowls upon the bases;

15 One sea, and twelve oxen under it.

16 And Hiram-Abi, made for King Solomon the pots, and the shovels, and the forks, and all their instruments for the house of Jehovah of polished brass.

17 The king poured them in the plain of Jordan in the dark cloudy soil between Succoth and Zeredathah.

18 And Solomon made all these vessels in great abundance, because the weight of the bronze could not be searched out.

19 And Solomon made all the vessels for the house of God, and the golden altar, and the tables where the bread of his face *was*,

20 And the lampstands of pure gold with their lamps to burn after the judged decree before the face of the oracular sanctuary;

21 And the blooms, and the lamps, and the tongs he made of gold, that complete gold;

22 And the tongs, and the sprinkling bowls, and the spoons, and the censers *were* of pure gold, and the entry of the house, its inner doors for the holy of holies, and the doors of the house of the temple, *were of gold*.

CHAPTER 5

1 And all the work that Solomon made for the house of Jehovah was completed, and Solomon brought in what David, his father, had sanctified; and he gave the silver, and the gold, and all the instruments into the treasuries of the house of God.

2 At that time Solomon assembled the elders of Israel and all the heads of the tribes, the princes of the fathers of the children of Israel, to Jerusalem to bring up the ark of the covenant of Jehovah out of the city of David; that *is* Zion.

3 And all the men of Israel assembled themselves to the king in the feast, that of the seventh new moon.

4 And all the elders of Israel came, and the Levites lifted up the ark.

2 CHRONICLES 6 *Only the two tables in the Ark; they make sacrifices, Solomon speaks*

5 And they brought up the ark, and the tent of meeting, and all the holy vessels that were in the tent; the priests and the Levites brought these up.

6 And King Solomon and all the congregation of Israel who met with him by appointment before the face of the ark sacrificed flock animals and oxen which could not be tallied up nor weighed out for multitude.

7 And the priests brought in the ark of the covenant of Jehovah to its place, to the oracular sanctuary of the house, into the holy of holies, under the wings of the cherubs;

8 And the cherubs spread out their wings over the place of the ark, and the cherubs covered from above the ark and its separators. On next verse see Note Jer 3:16

9 And the separators of the ark were long, and the heads of the separators were seen out of the ark upon the face of the oracular sanctuary; and they were not seen outside; and there it is to this day.

10 Nothing *was* in the ark except the two tables which Moses gave in Horeb when Jehovah cut *a covenant* with the children of Israel when they came out of Egypt.

11 And it was, the priests came out of the holy place - because all those who were priests were sanctified; they did not hedge about *their duty* by divisions;

12 And the Levite singers, all of them of Asaph, of Heman, of Jeduthun, with their sons and their brothers, clothed in white linen, with cymbals, and with harps, and lyres,

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were standing east of the altar, and with them a hundred and twenty priests blowing with trumpets;

13 And it was as they blew on the trumpets and sang they were attentively heard as one boasting in, and raising their hands to, Jehovah; and they raised up their voice with the trumpets, and cymbals, and instruments of music, and boasted in Jehovah, *saying*, For *he is* good, for his mercy *is* forever; and the house, the house of Jehovah, was filled with a cloud;

14 And the priests were not able to stand to minister before the face of the cloud, because the heavy glory of Jehovah filled the house of God.

CHAPTER 6

1 At that time Solomon said, Jehovah has said that he would dwell in the thick darkness.

2 And I have built a house of habitation for you and a place for your dwelling forever.

3 And the king turned his face, and knelt down with goodness to the whole congregation of Israel, and all the congregation of Israel stood.

4 And he said, Blessed *is* Jehovah God of Israel, who has spoken with his mouth to my father, David, and with his hands has fulfilled, *saying*,

5 From the day that I brought my people out of the land of Egypt I have not chosen a city out of all the tribes of Israel to build a house that my name might be there, and I did not choose any man to be a commander over my

people, Israel;

6 And I have chosen Jerusalem that my name might be there, and have chosen David to be over my people, Israel.

7 And it was in the heart of David, my father, to build a house for the name of Jehovah God of Israel.

8 And Jehovah said to David, my father, Because it was in your heart to build a house for my name, you did good that it was in your heart;

9 However you shall not build the house, but your son which shall come out of your loins shall build the house for my name.

10 And Jehovah has caused his word to rise, what he has spoken, and I am risen up in the place of David, my father, and sit on the throne of Israel, what Jehovah spoke, and have built the house for the name of Jehovah God of Israel.

11 And I have put in it the ark, there where the covenant of Jehovah *is* that he cut with the children of Israel.

12 And he stood before the face of the altar of Jehovah in the front of all the congregation of Israel, and spread out his palms,

13 Because Solomon had made a bronze platform of five cubits long, and five cubits wide, and three cubits high, and gave it in the midst of the court; and he stood upon it, and knelt down upon his knees in front of all the congregation of Israel, and spread out his palms toward the heavens,

14 And said, Oh Jehovah God of Israel, *there is* no God like you in the heavens nor in the earth who hedges about the covenant, and does mercy to your servants who walk before your face with all their hearts,

15 Who has hedged about to your servant, David, my father, what you spoke to him, and spoke with your mouth, and fulfilled with your hand, this day.

16 And now, Oh Jehovah God of Israel, hedge about to your servant, David, my father, what you spoke to him, saying, There shall not be to you a man sitting upon the throne of Israel cut off from before my face - only if your children hedge about their way to walk in my law as you have walked before my face.

17 And now, Oh Jehovah God of Israel, let your word be believed, what you have spoken to your servant David.

18 But will God truly sit down with men on the earth? Behold, *the* heavens and the heaven of heavens cannot contain you, how much less this house which I have built!

19 And turn your face to the prayer of your servant and to his stooping down asking for grace, Oh Jehovah, my God, to hear attentively the cry and the prayer which your servant judges in prayer before your face,

20 That your eyes may be open upon this house day and night, upon the place where you have said that you would put your name there, to attentively hear the prayer which

2 CHRONICLES 6 *Solomon's prayer; special conditions when we should pray*

your servant judges in prayer toward this place.

21 And attentively hear the stooping down asking for grace of your servant and of your people Israel, which they shall judge in prayer toward this place; attentively hear out of the heavens, from your dwelling place, and you shall attentively hear, and forgive.

22 If a man sins against his neighbor, and an oath is lifted upon him to cause him to swear, and the oath comes before the face of your altar in this house,

23 Then attentively hear from the heavens, and do, and judge your servants by returning back to the wicked, giving his way upon his head, and by justifying the righteous, giving him according to his righteousness.

24 And if your people, Israel, are pushed backward before the face of those hating them because they have sinned against you, and shall return, and raise their hand to your name, and judge in prayer, and shall stoop down asking for grace before your face in this house,

25 Then attentively hear from the heavens, and forgive the sin of your people, Israel, and turn them back to the land which you gave to them and to their fathers.

26 When the heavens are shut up, and there is no rain, because they have sinned against you, if they judge in prayer toward this place, and raise their hand to your name, and turn from their sin, because you looked down with harshness upon them,²⁶

27 Then attentively hear *from* the heavens, and forgive the sin of your servants and of your people, Israel, when you have caused the good way to flow to them in which they should walk, and give rain upon your land, which you have given to your people for an inheritance.

28 If there is famine in the land, if there is pestilence, if there are blight, and paleness, locusts, and ravaging locusts, if those hating them besiege them in the cities of their land, whatever blow and whatever sickness,

29 Every prayer and every stooping down asking for grace that shall be made by any man and of all your people, Israel, when everyone shall know by seeing his own blow and his own sorrow, and shall spread out his palms in this house,

30 Then attentively hear from your dwelling place in the heavens, and forgive, and give to every man according to all his ways, whose heart you know by seeing (because you only know by seeing the hearts of the children of Adam),

31 That they may fear you to walk in your ways every day they live on the face of the land which you gave to our fathers.

32 And also, concerning the stranger who is not of your people, Israel, and has come from a far land for your great name's sake, and your strong hand, and your stretched out arm, and they come, and judge in prayer in this house,

²⁶ 6:26 looked down with harshness upon, *anah*. See note on 2 Sam 22:36.

33 Then attentively hear from the heavens, from your dwelling place, and do all for which the stranger calls to you, that all people of the earth may know your name and fear you as do your people, Israel, and may know by seeing that this house which I have built is called by your name.

34 If your people go out to war against those hating them by the way that you shall send them, and they judge in prayer to you toward this city which you have chosen and the house which I have built for your name,

35 Then attentively hear their prayer and their stooping down asking for grace from the heavens, and do their judged decree.³⁵

36 If they sin against you (because *there is* no man who does not sin), and you breathe hard against them, and give them up before the face of those hating them, and they, transporting them, transport them away captives to a land far off or near,

37 And if their hearts turn back in the land where they are transported captive, and turn back, and stoop down to you asking for grace in the land of their captivity, saying, We have sinned, we have been crooked, and have dealt wickedly,

³⁵ **6:35 judged decree**, *mishpat*, the word normally translated judgment. It has two main meanings: (1) the verdict that is rendered by the judge of the court, and (2) the rights given to the one who receives the favorable judgment. Thus what Solomon is asking God to do is give the people what they have judged that they need, and give it to them on the basis that they have a right to it through the name of Jehovah placed in and on this house of Jehovah. It is the same thing that Jesus said in John 14:13-14 and 16:23.

38 And they return to you with all their heart and with all their soul in the land of their captivity, where they have transported them captives, and judge in prayer toward their land, which you gave to their fathers, and toward the city which you have chosen, and toward the house which I have built for your name,

39 Then hear attentively from the heavens, from your dwelling place, their prayer and their stooping down asking for grace, and do their judged decree, and forgive your people which have sinned against you.

40 Now, my God, please, let your eyes be open, and your ears attentive to the prayer in this place.

41 And now, rise, Oh Jehovah God, into your resting place, you, and the ark of your strength; let your priests, Oh, Jehovah God, be clothed with salvation, and let your saints rejoice in goodness.

42 Oh, Jehovah God, do not turn away the face of your anointed; remember the mercies of David, your servant.

CHAPTER 7

1 And Solomon ended judging in prayer, and the fire came down from the heavens, and consumed the burnt offering and the sacrifices, and the heavy glory of Jehovah filled the house.

2 And the priests were not able to go into the house of Jehovah, because the heavy glory of Jehovah had filled the house of Jehovah.

2 CHRONICLES 7 *The glory of Jehovah fills the House; they sacrifice; Jehovah speaks to Solomon*

3 And all the children of Israel saw the fire come down and the heavy glory of Jehovah upon the house, and they bent down on their knees with their nostrils to the ground upon the pavement, and prostrated themselves, and raised their hands to Jehovah, because of his goodness, because of his eternal mercy.

4 And the king and all the people sacrificed sacrifices before the face of Jehovah.

5 And King Solomon sacrificed a sacrifice of twenty-two thousand oxen and a hundred and twenty thousand flock animals, and the king and all the people dedicated the house of God.

6 And the priests stood in their guard duty, the Levites also with instruments of singing for Jehovah which David, the king, had made to raise their hands to Jehovah, because of his eternal mercy when David led them in boasting with their hands; and the priests sounded trumpets before them, and all Israel stood.

7 And Solomon sanctified the middle of the court, that before the face of the house of Jehovah, because there he made burnt offerings and the fat of the peace offerings, because the bronze altar which Solomon had made was not able to contain the burnt offerings, and the food offerings, and the fat.

8 And at that time Solomon made the feast seven days, and all Israel with him, a very great congregation, from the entering in of Hamath to the stream of Egypt.

9 And in the eighth day they made an appointed assembly, because they made the dedication of the altar seven days, and the feast seven days.

10 And on the twenty-third day of the seventh new moon he sent the people away into their tents, rejoicing and good in heart for the goodness that Jehovah had done to David, and to Solomon, and to Israel his people.

11 And Solomon finished the house of Jehovah, and the king's house, and all that came into Solomon's heart to make in the house of Jehovah, and he prospered in his own house.

12 And Jehovah appeared to Solomon by night, and said to him, I have attentively heard your prayer, and have chosen this place to myself for a house of sacrifice.

13 If I shut up the heavens and there is no rain, and if I command the locusts to devour the land, and if I send pestilence among my people,

14 And *if* my people which are called by my name shall bend their knees, and judge in prayer, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will attentively hear from the heavens, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.

15 Now my eyes shall be open and my ears attentive to the prayer in this place.

16 And now I have chosen and sanctified this house that my name may be there forever, and my eyes and my heart shall be there all days.

17 And you, if you will walk before my face as David, your father, walked, and do according to all that I have commanded you, and shall hedge about my enactments and my judgments,

18 Then I will raise up the throne of your kingdom according as I have cut *the covenant* with David, your father, saying, There shall not a man be cut off from you to rule in Israel.

19 And if you turn away and forsake my enactments and my commandments which I gave before your face, and shall walk and serve other gods, and prostrate yourselves to them,

20 Then I will tear them out of my land which I have given them; and this house which I have sanctified for my name, I will throw out from before my face, and will give it as a proverb and a byword among all peoples.

21 And everyone who crosses over by this house which is high shall be stunned, and he shall say, Why has Jehovah done thus to this land and to this house?

22 And it shall be said, Because they forsook Jehovah God of their fathers who brought them out of the land of Egypt, and fastened upon other gods, and prostrated themselves to them, and served them; therefore he has brought all this evil upon them.

CHAPTER 8

1 And it was at the end of twenty years that Solomon had built the house of Jehovah and his own house;

2 And Solomon built the cities which Hiram had given to Solomon, and caused the children of Israel to dwell there.

3 And Solomon walked to Hamathzobah, and seized upon it.

4 And he built Tadmor in the desert and all the storehouse cities which he built in Hamath.

5 And he built Beth Horon, the upper, and Beth Horon, the lower, fortified cities, with walls, gates, and bars,

6 And Baalath, and all the storehouse cities that Solomon had, and all the chariot cities, and the cities of the horsemen, and all that Solomon loved to build in Jerusalem, and in Lebanon, and throughout all the land of his dominion.

7 All the people remaining of the Hittites, and the Amorites, and the Perizzites, and the Hivites, and the Jebusites, which *were* not of Israel,

8 Of their children who remained after them in the land, whom the children of Israel had not ended, Solomon raised them up to do forced labor⁸ until this day.

⁸ **8:8 forced labor, mas.** This is a form of tax which these people paid by conscripted labor to the government a certain portion of the year, and then they returned to their own work, just as men of modern times have done when they were drafted into the armed forces of a government. This is not full time slavery. It is the same kind of forced labor that most modern governments impose upon their citizenry (except these were foreign residents). They had to work so many months out of the year to pay their taxes, and the remainder of their time is their own. But notice that those who had to perform this tax-labor were not citizens. The citizens were not conscripted for forced labor. The citizens were conscripted for military duty, verse 9, and also were allowed to profit from the wars. See 1 Kng 9:21-22. That Israelites were never taxed by their own government at any time

2 CHRONICLES 9 *Solomon's rulers, daughter of Pharaoh, priests, gold of Ophir, Queen of Sheba*

9 And Solomon did not give servants for his work out of the children of Israel, but they *were* men of war, and chief rulers of his third level rulers, and chief rulers of his chariots and horsemen.

10 And these were the chief rulers of King Solomon's officers, two hundred and fifty, who treaded over the people.

11 And Solomon brought up the daughter of Pharaoh out of the city of David to the house that he had built for her, because he said, My wife shall not dwell in the house of David, king of Israel, because they *are* holy, that where the ark of Jehovah has come.

12 Then Solomon offered up burnt offerings to Jehovah on the altar of Jehovah, which he had built before the face of the porch,

13 Even according to a word day by day, offering up according to the commandment of Moses on the Sabbaths, and on the new moons, and on the appointed meetings, three times in the year: in the feast of unleavened bread, and in the feast of weeks, and in the feast of tabernacles.

14 And he stood according to the judged decree of David, his father, the divisions of the priests to their service, and the Levites to their guard duty, to boast, and minister before the priests according to the word day by day, the porters also

by their divisions, gate by gate, because so David, the man of God, had commanded.

15 And they did not turn away from the commandment of the king to the priests and Levites in any word, and concerning the treasures.

16 And all the work of Solomon was set up from the day of the foundation of the house of Jehovah, and until it was finished. The house of Jehovah was complete.

17 Then Solomon walked to Eziongeber and to Eloth at the lip of the sea in the land of Edom.

18 And Hiram sent him ships by the hands of his servants and servants who knew the sea, and they went with the servants of Solomon to Ophir, and took there four hundred and fifty talents of gold, and brought them to king Solomon.

CHAPTER 9

1 And the queen of Sheba attentively heard of the fame of Solomon, and she came to test Solomon with riddles¹ at Jerusalem, with very great resources, and camels that bore spices, and gold in abundance, and precious stones; and she came to Solomon, and she spoke with him all that was in her heart.

2 And Solomon caused all her words to stand out boldly to her, and not a word was veiled from Solomon which he did not cause to stand out boldly to her.

in their history is shown by the comments of Jesus and Peter in Mat 17:25-26. Modern governments are not nearly as civilized toward their people as the government of ancient Israel.

¹ **9:1 riddles**, *chiydah*, which means puzzles, trick questions, riddles, enigmatic sayings.

3 The queen of Sheba saw the wisdom of Solomon and the house that he had built,

4 And the food of his table, and the sitting of his servants, and the position of his ministers and their garments, and his cupbearers and their garments, and his ascent by which he ascended into the house of Jehovah, and there was no more spirit in her.

5 And she said to the king, The report of your words and of your wisdom *was* true which I attentively heard in my land,

6 And I did not believe their words until I came and my eyes had seen; and behold, the half of the greatness of your wisdom was not told me; you exceed the fame that I attentively heard.

7 Your men *are* happy, and these your servants who stand continually before your face and attentively hear your wisdom *are* happy.

8 Blessed is Jehovah, your God, who inclined to you to give you *to be* king for Jehovah, your God, on his throne; your God loved Israel to stand them forever, and he gave you king over them to do judgment and righteousness.

9 And she gave the king a hundred and twenty talents of gold, and a great abundance of spices, and precious stones, and there was not *elsewhere* such spice as the queen of Sheba gave King Solomon.

10 And also the servants of Hiram and the servants of Solomon who brought gold from Ophir brought algum trees and precious stones.

11 And the king made of the algum trees terraces to the house of Jehovah and to the king's palace, and harps and lyres for singers, and there were none such seen before in the land of Judah.

12 And King Solomon gave to the queen of Sheba all her desire, whatever she asked, separate from what she had brought to the king; and she turned, and walked to her land, she and her servants.

13 And the weight of gold that came to Solomon in one year was six hundred and sixty-six talents of gold,

14 Separate from what the men on the go for gain and traveling traders brought; and all the kings of Arabia and governors of the country brought gold and silver to Solomon.

15 And King Solomon made two hundred shields of beaten gold; six hundred shekels of beaten gold ascended upon one shield.

16 And he made three hundred small shields of beaten gold; three hundred shekels of gold ascended upon one shield; and the king gave them in the house of the forest of Lebanon.

17 And the king made a great throne of ivory, and sheeted it over with pure gold.

18 And there were six steps with a footstool of gold to the throne which were fastened to the throne, and hands on this *side* and that *side* of the sitting place, and two lions *were* standing by the hands;

2 CHRONICLES 10 *The wealth of Solomon; he dies; Rehoboam reigns; Jeroboam challenges him*

19 And twelve lions stood there on this *side* and that *side* upon the six steps; there was not the like made in any kingdom.

20 And all the drinking vessels of King Solomon *were of gold*, and all the vessels of the house of the forest of Lebanon *were of pure gold*; none of silver; it was not calculated a speck in the days of Solomon,

21 Because the king's ships walked to Tarshish with the servants of Hiram; the ships of Tarshish came once every three years bringing gold and silver, ivory, and apes, and peacocks.

22 And King Solomon became greater than all the kings of the earth in riches and wisdom.

23 And all the kings of the earth sought the face of Solomon to attentively hear his wisdom that God had given in his heart.

24 And they brought every man his present, vessels of silver, and vessels of gold, and garments, arms and spices, horses and mules, a word year by year.

25 And to Solomon were four thousand stalls for horses and chariots, and twelve thousand horsemen, whom he deposited in the chariot cities and with the king at Jerusalem.

26 And he reigned over all the kings from the *Euphrates River* even to the land of the Palestinians and to the border of Egypt.^{2 6}

²⁶ **9:26** This is the one and only time that the kingdom of Israel reached the boundaries originally promised to Abraham. Considering the conflicts that constantly continue over Israel's possession of the land, it will most likely not reach these boundaries again until the One Thousand Years Reign of Christ on

27 And the king gave silver in Jerusalem as stones, and he gave cedar trees as the sycamore trees that are in the coastal slopes in abundance.

28 And they brought to Solomon horses out of Egypt and out of all lands.

29 And what is left of the words of Solomon, first and last, *are* they not written in the words of Nathan, the prophet, and in the prophecy of Ahijah, the Shilonite, and in the visions of Iddo, the seer, against Jeroboam, the son of Nebat?

30 And Solomon reigned in Jerusalem over all Israel forty years.

31 And Solomon lay down with his fathers, and he was buried in the city of David, his father; and Rehoboam, his son, reigned in his place.

CHAPTER 10

1 And Rehoboam walked to Shechem, because all Israel came to Shechem to make him king.

2 And it was, Jeroboam, the son of Nebat, who *was* in Egypt, where he had fled from the face of Solomon, the king, attentively heard, and Jeroboam returned out of Egypt.

3 And they sent, and called him, and Jeroboam and all Israel came and spoke to Rehoboam, saying,

4 Your father made our yoke grievous,⁴ and now you make the severe work of your father and his

earth at the close of history. Gen 15:18. But who knows?

⁴ **10:4 yoke grievous.** There is really no evidence anywhere in the Bible record of taxa-

Rehoboam consults the elders then the young men, does not attentively hear **2 CHRONICLES 10**

heavy yoke that he gave upon us light, and we will serve you.

5 And he said to them, After three days return to me, and the people walked.

6 And King Rehoboam counseled with the elders who were standing before the face of Solomon, his father, while he yet lived, saying, What do you counsel me to return word to this people?

7 And they spoke to him, saying, If you will be good to this people, and please them, and speak good words to them they will be your servants all days.

tion by Solomon of the citizens of Israel. The only taxes found in the Bible record are: (1) the forced labor of foreigners, 2 Chr 8:8, and (2) the Israelites providing food for Solomon's table which could not have been too burdensome, 1 Kng 4:6-28. So the question arises if Jereboam's and Israel's accusation had any basis in fact. The children of Judah certainly did not join in the accusation, and the entirety of 1 Kings and 2 Chronicles presents all the people as prosperous and happy, and no tax burden is mentioned. When the elders answered Rehoboam no mention is made of any grievous burden. Solomon received great funds for building from foreign kings and his own ability to invest and trade, not from taxes on the people, 2 Chr 9:14, 21, 24,26; 1 Kngs 10:14-15, 24-25. Possibly the reason for this false accusation was the grudge that Jereboam held against Solomon, and the Jealousy that Israel had against Judah. This may account for the apparent sarcasm in the answer that the young men counseled Rehoboam to give, and which he gave. It seems that the root of this rebellion against the house of David was Jealousy over the prosperity of the house of David rather than any supposed grievous tax conditions, and the fulfillment of the prophecy of Ahijah, 1 Kng 11:29-39; 2 Chr 10:15. An extremely important lesson to be drawn from this is that you should be extremely cautious in believing accusations made upon others by those who hate them. Jereboam was a political enemy to the house of David, and Israel shared the same resentment. Their accusations were invented to suit their political purposes. The same thing goes on non stop today in politics, business, and all areas of life right down to the family.

8 And he forsook the counsel which the elders gave him, and counseled with the young men who grew up with him who stood before his face.

9 And he said to them, What do you counsel that we may return word to this people, who have spoken to me, saying, Lighten from us the yoke that your father gave upon us?

10 And the young men who grew up with him spoke to him, saying, Thus you shall answer the people who spoke to you, saying, Your father made our yoke heavy, and you lighten it from us, you shall say to them thus, My little finger shall be thicker than my father's loins.

11 And now my father loaded a heavy yoke upon you, and I will add to your yoke; my father chastised you with whips, but I with scorpions.

12 And Jeroboam and all the people came to Rehoboam on the third day, what the king spoke, saying, Return to me on the third day.

13 And the king answered them severely; and King Rehoboam forsook the counsel of the elders,

14 And spoke to them after the counsel of the young men, saying, My father made your yoke heavy, but I will add to it; my father chastised you with whips, and I with scorpions.

15 And the king did not attentively hear the people, because the circumstance was of God, that Jehovah might raise up his word which he spoke by the hand of Ahijah, the Shilonite, to Jeroboam,

2 CHRONICLES 11 *Abijah's prophecy fulfilled; Shemaiah: Rehoboam must not fight Israel*

the son of Nebat.

16 And all Israel *saw* that the king did not hear them attentively, and the people answered the king, saying, What allotment *is* ours in David? And *there is* no inheritance to us in the son of Jesse; every man to your tents, Oh Israel; and now, David, see to your own house; and all Israel walked to their tents.

17 And Rehoboam reigned over the children of Israel who dwelt in the cities of Judah.

18 And King Rehoboam sent Hadoram who was over the forced labor,¹⁸ and the children of Israel stoned him with stones, and he died; and King Rehoboam was powerfully alerted to ascend his chariot to flee to Jerusalem.

19 And Israel rebelled against the house of David to this day.

CHAPTER 11

1 And Rehoboam came to Jerusalem, and gathered of the house of Judah and Benjamin a hundred and eighty thousand chosen who made war to devour against Israel to turn the kingdom back to Rehoboam.

2 And the word of Jehovah was to Shemaiah, the man of God, saying,

¹⁸ **10:18 forced labor.** 2 Chr 8:8 is very clear that the forced labor was required of foreigners in Israel, not citizens, so this rebellion of Israel against Rehoboam's forced labor was not a rebellion against labor forced upon Israel, but a rebellion in jealousy because they did not want Rehoboam to have the benefit of the forced labor furnished by non-Israelites. See note on 2 Chr 8:8 and 10:4.

3 Say to Rehoboam, the son of Solomon, king of Judah, and to all Israel in Judah and Benjamin, saying,

4 Thus says Jehovah, You shall not go up, and you shall not devour against your brothers; every man return to his house, because this word exists of me. And they attentively heard the words of Jehovah, and returned from walking against Jeroboam.

5 And Rehoboam dwelt in Jerusalem, and built cities for strongholds in Judah.

6 And he built Bethlehem, and Etam, and Tekoa,

7 And Bethzur, and Shoco, and Adullam,

8 And Gath, and Mareshah, and Ziph,

9 And Adoraim, and Lachish, and Azekah,

10 And Zorah, and Aijalon, and Hebron, which *are* fortified cities in Judah and in Benjamin.

11 And he strengthened the strongholds, and gave them commanders and storehouses of food, and of oil, and wine.

12 And in every city, encampment by encampment, *he put* shields and spears, and strengthened them exceedingly, Judah and Benjamin being on his side.

13 And the priests and the Levites who *were* in all Israel stood with him out of all their borders,

14 Because the Levites left their pasture lands and their possessions, and walked to Judah and Jerusalem because Jeroboam and his sons had pushed them off from officiating in the priest's office to

Jehovah;

15 And he stood for himself priests for the high places, and for the goats,^{1 5a} and for the calves^{1 5b} which he had made.

16 And such as gave their hearts to seek Jehovah God of Israel to sacrifice to Jehovah God of their fathers came after *the Levites* out of all the tribes of Israel to Jerusalem.

17 And they strengthened the kingdom of Judah, and made Rehoboam, the son of Solomon, powerfully alert three years, because three years they walked in the way of David and Solomon.

18 And Rehoboam took for himself Mahalath, the daughter of Jerimoth, the son of David, as wife, and Abihail, the daughter of Eliab, the son of Jesse;

19 And she bore him children: Jeush, and Shamariah, and Zaham.

20 And after her he took Maachah, the daughter of Absalom; and she bore him Abijah, and Attai, and Ziza, and Shelomith.

21 And Rehoboam loved Maachah, the daughter of Absalom, above all his wives and his concubines (because he took eighteen wives and sixty concubines, and begot twenty-eight sons and sixty daughters).

22 And Rehoboam stood Abijah, the son of Maachah, as the head, as commander among his brothers in order to make him king.

^{15a} **11:15 goats**, *saiyr*, satyr in your English dictionary. Demons worshipped in the form of goat worship. See Note Lev 17:7.

^{15b} **11:15 calves**, *egel*, young bulls as worshipped in Egypt.

23 And he was understanding, and dispersed all his children throughout all the lands of Judah and Benjamin to every fortified city; and he gave them food in abundance. And he sought many wives.

CHAPTER 12

1 And it was, when the kingdom was set up by Rehoboam and he strengthened himself, he forsook the law of Jehovah and all Israel with him.

2 And it was, in the fifth year of King Rehoboam, Shishak, king of Egypt, came up against Jerusalem, because they had acted treacherously against Jehovah,

3 With twelve hundred chariots and sixty thousand horsemen; and the people *were* without number who came with him out of Egypt, the Lubims, the Sukkiims, and the Ethiopians.

4 And he captured the fortified cities which *were* to Judah, and came to Jerusalem.

5 And Shemaiah, the prophet, came to Rehoboam and to the princes of Judah who were gathered together to Jerusalem before the face of Shishak, and said to them, Thus says Jehovah, You have forsaken me, and therefore I have forsaken you into the hand of Shishak.

6 And the princes of Israel and the king bent their knees, and they said, Jehovah *is* righteous.

7 And when Jehovah saw that they bent their knees, the word of Jehovah was to Shemaiah, saying, They have bent their knees; I will not destroy them, and I will give

2 CHRONICLES 13 *Shishak plunders Rehoboam; he dies; war between Abijah and Jeroboam*

them a little deliverance, and my wrath shall not be poured out upon Jerusalem by the hand of Shishak,

8 Because they shall be his servants, so they may know by seeing my work and the work of the kingdoms of the earth.

9 And Shishak, king of Egypt, came up against Jerusalem, and took the treasures of the house of Jehovah and the treasures of the king's house; he took all; he took also the shields of gold which Solomon had made.

10 And King Rehoboam made shields of bronze in their place, and visited them into the hands of the chief ruler of the runners who hedged about the entrance of the king's house.

11 And it was when the king went into the house of Jehovah the runners came, and lifted them, and returned them into the room of the runners.

12 And when he bent his knees the nostrils of Jehovah turned back from him, and he did not destroy him completely, and also in Judah words were good.

13 And King Rehoboam became strong in Jerusalem, and reigned, for Rehoboam *was* a son of forty-one years when he began to reign, and he reigned seventeen years in Jerusalem, the city where Jehovah had chosen to put his name there out of all the tribes of Israel; and his mother's name *was* Naamah, an Ammonitess.

14 And he did evil, because he did not set up his heart to tread seeking Jehovah.

15 And the words of Rehoboam, first and last, *are* they not written in the book of Shemaiah, the prophet, and of Iddo, the seer, by genealogy? And there were wars between Rehoboam and Jeroboam all days.

16 And Rehoboam lay down with his fathers, and was buried in the city of David, and Abijah, his son, reigned in his place.

CHAPTER 13

1 And in the eighteenth year of King Jeroboam Abijah began to reign over Judah.

2 He reigned three years in Jerusalem, and his mother's name was Michaiah, the daughter of Uriel of Gibeah; and there was war between Abijah and Jeroboam.

3 And Abijah arranged the battle with the resources of mighty men of war, four hundred thousand chosen men, and Jeroboam set the battle in array against him with eight hundred thousand chosen men, mighty men of resources.

4 And Abijah rose up upon Mount Zemaraim, which *is* in Mount Ephraim, and said, Hear me attentively, Jeroboam and all Israel;

5 Do you not know by seeing that Jehovah God of Israel gave the kingdom over Israel to David forever, to him and to his sons by a covenant of salt?

6 And Jeroboam, the son of Nebat, the servant of Solomon, the son of David, has risen up, and rebelled against his lord.

7 And there are gathered to him vain men, the children of worthlessness, and have powerfully alerted themselves against Rehoboam, the son of Solomon, and Rehoboam was young, and tenderhearted, and could not be strong before their face.

8 And now you say to strengthen yourselves before the face of the kingdom of Jehovah in the hand of the sons of David, and you *are* a great multitude, and *there are* with you golden calves which Jeroboam made you for gods.

9 Have you not thrust away the priests of Jehovah, the sons of Aaron, and the Levites, and have made for yourselves priests of the people of the lands? Everyone who comes to fill his hand with a bullock, a son of a cow, and seven rams - and he is a priest to no-gods.

10 And we - Jehovah *is* our God, and we have not forsaken him; and the priests who minister to Jehovah *are* the sons of Aaron, and the Levites *do* their work;

11 And dawn by dawn and dusk by dusk they burn as perfumed incense burnt sacrifices and sweet incense to Jehovah, and dusk by dusk *they make* the arrangement of bread upon the pure table, and to burn the lampstand of gold with their lamps, because we hedge about the guard duty of Jehovah our God; and you have forsaken him.

12 And behold, God *is* with us for our head, and his priests with trumpets joyfully shouting a shout against you. Oh children of Israel, do not devour against Jehovah God of your fathers because you shall

not prosper.

13 And Jeroboam circled around an ambush to come about behind them, and they were before the face of Judah and the ambush was behind them.

14 And Judah faced about, and behold, the battle was before their face and to their rear; and they cried to Jehovah, and the priests sounded with the trumpets.

15 And the men of Judah shouted; and it was, the men of Judah shouted, and God struck Jeroboam and all Israel before the face of Abijah and Judah.

16 And the children of Israel fled before the face of Judah, and God gave them into their hand.

17 And Abijah and his people struck them with a great blow, and there fell of Israel five hundred thousand chosen men polluted.

18 And the children of Israel bent their knees at that time, and the children of Judah were powerfully alert, because they supported themselves upon Jehovah God of their fathers.

19 And Abijah pursued after Jeroboam, and captured cities from him, Bethel with its villages, and Jeshanah with its villages, and Ephraim with its villages;

20 And Jeroboam did not hold power again in the days of Abijah, and Jehovah struck him, and he died.

21 And Abijah became stronger, and lifted to himself fourteen wives, and begot twenty-two sons and sixteen daughters.

2 CHRONICLES 14 *Asa removes idols, Judah seeks Jehovah, conquers the Ethiopians*

22 And what is left of the words of Abijah and his ways and his words are written in the research of the prophet Iddo.

CHAPTER 14

1 And Abijah lay down with his fathers, and they buried him in the city of David, and Asa, his son, reigned in his place; in his days the land was at rest ten years.

2 And Asa did good and right in the eyes of Jehovah his God;

3 And he took away the foreign altars and the high places, and burst the stationary columns, and cut down the pole images; Exo 34:13

4 And commanded Judah to tread seeking Jehovah God of their fathers, and to do the law and the commandment.

5 Also he took away out of all the cities of Judah the high places and the pillars to the sun,⁵ and the kingdom was at rest before his face.

6 And he built fortified cities in Judah because the land had rest, and to him *was* no war in those years because Jehovah had given him rest.

7 And he said to Judah, Let us build these cities and surround *them* with walls and towers, gates and bars *while* the land *is* yet before our face, because we have treaded seeking Jehovah, our God; we have treaded seeking, and he has given us rest all around; and they built and prospered.

8 And to Asa were men of resources who lifted shields and spears, three hundred thousand out

⁵ 14:5 pillars to the sun. See 1 Sam 6:9.

of Judah; and out of Benjamin who lifted shields and drew bows, two hundred and eighty thousand; all these *were* mighty men of resources.

9 And there came out against them Zerah, the Ethiopian, with resources of a thousand thousand, and three hundred chariots; and came to Mareshah.

10 And Asa went out to face him, and they arranged the battle in the valley of Zephathah at Mareshah.

11 And Asa called to Jehovah, his God, and said, Jehovah, *it is* nothing with you to surround with help, whether many or with no power; surround us with help, Oh Jehovah, our God, because we support ourselves on you, and in your name we go against this multitude. Oh, Jehovah, you *are* our God; let not man hold you back.

12 And Jehovah struck the Ethiopians before the face of Asa and the face of Judah, and the Ethiopians fled.

13 And Asa and the people who *were* with him pursued them to Gerar, and the Ethiopians fell, and they were not able to preserve their lives, because they were broken in pieces before the face of Jehovah and the face of his army; and they carried away very much spoil.

14 And they struck all the cities all around Gerar, because the fear of Jehovah was upon them, and they spoiled all the cities because there was abundant spoil in them.

15 And they struck also the tents of cattle, and carried away flock animals and camels in abundance, and returned to Jerusalem.

CHAPTER 15

1 And the Spirit of God was upon Azariah, the son of Oded,

2 And he went out to meet Asa, and said to him, You hear me attentively, Asa and all Judah and Benjamin; Jehovah *is* with you while you are with him; and if you tread seeking him he will come forth to you; and if you forsake him he will forsake you.

3 And many days Israel *has been* without *the* true God, and without a priest causing *God's word* to flow, and without law.

4 And in their oppressions they turned to Jehovah God of Israel, and sought him, he came forth to them.

5 And in their abundance there did not exist peace going out and coming in, because great confusions *were* upon all the inhabitants of the lands.

6 And a people was beaten to pieces by a people and city by city, because God put them in uproar with all *kinds of* pressures.

7 And you seize strength, and do not slacken you hands, because your work shall be rewarded.

8 And when Asa heard attentively these words and the prophecy of Oded, the prophet, he seized strength, and caused the filthy idols to cross over out of all the land of Judah and Benjamin, and out of the cities which he had captured from Mount Ephraim, and

renewed the altar of Jehovah that faced the porch of Jehovah.

9 And he gathered all Judah and Benjamin, and those who turned aside with them out of Ephraim and Manasseh and out of Simeon, because they fell to him out of Israel in abundance when they saw that Jehovah, his God, *was* with him.

10 And they gathered themselves together at Jerusalem in the third new moon, in the fifteenth year of the reign of Asa.

11 And they sacrificed to Jehovah that day of the spoil they had brought, seven hundred oxen and seven thousand flock animals.

12 And they entered into a covenant to tread seeking Jehovah God of their fathers with all their heart and with all their soul;

13 And all who would not tread seeking Jehovah God of Israel were put to death, whether small or great, man or woman.

14 And they swore to Jehovah with a loud voice, and with shouting, and with trumpets, and with cornets.

15 And all Judah rejoiced at the oath, because they had sworn with all their heart, and sought him with their whole desire; and he came forth to them; and Jehovah gave them rest all around.

16 And also Maachah, the mother of Asa, the king removed her from being queen because she had made an idol among the pole images, and Asa cut down her idol, and crushed it, and burnt it at the stream Kidron.

2 CHRONICLES 16 *Asa hires Syria against Baasha, king of Israel, is rebuked by Hanani*

17 And the high places were not taken away out of Israel; however the heart of Asa was complete all his days.

18 And he brought the sanctified things of his father into the house of God, and his sanctified things, silver, and gold, and vessels.

19 And there was no more war to the thirty-fifth year of the reign of Asa.

CHAPTER 16

1 In the thirty-sixth year of the reign of Asa, Baasha, king of Israel, came up against Judah, and built Ramah so that he might not give to Asa, king of Judah, *permission* to go out or come in.

2 And Asa brought out silver and gold out of the treasuries of the house of Jehovah and of the king's house, and sent *them* to Ben Hadad, king of Syria, who dwelt at Damascus, saying,

3 *There is a covenant* between me and you, as there was between my father and your father; behold, I have sent you silver and gold; walk, break your covenant with Baasha, king of Israel, and he will go up from me.

4 And Ben Hadad attentively heard King Asa, and sent the chief rulers of his resources against the cities of Israel; and they struck Ijon, and Dan, and Abelmaim, and all the storehouse cities of Naphtali.

5 And it was, Baasha attentively heard it, and he ceased building Ramah, and let his work rest.

6 And Asa, the king, took all Judah, and they carried away the stones of Ramah and its timber with

which Baasha was building, and he built with it Geba and Mizpah.

7 And at that time Hanani, the seer, came to Asa, king of Judah, and said to him, Because you have leaned on the king of Syria, and not leaned on Jehovah, your God, therefore the resources of the king of Syria have escaped out of your hand.

8 Were not the Ethiopians and the Lubims abundant resources with very many chariots and horse-men? And because you leaned on Jehovah he gave them into your hand,

9 Because the eyes of Jehovah travel the whole earth to make strong those whose heart is complete toward him. In this you have done foolishly; therefore from this time there shall be wars to you.

10 And Asa was provoked with the seer, and gave him into a prison house, because he was boiling with rage against him over this. And Asa crushed to pieces *some* of the people at that time.

11 And behold, the words of Asa, first and last, lo, they are written in the book of the kings of Judah and Israel.

12 And in the thirty-ninth year of his reign Asa was diseased in his feet until his disease was great, and yet in his disease he did not tread seeking Jehovah but to the physicians.

13 And Asa lay down with his fathers, and died in the forty-first year of his reign.

14 And they buried him in his own sepulchers which he had dug for himself in the city of David, and

laid him in the bed which he had filled with perfumes and fully compounded by the compounding art; and they set on fire a very great cremation¹⁴ for him.

CHAPTER 17

1 And Jehoshaphat, his son, reigned in his place, and strengthened himself against Israel.

2 And he gave resources in all the fortified cities of Judah, and gave military posts in the land of Judah and in the cities of Ephraim, which Asa, his father, had captured.

3 And Jehovah was with Jehoshaphat because he walked in the first ways of his father, David, and did not tread seeking Baalim,

4 Because he treaded seeking the God of his father, and walked in his commandments, and not after the doings of Israel.

5 And Jehovah set up the kingdom in his hand, and all Judah gave to Jehoshaphat presents; and to him were riches and heavy glory in abundance.

¹⁴ **16:14 cremation, serephah.** Strong gives the meaning of this word as cremation, and so does Gesenius. Gesenius gives this reference, 2 Chr 16:14, as meaning the cremation of Asa. JFB Com. has this note: (burning) "According to some, for consuming the spices; but according to others, it was a magnificent pile for the cremation of the corpse - a usage which was at that time, and long after, prevalent among the Hebrews, and the omission of which in the case of royal personages was reckoned a great indignity (ch xxi.19; 1 Sam. xxxi.12; Jer xxxiv.5; Amos vi.10)." However The Pulpit Commentary says, "The burning is not the burning of 1 Sam xxxi.12,13 (comp. 2 Sam. xxi.10-12; 1 Chron. x.12), but the burning of spices, indicated by the language of our ch xxi.19 and Jer. xxxiv.5. ISBE states that cremation was the practice of Greeks and Romans, and takes the position that the burning in 2 Chr 16:14 is the burning of spices only, not the cremation of Asa's body. None of these Scriptures inform us that cremation is approved or disapproved by God.

6 And his heart was lifted up in the ways of Jehovah, and still more he took away the high places and the pole images out of Judah.

7 And in the third year of his reign he sent to his chief rulers, to Benhail, and to Obadiah, and to Zechariah, and to Nethaneel, and to Michaiiah, to teach⁷ in the cities of Judah.

8 And with them *he sent* Levites: Shemaiah, and Nethaniah, and Zebadiah, and Asahel, and Shemiramoth, and Jehonathan, and Adonijah, and Tobijah, and Tob Adonijah, Levites, and with them Elishama and Jehoram, priests.

9 And they taught in Judah, and the book of the law of Jehovah with them, and circled around throughout all the cities of Judah, and taught the people.

10 And the fear of Jehovah was upon all the kingdoms of the lands that *were* all around Judah, and they did not devour against Jehoshaphat.

11 And out from the Palestinians came presents to Jehoshaphat and tribute silver; also the Arabians brought him flocks, seven thousand, seven hundred rams, and seven thousand, seven hundred he goats.

12 And it was, Jehoshaphat walked on, and grew until *he was* above only, and he built in Judah fortresses and storehouse cities. Deu 28:13

13 And to him was an abundance of business in the cities of Judah, and the men of war, mighty

⁷ **17:7 teach, lamad,** to goad with a rod.

2 CHRONICLES 18 *Jehoshaphat's attendants, is prodded to join Ahab; Micaiah, the prophet*

men of resources, *were* in Jerusalem.

14 And these are the visitation of them according to the house of their fathers: Of Judah, the chief rulers of thousands; Adnah, the chief ruler, and with him mighty men of resources, three hundred thousand.

15 And at his hand *was* Jehohanan, the chief ruler, and with him two hundred and eighty thousand.

16 And at his hand, Amasiah, the son of Zichri, who willingly offered himself to Jehovah; and with him two hundred thousand mighty men of resources.

17 And of Benjamin; Eliada, a mighty man of resources, and with him, armed with bow, and shield, two hundred thousand.

18 And at his hand, Jehozabad, and with him a hundred and eighty thousand equipped with arms for the host.

19 These attended the king, separate from those whom the king gave in the fortified cities throughout all Judah.

CHAPTER 18

1 And to Jehoshaphat were riches and heavy glory in abundance, and he contracted with Ahab for marriages.

2 And at the end of years he went down to Ahab to Samaria, and Ahab slaughtered flock animals and cattle for him in abundance and for the people who *were* with him, and prodded him to go up to Ramoth Gilead.

3 And Ahab, king of Israel, said to Jehoshaphat, king of Judah, Will you walk with me to Ramoth Gilead? And he said to him, I *am* as you, and my people *are* as your people, even with you in the war.

4 And Jehoshaphat said to the king of Israel, Please tread seeking today at the word of Jehovah.

5 And the king of Israel gathered together four hundred men of prophets, and said to them, Shall we walk to Ramoth Gilead to battle, or shall I cease? And they said, Go up, and God will give it into the king's hand.

6 And Jehoshaphat said, *Is there* not here yet a prophet of Jehovah, and we shall tread seeking with him?

7 And the king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat, *There is* yet one man by whom we may tread seeking from Jehovah, and I, I hate him, because he never prophesies good upon me, but evil all days; that *is* Micaiah, the son of Imla; and Jehoshaphat said, Do not let the king say such.

8 And the king of Israel called for one of his eunuchs, and said, Cause Micaiah, the son of Imla, to flow *here* as liquid!

9 And the king of Israel and Jehoshaphat, king of Judah, sat each man on his throne clothed in robes, and they sat in an open place at the opening of the gate of Samaria, and all the prophets prophesied before their face.

10 And Zedekiah, the son of Chenaanah, made him horns of iron, and said, Thus says Jehovah, With

these you shall butt Syria until they are ended.

11 And all the prophets prophesied so, saying, Go up to Ramoth Gilead, and prosper, and Jehovah shall give *it* into the hand of the king.

12 And the messenger who walked to call Micaiah spoke to him, saying, Behold, the words of the prophets with one mouth *are* good to the king; and let your word, please, be like one of theirs, and speak good.

13 And Micaiah said, As Jehovah lives, because what my God says, I will speak that.

14 And he came to the king, and the king said to him, Micaiah, shall we walk to Ramoth Gilead to battle, or shall I cease? And he said, Go up, and prosper, and they shall be given into your hand.

15 And the king said to him, How many times shall I put you under oath that you speak nothing but the truth to me in the name of Jehovah?

16 And he said, I have seen all Israel forcibly scattered upon the mountains as flock animals not belonging to any shepherd; and Jehovah said, These have no lord; let them return every man to his house in peace.

17 And the king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat, Did I not say to you, He will not prophesy good upon me, but evil?

18 And he said, Therefore hear attentively the word of Jehovah; I saw Jehovah sitting upon his throne, and all the host of the heavens standing on his right hand and

on his left.

19 And Jehovah said, Who shall make Ahab, king of Israel, open, and he shall go up, and fall at Ramoth Gilead? And this said, saying thus, and that saying thus.

20 And there came out a spirit, and stood before the face of Jehovah, and said, I will make him open; and Jehovah said to him, How?

21 And he said, I will go out, and be a lying spirit in the mouth of all his prophets; and Jehovah said, You shall make *him* open, and also you shall prevail; go out, and do so.

22 And at this time, behold, Jehovah has given a lying spirit in the mouth of these your prophets, and Jehovah has spoken against you evil.

23 And Zedekiah, the son of Chenaanah, came near, and struck Micaiah upon the cheek, and said, In which way crossed over the Spirit of Jehovah from me to speak to you?

24 And Micaiah said, Behold, you shall see on that day when you shall go into an apartment to hide.

25 And the king of Israel said, You take Micaiah, and return him to Amon, the chief ruler of the city, and to Joash, the king's son,

26 And say, Thus says the king, Put this... in the prison house, and feed him with bread of affliction and with water of affliction until I return in peace.

27 And Micaiah said, If returning, you return in peace, Jehovah has not spoken by me; and he said, All people, attentively hear.

2 CHRONICLES 19 *Abah killed, Jehoshaphat returns, Jehu rebukes him for helping the wicked*

28 And the king of Israel and Jehoshaphat, the king of Judah, went up to Ramoth Gilead.

29 And the king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat, I will disguise myself, and will go to the battle, and you put on your robes; and the king of Israel disguised himself; and they went to the battle.

30 And the king of Syria had commanded the chief rulers of the chariots who *were* with him, saying, You do not devour with small or great, but with the king of Israel only.

31 And it was, the chief rulers of the chariots saw Jehoshaphat, and they said, He *is* the king of Israel! And they surrounded him to devour him, and Jehoshaphat cried out, and Jehovah surrounded him with help; and God prodded them away from him.

32 And it was, the chief rulers of the chariots saw that it was not the king of Israel, and they turned back from after him.

33 And a man drew a bow in completeness, and struck the king of Israel between the joints between the harness; and he said to his charioteer, Turn back your hand, and carry me out of the camp, because I am rubbed *out*.

34 And the battle ascended that day; and the king of Israel was standing up in his chariot in front of the Syrians until the dusk; and at the time the sun went *down* he died.

CHAPTER 19

1 And Jehoshaphat, the king of Judah, returned to Jerusalem to his house in peace.

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2 And Jehu, the son of Hanani, the seer went out to face him, and said to king Jehoshaphat, Should you surround the wicked with help, and love them who hate Jehovah? And this wrath *is* upon you from the face of Jehovah.

3 However, there exist good words in you, because you consumed the pole images out of the land, and have set up your heart to tread seeking God.

4 And Jehoshaphat dwelt in Jerusalem; and again he went out through the people from Beer Sheba to Mount Ephraim, and turned them back to Jehovah God of their fathers.

5 And he stood those who judge in the land throughout all the fortified cities of Judah, city by city,

6 And said to those who judge, See what you do, because you do not judge for man, but for Jehovah, who is with you in the word of judgment.

7 And now let the fear of Jehovah be upon you; hedge about, and do, because there does not exist evil with Jehovah our God, nor lifting of faces, nor receiving of gifts.

8 And also in Jerusalem Jehoshaphat stood of the Levites, and of the priests, and of the heads of the fathers of Israel for the judgment of Jehovah and for controversies when they returned to Jerusalem.

9 And he commanded them, saying, Thus you shall do in the fear of Jehovah faithfully and with a complete heart.

10 And what controversies that shall come to you of your brothers who dwell in their cities, between blood and blood, between law and commandment, enactments and judgments, you shall enlighten them, and they shall not be guilty against Jehovah, and wrath be upon you and upon your brothers; this do, and you shall not be guilty.

11 And behold, Amariah, the head priest, is over you in all words of Jehovah, and Zebadiah, the son of Ishmael, the commander of the house of Judah for all the king's words; also the Levites shall be officers before your face. Deal with strength, and Jehovah shall be with the good.

CHAPTER 20

1 And it was just afterwards, the children of Moab, and the children of Ammon, and with them from the Ammonites came against Jehoshaphat to battle.

2 And there came some who caused it to stand out boldly to Jehoshaphat, saying, A great tumult is coming against you from the region beyond the sea, from Edom, and behold, they *are* in Hazazon Tamar; it *is* Engedi.

3 And Jehoshaphat feared, and gave his face to tread seeking Jehovah, and called a fast upon all Judah.

4 And Judah gathered themselves together to seek Jehovah; even out of all the cities of Judah they came to seek Jehovah.

5 And Jehoshaphat stood in the congregation of Judah and Jerusalem in the house of Jehovah at the face of the new court,

6 And said, Oh Jehovah, God of our fathers, *are* you not he, the God in the heavens? And you rule over all the kingdoms of the peoples, and in your hand *are* power and might, and none is able to station himself against you.

7 *Are* you not our God, *who* possessed the inhabitants of this land before the face of your people, Israel, and gave it to the seed of Abraham, your friend, forever?

8 And they dwelt there, and built for you a sanctuary there for your name, saying,

9 If evil comes upon us, as the sword, judgment, or pestilence, or famine, we stand before this house, and before your face (because your name *is* in this house), and cry to you in our distress, and you will hear attentively, and save.

10 And now, behold, the children of Ammon, and Moab and Mount Seir, whom you did not give in for Israel to invade when they came out of the land of Egypt, but they turned from them, and did not desolate them,

11 Behold, they reward us to come to drive us out of your possession which you have caused us to possess.

12 Oh our God, will you not judge them, because to us there is no power in the face of this great multitude that is coming against us; and we do not know by seeing what to do, but our eyes are upon you.

2 CHRONICLES 20

The prophecy of Jahaziel; the battle is not yours but God's; singers praise God

13 And all Judah stood before the face of Jehovah, also their little ones, their wives, and their children.

14 And the Spirit of Jehovah was upon Jahaziel, the son of Zechariah, the son of Benaiah, the son of Jeiel, the son of Mattaniah, a Levite of the sons of Asaph, in the midst of the congregation,

15 And he said, Prick up your ears, all Judah, and inhabitants of Jerusalem, and King Jehoshaphat, Thus says Jehovah to you, You shall not be afraid, and you shall not break down in the face of this great multitude, because the battle *is* not yours, but God's.

16 You go down against them tomorrow; behold, they come up by the cliff of Ziz, and you shall find them at the end of the stream, before the face of the desert of Jeruel.

17 You shall not devour in this; place yourselves, stand, and see the salvation of Jehovah with you, Oh Judah and Jerusalem, do not fear, and do not break down; go out tomorrow to face them, and Jehovah *is* with you.

18 And Jehoshaphat bowed his nostrils to the ground, and all Judah, and the inhabitants of Jerusalem fell before the face of Jehovah, prostrating themselves to Jehovah.

19 And the Levites of the children of the Kohathites and of the children of the Korhites rose to boast in Jehovah God of Israel with a loud voice on high.

20 And they loaded up early in the dawn, and went out into the desert of Tekoa; and as they went out, Jehoshaphat stood, and said,

Hear me attentively, Oh Judah and you inhabitants of Jerusalem; Believe Jehovah your God, and you shall be faithful; believe his prophets, and you shall prosper.

21 And he consulted with the people, and he stood singers to Jehovah, and they boasted in the beauty of holiness as they went out before the face of those equipped with arms, and saying, Raise your hands to Jehovah, because his mercy *is* forever.

22 And when they began to shout and to praise, Jehovah gave ambushes against the children of Ammon, Moab, and Mount Seir, who came against Judah, and they were stricken.

23 And the children of Ammon and Moab stood against the inhabitants of Mount Seir to devote *them to destruction* and desolate *them*, and when they had ended the inhabitants of Seir, every man surrounded his neighbor with help for destruction.

24 And when Judah came upon the watch tower in the desert, they faced about to the multitude, and behold, they were dead bodies fallen to the earth, and none escaped.

25 And Jehoshaphat and his people came to plunder their spoil, and they found among them both riches in abundance with the dead bodies, and precious jewels, which they snatched off for themselves, more than a load; and they were three days plundering the spoil because of its abundance.

26 And on the fourth day they assembled themselves in the Valley of Berachah because there they blessed Jehovah; therefore the name of that place was called, The Valley of Berachah²⁶ to *this* day.

27 And they returned, every man of Judah and Jerusalem, and Jehoshaphat in the head of them, to return to Jerusalem with joy, because Jehovah had made them to rejoice over those hating them.

28 And they came to Jerusalem with lyres, and harps, and trumpets to the house of Jehovah.

29 And the fear of God was upon all the kingdoms of the lands, when they had heard attentively that Jehovah devoured against those hating Israel.

30 And the kingdom of Jehoshaphat was at rest, and his God gave him rest all around.

31 And Jehoshaphat reigned over Judah; he was a son of thirty-five years when he began to reign, and he reigned twenty-five years in Jerusalem; and his mother's name was Azubah, the daughter of Shilhi.

32 And he walked in the way of Asa, his father, and did not depart from it, doing right in the eyes of Jehovah.

33 However, the high places were not taken away, and as yet the people had not set up their hearts to the God of their fathers.

34 And what is left of the words of Jehoshaphat, first and last, behold, they are written in the words of Jehu the son of Hanani, which come up in the book of the kings of Israel.

²⁶ 20:26 **Berachah**, Blessed Prosperity.

35 And just afterwards Jehoshaphat, king of Judah, joined himself with Ahaziah, king of Israel; he did wickedly;

36 And he joined himself with him to make ships to walk to Tarshish, and they made the ships in Ezion Geber.

37 And Eliezer, the son of Dodavah of Mareshah, prophesied against Jehoshaphat, saying, Because you have joined yourself with Ahaziah Jehovah has broken your works. And the ships were burst, and they were not able to walk to Tarshish.

CHAPTER 21

1 And Jehoshaphat lay down with his fathers, and was buried with his fathers in the city of David. And Jehoram, his son, reigned in his place.

2 And to him *were* brothers, the sons of Jehoshaphat: Azariah, and Jehiel, and Zechariah, and Azariah, and Michael, and Shephatiah; all these *were* the sons of Jehoshaphat, king of Israel.

3 And their father gave them great gifts of silver, and of gold, and of precious things, with fortified cities in Judah, and he gave the kingdom to Jehoram, because he *was* the firstborn.

4 And Jehoram rose over the kingdom of his father, and he seized strength, and fatally struck all his brothers with the sword, and also of the chief rulers of Israel.

5 Jehoram *was* a son of thirty-two years when he began to reign, and he reigned eight years in Jerusalem.

2 CHRONICLES 21 *Edom breaks away; Elijah prophesies against Jehoram; his enemies and sickness*

6 And he walked in the way of the kings of Israel, what the house of Ahab did, because to him was the daughter of Ahab as wife, and he did evil in the eyes of Jehovah.

7 And Jehovah did not breathe in agreement to destroy the house of David, because of the covenant that he had cut with David, and that he said to give a lamp to him and to his sons forever.

8 In his days the Edomites broke away from under the hand of Judah, and made themselves a king.

9 And Jehoram crossed over with his chief rulers and all his chariots with him, and he rose up by night, and struck the Edomites who surrounded him and the chief rulers of the chariots.

10 And the Edomites broke away from under the hand of Judah to this day. At that time Libnah broke away from under his hand, because he had forsaken Jehovah God of his fathers.

11 Also he made high places in the mountains of Judah, and caused the inhabitants of Jerusalem to commit whoredom, and pushed Judah away.

12 And there came a writing to him from Elijah, the prophet, saying, Thus says Jehovah God of David, your father, Because you have not walked in the ways of Jehoshaphat, your father, nor in the ways of Asa, king of Judah,

13 And have walked in the way of the kings of Israel, and made Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusa-

lem like the whoredoms of the house of Ahab, and also have fatally struck your brothers of your father's house who were better than yourself;

14 Behold, Jehovah will strike your people with a great pestilence, and your children, and your wives, and all your property;

15 And to you *shall be* great sickness by a disease of your insides until your insides fall out from the day by day sickness.

16 And Jehovah woke up against Jehoram the spirit of the Palestinians and of the Arabians who *were at the* hand of the Ethiopians;

17 And they came up into Judah, and broke into it, and carried away all the property found in the king's house, and his sons also, and his wives; and there was not a son left to him, except Jehoahaz, the youngest of his sons.

18 And after all this Jehovah struck him in his insides with an incurable disease.

19 And it was, days to days, the time of going out at the end of two years, his insides went out from his sickness, and he died of the evil diseases. And his people did not make a cremation for him, like the cremation of his fathers. See Note 2

Chr 16:14

20 He was a son of thirty-two years when he began to reign, and he reigned eight years in Jerusalem, and walked, not being desired. And they buried him in the city of David, and not in the sepulchers of the kings.

CHAPTER 22

1 And the inhabitants of Jerusalem made Ahaziah, his youngest son, king in his place, because the army that came with the Arabians to the camp had fatally struck all the eldest, and Ahaziah, the son of Jehoram, king of Judah, reigned.

2 Ahaziah *was* a son of forty-two years when he began to reign, and he reigned one year in Jerusalem. And his mother's name *was* Athaliah, the daughter of Omri.

3 He also walked in the ways of the house of Ahab, because his mother was his counselor to do wickedly.

4 And he did evil in the eyes of Jehovah like the house of Ahab, because they were his counselors to his destruction after the death of his father.

5 He walked also after their counsel, and walked with Jehoram, the son of Ahab, king of Israel to war against Hazael, king of Syria, at Ramoth Gilead, and the Syrians struck Joram.

6 And he returned to be healed in Jezreel because of the blows with which he was struck at Ramah when he devoured with Hazael, king of Syria; and Azariah, the son of Jehoram, king of Judah, went down to see Jehoram, the son of Ahab, at Jezreel because he was worn *out*.

7 And the treading down of Ahaziah was of God by coming to Joram, and when he came, he went out with Jehoram against Jehu, the son of Nimshi, whom Jehovah had anointed to cut off the house of

Ahab.

8 And it was, Jehu was executing judgment upon the house of Ahab, and found the chief rulers of Judah, and the sons of the brothers of Ahaziah who ministered to Ahaziah, and he fatally struck them.

9 And he sought Ahaziah, and they captured him (and he was hidden in Samaria), and brought him to Jehu; and they put him to death, and they buried him, because, they said, He is the son of Jehoshaphat, who treaded seeking Jehovah with all his heart. And to the house of Ahaziah *was* no power to maintain the kingdom.

10 And Athaliah, the mother of Ahaziah, saw that her son was dead, and she rose, and spoke against all the seed royal of the house of Judah.

11 And Jehoshabeath, the daughter of the king, took Joash, the son of Ahaziah, and stole him from the midst of the king's sons who were put to death, and gave him and his nurse in a bed in an apartment. And Jehoshabeath, the daughter of King Jehoram, the wife of Jehoiada, the priest (because she was the sister of Ahaziah) hid him from the face of Athaliah, and she did not put him to death.

12 And he was with them hidden in the house of God six years, and Athaliah reigned over the land.

See Note 2 Kng 8:26

CHAPTER 23

1 And in the seventh year Jehoiada strengthened himself, and took the chief rulers of hundreds, Azariah, the son of Jeroham, and

2 CHRONICLES 23

Jehoiada and the Levites protect Joash and anoint him king

Ishmael, the son of Jehohanan, and Azariah, the son of Obed, and Maaseiah, the son of Adaiah, and Elishaphat, the son of Zichri, into covenant with him.

2 And they circled about through Judah, and gathered the Levites out of all the cities of Judah and the chief rulers of the fathers of Israel, and they came to Jerusalem.

3 And all the congregation cut a covenant with the king in the house of God; and he said to them, Behold, the king's son! He shall reign, what Jehovah has spoken of the sons of David.

4 This *is* the word that you shall do: A third of you going in on the Sabbath, of the priests and of the Levites, *shall be* porters of the doors;

5 And a third at the king's house; and a third at the gate of the foundation; and all the people *shall be* in the courts of the house of Jehovah.

6 And let none come into the house of Jehovah except the priests and they of the Levites who minister; they shall go in because they are holy; and all the people shall hedge about the guard duty of Jehovah.

7 And the Levites shall strike all around the king, every man with his weapons in his hand, and whoever else comes into the house, he shall be put to death; and you be with the king when he comes in and when he goes out.

8 And the Levites and all Judah did all that Jehoiada, the priest, commanded, and took every man his men who were to come

in on the Sabbath, with them who were to go out on the Sabbath, because Jehoiada, the priest, did not dismiss the divisions.

9 And Jehoiada, the priest, gave to the chief rulers of hundreds spears, and bucklers, and shields, that of King David's, which *were* in the house of God.

10 And he stood all the people, and every man having his weapon in his hand, from the right side of the house to the left side of the house, along by the altar and the house by the king all around.

11 And they brought out the king's son, and gave upon him the crown and the testimony, and made him king. And Jehoiada and his sons anointed him, and said, The king lives!

12 And Athaliah heard attentively the noise of the people running and boasting in the king, and she came to the people into the house of Jehovah;

13 And she saw, and behold, the king stood at his column at the entrance, and the chief rulers, and the trumpets by the king, and all the people of the land rejoiced, and sounded with trumpets, also the singers with instruments of music, and those who knew how to boast. And Athaliah tore her clothes, and said, Treason, Treason.

14 And Jehoiada, the priest, brought out the chief rulers of hundreds who were visited over the resources, and said to them, Bring her out of the limits of the house, and whoever follows her, let him be put to death with the sword, because the priest said, Do not put

her to death in the house of Jehovah.

15 And they laid hands on her, and she came to the entrance of the horse gate by the king's house, and they put her to death there. See Note 2 Kng 8:26

16 And Jehoiada cut a covenant between him, and between all the people, and between the king, that they should be the people of Jehovah.

17 And all the people went to the house of Baal, and tore it down, and burst his altars and his images in pieces, and fatally struck Mattan, the priest of Baal, before the face of the altars.

18 And Jehoiada put the visitation of the house of Jehovah by the hand of the priests, the Levites, whom David had allotted in the house of Jehovah to offer up the burnt offerings of Jehovah, as it is written in the law of Moses, with rejoicing and with singing upon the hand of David.

19 And he stood the porters at the gates of the house of Jehovah, and none came in unclean in any word.

20 And he took the chief rulers of hundreds, and the lordly leaders, and the rulers of the people, and all the people of the land, and brought the king down from the house of Jehovah; and they came through the high gate into the king's house, and set the king upon the throne of the kingdom.

21 And all the people of the land rejoiced, and the city rested, and they put Athaliah to death with the sword. See Note 2 Kng 8:26

CHAPTER 24

1 Joash *was* a son of seven years when he began to reign, and he reigned forty years in Jerusalem; and also his mother's name was Zibiah of Beer Sheba.

2 And Joash did right in the eyes of Jehovah all the days of Jehoiada, the priest.

3 And Jehoiada lifted for him two wives, and he begot sons and daughters.

4 And it was after this, that it was upon the heart of Joash to renew the house of Jehovah.

5 And he gathered together the priests and the Levites, and said to them, Go out to the cities of Judah, and gather of all Israel silver to strengthen the house of your God from year to year, and you make the word flow as liquid. And the Levites did not make it flow as liquid.

6 And the king called for Jehoiada, the head, and said to him, Why have you not treaded to seek of the Levites to bring in out of Judah and out of Jerusalem the raising up according to Moses, the servant of Jehovah, and of the congregation of Israel for the tent of the testimony?

7 Because the sons of Athaliah, that wicked female, had broken up the house of God, and also they made all the sanctified things of the house of Jehovah to Baals.

8 And the king said to, and they made a chest, and gave it outside at the gate of the house of Jehovah.

2 CHRONICLES 24 *Offering to repair Temple; Jehoiada dies; they forsake God; Zechariah stoned*

9 And they gave a proclamation through Judah and Jerusalem to bring in to Jehovah the raising of offering Moses, the servant of God, laid upon Israel in the desert.

10 And all the chief rulers and all the people rejoiced, and brought in and threw down into the chest until they finished.

11 And it was, each time the chest was brought to the king's visitation by the hand of the Levites and they saw that *there was* much silver, the king's scribe and the head priest's superintendent came and emptied the chest, and lifted it, and returned it to its place. Thus they did day by day, and gathered silver in abundance.

12 And the king and Jehoiada gave it to those who did the work of the service of the house of Jehovah, and hired cutters and fabricators to renew the house of Jehovah, and also fabricators of iron and bronze to strengthen the house of Jehovah.

13 And the doers did the work, and the restoration work went up by them, and they stood the house of God to its measurement, and made it solid.

14 And when they had finished it, they brought the rest of the silver before the face of the king and Jehoiada, and they made vessels for the house of Jehovah, vessels for service and to offer up, and spoons and vessels of gold and silver. And it was, they offered up burnt offerings in the house of Jehovah continually all the days of Jehoiada.

15 And Jehoiada was old, and was full of days; and he died, a son of a hundred and thirty years when he died.

16 And they buried him in the city of David among the kings, because he had done good in Israel, both toward God and toward his house.

17 And after the death of Jehoiada the chief rulers of Judah came and prostrated themselves to the king. At that time the king heard them attentively.

18 And they forsook the house of Jehovah God of their fathers, and served pole images and carved images, and wrath was upon Judah and Jerusalem for this their trespass.

19 And he sent to them prophets to turn them back to Jehovah; and they testified against them, and they would not broaden their ear.

20 And the Spirit of God clothed Zechariah, the son of Jehoiada, the priest, and he stood above the people, and said to them, Thus says God, Why do you cross over against the commandments of Jehovah? And you cannot prosper; he also has forsaken you because you have forsaken Jehovah.

21 And they conspired against him, and stoned him with stones at the commandment of the king in the court of the house of Jehovah.

22 And Joash, the king, did not remember the mercy which Jehoiada, his father, had done to him, and fatally struck his son. And when he died, he said, Jehovah see, and tread seeking *it*.

23 And it was, at the end of the year the resources of Syria came up against him; and they came to Judah and Jerusalem and destroyed all the chief rulers of the people from among the people, and sent all their spoil to the king of Damascus,

24 Because the resources of the Syrians came with a few men, and Jehovah gave exceeding abundant resources into their hand, because they had forsaken Jehovah God of their fathers; and they did the sentence of judgment against Joash.

25 And when they walked from him (because they left him in great diseases) his servants conspired against him for the blood of the sons of Jehoiada, the priest, and fatally struck him on his bed, and he died; and they buried him in the city of David, and they did not bury him in the sepulchers of the kings.

26 And these *are* those who conspired against him: Zabad, the son of Shimeath, an Ammonitess, and Jehozabad, the son of Shimrith, a Moabitess.

27 And concerning his sons, the increase of the burdens upon him, and the foundation of the house of God, behold, they are written in the research of the book of the kings. And Amaziah, his son, reigned in his place.

CHAPTER 25

1 Amaziah, a son of twenty-five years, began to reign, and he reigned twenty-nine years in Jerusalem; and his mother's name was Jehoaddan of Jerusalem.

2 And he did right in the eyes of Jehovah, but not with a complete heart.

3 And it was, that the kingdom was strong to him, and he fatally struck his servants who had struck the king, his father.

4 And he did not put their children to death, because it is written in the law in the book of Moses that Jehovah commanded, saying, The fathers shall not be put to death for the children, and the children shall not be put to death for the fathers, but every man shall die for his own sin.

5 And Amaziah gathered Judah together, and stood for them chief rulers over thousands and chief rulers over hundreds according to the houses of their fathers throughout all Judah and Benjamin, and he visited them from a son of twenty years and up, and found them three hundred thousand choice *men* to go forth in the host who could handle spear and shield.

6 And he hired a hundred thousand mighty men of resources out of Israel for a hundred talents of silver.

7 And a man of God came to him, saying, Oh king, do not let the host of Israel go with you, because Jehovah is not with Israel, all the children of Ephraim.

8 But if you will go to do it to be strong for the battle God shall cause you to waiver weak legged before the face of the enemy, because to God there exists power to surround with help, and to cause you to waver weak legged.

2 CHRONICLES 25 *Men of Israel rejected from the army strike Judah; Amaziah wars Israel*

9 And Amaziah said to the man of God, And what shall we do for the hundred talents which I have given to the army of Israel? And the man of God said, With Jehovah there exists to give you abundantly more than this.

10 And Amaziah separated them, the army who came to him out of Ephraim, to walk to their place, and their nostrils burned exceedingly against Judah, and they turned back to their place with their nostrils burning.

11 And Amaziah seized strength, and led forth his people, and walked to the valley of salt, and struck ten thousand of the children of Seir.

12 And the children of Judah transported ten thousand alive as captives, and they brought them to the head of the lofty rock, and threw them down from the head of the lofty rock, and they all were broken in pieces.

13 And the sons of the army which Amaziah sent back that they should not walk with him to battle, spread out against the cities of Judah from Samaria even to Beth-horon, and struck three thousand of them and plundered much spoil.

14 And it was afterwards, Amaziah came from the strike against the Edomites, and he brought the gods of the children of Seir, and stood them up as his gods, and prostrated himself before their face, and burned perfumed incense to them.

15 And the nostrils of Jehovah burned against Amaziah, and he sent to him a prophet, and said

to him, Why have you treaded seeking after the gods of the people which could not snatch their own people out of your hand?

16 And it was, as he spoke with him that he said to him, Are you given to counsel the king? Cease from me! Why should they strike you? And the prophet ceased, and said, I know by seeing that God has determined to destroy you because you have done this, and have not attentively heard my counsel.

17 And Amaziah, king of Judah, took counsel, and sent to Joash, the son of Jehoahaz, the son of Jehu, king of Israel, saying, Walk, let us look one another in the face.

18 And Joash, king of Israel, sent to Amaziah, king of Judah, saying, The thorn that *was* in Lebanon sent to the cedar that *was* in Lebanon, saying, Give your daughter to my son as wife; and a living creature that *was* in Lebanon crossed over, and treaded down the thorn.

19 You say, Lo, you have struck the Edomites; and you lift up your heart in heavy glory; sit down now at *your* house; why should you scrape up evil to yourself, and fall, you and Judah with you?

20 And Amaziah would not attentively hear because it *was* of God in order that he might give them into their hand, because they treaded seeking after the gods of Edom.

21 And Joash, the king of Israel, went up, and they looked one another in the face, he and Amaziah, king of Judah, at Beth

Shemesh which *is* to Judah.

22 And Judah was pushed back before the face of Israel, and they fled every man to his tent.

23 And Joash, the king of Israel, captured Amaziah, king of Judah, the son of Joash, the son of Jehoahaz, at Beth Shemesh, and brought him to Jerusalem, and broke down the wall of Jerusalem from the gate of Ephraim to the corner gate, four hundred cubits;

24 And *took* all the gold and the silver, and all the vessels that were found in the house of God with Obed Edom, and the treasures of the king's house, and the hostages, and returned to Samaria.

25 And Amaziah, the son of Joash, king of Judah, lived after the death of Joash, son of Jehoahaz, king of Israel, fifteen years.

26 And what is left of the words of Amaziah, first and last, behold, are they not written in the book of the kings of Judah and Israel?

27 And after the time that Amaziah turned away from after Jehovah, conspiring, they conspired against him in Jerusalem, and he fled to Lachish; and they sent to Lachish after him, and killed him there.

28 And they lifted him upon horses, and buried him with his fathers in the city of Judah.

CHAPTER 26

1 And all the people of Judah took Uzziah, and he *was* a son of sixteen years, and made him king in the place of his father, Amaziah.

2 He built Eloth, and returned it to Judah; after that the king lay down with his fathers.

3 Uzziah *was* a son of sixteen years when he began to reign, and he reigned fifty-two years in Jerusalem; and his mother's name *was* Jecoliah of Jerusalem.

4 And he did right in the eyes of Jehovah, according to all that his father, Amaziah, did.

5 And he treaded seeking God in the days of Zechariah, who had understanding to see God, and in his days of treading to seek Jehovah, God prospered him.

6 And he went out, and devoured against the Palestinians, and broke down the wall of Gath, and the wall of Jabneh, and the wall of Ashdod, and built cities about Ashdod and among the Palestinians.

7 And God surrounded him with help against the Palestinians and against the Arabians that dwelt in Gurbaal and the Mehunims.

8 And the Ammonites gave gifts to Uzziah, and his name walked on as far as the going in of Egypt, because he seized strength to the top.

9 And Uzziah built towers in Jerusalem at the corner gate, and at the valley gate, and at the corner, and strengthened them.

10 Also he built towers in the desert, and cut many pools, because to him was abundant livestock, both in the coastal slopes, and in the plains, farmers, and vine dressers in the mountains and in Carmel because he loved the soil.

2 CHRONICLES 26 *Uzziah prospers, in pride goes into the Temple, becomes a leper*

11 And to Uzziah were resources to do war that went out in the host by armies, according to the number of their visitation by the hand of Jeiel, the scribe, and Maaseiah, the officer, under the hand of Hananiah of the king's chief rulers.

12 The whole number of the chief rulers of the fathers of the mighty men of resources *were* two thousand and six hundred.

13 And under their hand *was* an army host, three hundred thousand, and seven thousand, five hundred, who made war with powerful resources to surround the king with help against those hating *him*.

14 And Uzziah set up for them throughout all the host shields, and spears, and helmets, and coats of mail, and bows, and slings for stones.

15 And he made in Jerusalem devices, calculated devices, to be on the towers and upon the bulwarks to cause arrows to flow and great stones; and his name went out far abroad, because he was marvelously surrounded with help until he was strong.

16 And when he prevailed in power his heart soared up to his destruction, and he acted treacherously against Jehovah, his God, and went into the temple of Jehovah to burn perfumed incense upon the altar of incense.

17 And Azariah, the priest, went in after him, and with him eighty priests of Jehovah, sons of resources;

18 And they stood against Uzziah, the king, and said to him, *It is not to you, Uzziah, to burn perfumed incense to Jehovah, but to the priests, the sons of Aaron, who are sanctified to burn perfumed incense; go out of the sanctuary because you have acted treacherously; and it shall not be to your heavy glory from Jehovah God.*

19 And Uzziah boiled over, and in his hand *was* a censer to burn perfumed incense; and he was boiling over at the priests, and the leprosy rose up in his forehead before the face of the priests in the house of Jehovah over against the altar of incense.

20 And Azariah, the head priest, and all the priests faced about to him, and behold, he was leprous in his forehead, and they trembled with alarm there; and also, he hurried to go out, because Jehovah had laid his hand upon him.

21 And Uzziah, the king, was a leper to the day of his death, and dwelt as a leper in a hospital, because he was cut off from the house of Jehovah; and Jotham, his son, *was* over the king's house, judging the people of the land.

22 And what is left of the words of Uzziah, first and last, Isaiah, the prophet, the son of Amoz, wrote.

23 And Uzziah lay down with his fathers, and they buried him with his fathers in the field of the burial which *was* to the kings, because they said, He is a leper; and Jotham, his son, reigned in his place.

CHAPTER 27

1 Jotham was a son of twenty-five years when he began to reign, and he reigned sixteen years in Jerusalem; and his mother's name was Jerushah, the daughter of Zadok.

2 And he did right in the eyes of Jehovah, according to all that his father, Uzziah, did; however he did not go into the temple of Jehovah. And still the people destroyed themselves.

3 He built the high gate of the house of Jehovah, and he built much on the wall of Ophel.

4 And he built cities in the mountains of Judah, and he built fortresses and towers in the forests.

5 And he devoured with the king of the Ammonites, and prevailed against them. And the children of Ammon gave him that year a hundred talents of silver, and ten thousand measures of wheat, and ten thousand of barley. This the children of Ammon turned back to him, both the second year and the third.

6 And Jotham became mighty, because he set up his ways before the face of Jehovah his God.

7 And what is left of the words of Jotham, and all his wars, and his ways, lo, they are written in the book of the kings of Israel and Judah.

8 He was a son of twenty-five years when he began to reign, and reigned sixteen years in Jerusalem.

9 And Jotham lay down with his fathers, and they buried him in the city of David; and Ahaz, his son,

reigned in his place.

CHAPTER 28

1 Ahaz *was* a son of twenty years when he began to reign, and he reigned sixteen years in Jerusalem; and he did not do right in the eyes of Jehovah like David, his father;

2 And he walked in the ways of the kings of Israel, and made also molten images for Baals.

3 And he burned perfumed incense in the valley of the son of Hinnom, and burnt his children in the fire after the abominations of the peoples whom Jehovah had possessed before the face of the children of Israel.

4 And he sacrificed and burned perfumed incense in the high places, and on the hills, and under every green tree.

5 And Jehovah, his God, gave him into the hand of the king of Syria, and they struck him, and transported a great multitude of them captives, and brought them to Damascus. And he was also given into the hand of the king of Israel, and he struck him with a great blow.

6 And Pekah, the son of Remaliah, fatally struck in Judah a hundred and twenty thousand in one day, all sons of resources, because they had forsaken Jehovah God of their fathers.

7 And Zichri, a mighty man of Ephraim, fatally struck Maaseiah, the king's son, and Azrikam, the commander of the house, and Elkanah, second to the king.

2 CHRONICLES 28

Obed rebukes Israel for taking captives of Judah; Abaz distressed by enemies

8 And the children of Israel transported into captivity of their brothers two hundred thousand women, sons, and daughters, and also plundered abundant spoil from them, and brought the spoil to Samaria.

9 And there was a prophet of Jehovah, whose name *was* Oded, and he went out before the face of the host that came to Samaria; and said to them, Behold, because Jehovah God of your fathers was hot with anger with Judah, he has given them into your hand, and you have fatally struck them in a boiling rage that touches the heavens.

10 And now you say to tread under the children of Judah and Jerusalem for menservants and maidservants to you; *are there* not with you, even with you, sins against Jehovah your God?

11 And now hear me attentively, and return the captives, whom you have transported captive of your brothers, because the burning anger of the nostrils of Jehovah *is* upon you.

12 And men of the heads of the children of Ephraim, Azariah, the son of Johanan, Berechiah, the son of Meshillemoth, and Jehizkiah, the son of Shallum, and Amasa, the son of Hadlai, rose up against them who came from the war,

13 And said to them, You shall not bring in the captives here, because we are guilty against Jehovah; you say to add to our sins and to our guilt because our guilt *is* great, and the burning anger of his nostrils *is* against Israel.

14 And those equipped with arms left the captives, and the spoil before the face of the chief rulers and all the congregation.

15 And the men who were punctured out by name rose, and seized the captives, and out of the spoil clothed all who were stripped; and they clothed them, and shod them, and gave them *something* to eat and to drink, and anointed them, and caused all those wavering weak legged to flow with a sparkle upon donkeys, and brought them to Jericho, the city of palm trees, to their brothers; and they returned to Samaria.

16 At that time King Ahaz sent to the kings of Assyria to surround him with help.

17 And again the Edomites had come and struck Judah, and transported away captives.

18 And the Palestinians had invaded the cities of the coastal slopes and of the Negev of Judah, and had captured Beth Shemesh, and Ajalon, and Gederoth, and Shocho with their villages, and Timnah with its villages, and Gimzo and its villages; and they dwelt there,

19 Because Jehovah caused Judah to bend their knees on account of Ahaz, king of Israel, because he stripped Judah and covered a treachery against Jehovah.

20 And Tilgath Pilneser, king of Assyria, came against him, and distressed him, and did not strengthen him,

21 Because Ahaz took an allotment out of the house of Jehovah, and of the house of the king,

and of the princes, and gave to the king of Assyria; and he did not help him.

22 And in the time of his distress he increased treachery against Jehovah, *this* King Ahaz.

23 And he sacrificed to the gods of Damascus which struck him; and he said, Because the gods of the kings of Syria surrounded them with help I will sacrifice to them, and they will surround me with help. And they were his wavering weakness and of all Israel.

24 And Ahaz gathered together the vessels of the house of God, and cut in pieces the vessels of the house of God, and shut up the doors of the house of Jehovah, and he made him altars in every corner of Jerusalem.

25 And he made high places to burn perfumed incense to other gods in the whole *land* of Judah, city by city, and provoked Jehovah God of his fathers.

26 And what is left of his words and of all his ways, first and last, behold, they are written in the book of the kings of Judah and Israel.

27 And Ahaz lay down with his fathers, and they buried him in the city, in Jerusalem; but they did not bring him into the sepulchers of the kings of Israel; and Hezekiah, his son, reigned in his place.

CHAPTER 29

1 Hezekiah, a son of twenty-five years, began to reign, and he reigned twenty-nine years in Jerusalem; and his mother's name was Abijah, the daughter of

Zechariah.

2 And he did right in the eyes of Jehovah according to all that David, his father, had done.

3 In the first year of his reign, in the first new moon, he opened the doors of the house of Jehovah, and strengthened them.

4 And he brought in the priests and the Levites, and gathered them together into the east street,

5 And said to them, Hear me attentively, you Levites; sanctify yourselves at this time, and sanctify the house of Jehovah God of your fathers, and carry out the filthiness out of the holy *place*,

6 Because our fathers have acted treacherously, and done evil in the eyes of Jehovah, our God, and have forsaken him, and have turned away their faces from the tabernacle of Jehovah, and given *him* their backs.

7 Also they have shut up the doors of the porch, and extinguished the lamps, and have not burned perfumed incense, and have not offered up burnt offerings in the holy *place* to the God of Israel.

8 And the wrath of Jehovah was upon Judah and Jerusalem, and he has given them to fearful agitation, to astonishment, and to hissing, what you see with your eyes.

9 And lo, our fathers have fallen by the sword, and our sons and our daughters, and our wives are captured for this.

10 At this time *it is* in my heart to cut a covenant with Jehovah God of Israel, and he will turn back from us the burning anger of his

2 CHRONICLES 29 *Hezekiah commands Levites to cleanse the Temple; they offer sacrifices*

nostrils.

11 Now, my sons, do not be misled, because Jehovah has chosen you to stand before his face to serve him, and you to be ministers to him, and burn perfumed incense.

12 And the Levites rose, Mahath, the son of Amasai, and Joel, the son of Azariah of the sons of the Kohathites; and of the sons of Merari: Kish, the son of Abdi, and Azariah, the son of Jehalelel; and of the Gershonites: Joah, the son of Zimmah, and Eden, the son of Joah;

13 And of the sons of Elizaphan: Shimri, and Jeiel; and of the sons of Asaph: Zechariah, and Mattaniah;

14 And of the sons of Heman: Jehiel and Shimei; and of the sons of Jeduthun: Shemaiah and Uzziel.

15 And they gathered their brothers, and sanctified themselves, and came according to the commandment of the king by the words of Jehovah to cleanse the house of Jehovah.

16 And the priests went into the inner part of the house of Jehovah to cleanse it, and brought out all the uncleanness that they found in the temple of Jehovah into the court of the house of Jehovah; and the Levites took it to carry it out, outside into the stream Kidron.

17 And they began on the first of the first new moon to sanctify, and on the eighth day of the new moon they came to the porch of Jehovah; and they sanctified the house of Jehovah in eight days; and in the sixteenth day of the first new moon they finished.

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18 And they went in to Hezekiah, the king, and said, We have cleansed all the house of Jehovah, and the altar of burnt offering with all its vessels, and the table of arranged *bread* with all its vessels.

19 And we have set up and sanctified all the vessels which King Ahaz in his reign threw away in his treachery, and behold, they are before the face of the altar of Jehovah.

20 And Hezekiah, the king, loaded up early, and gathered the chief rulers of the city, and went up to the house of Jehovah.

21 And they brought seven bullocks, and seven rams, and seven lambs, and seven he goats for a sin offering for the kingdom, and for the sanctuary, and for Judah. And he said to the priests, the sons of Aaron, to offer *them* up on the altar of Jehovah.

22 And they slaughtered the bullocks, and the priests received the blood and sprinkled it on the altar; and they slaughtered the rams, and they sprinkled the blood upon the altar; and they slaughtered the lambs, and they sprinkled the blood upon the altar.

23 And they brought forth the he goats, the sin offering, before the face of the king and the congregation, and they took hold with their hands upon them;

24 And the priests slaughtered them, and they offered for sin with their blood upon the altar to cover for all Israel, because the king said the burnt offering and the sin offering *are* for all Israel.

25 And he stood the Levites in the house of Jehovah with cymbals, with lyres, and with harps, according to the commandment of David and of Gad, the king's seer, and Nathan, the prophet, because by the hand of Jehovah *is* the command by the hand of his prophets.

26 And the Levites stood with the instruments of David, and the priests with the trumpets.

27 And Hezekiah said to offer up the burnt offering upon the altar. And at the time the burnt offering began, the song of Jehovah and of the trumpets began, and by the hand of the instruments of David, king of Israel.

28 And all the congregation prostrated themselves, and the singers sang, and the trumpeters sounded; and all *this continued* until the burnt offering was finished.

29 And when they had made an end of offering, the king and all found with him bent their knees, and prostrated themselves.

30 And Hezekiah, the king, and the chief rulers said to the Levites to boast in Jehovah with the words of David and of Asaph, the seer. And they boasted with rejoicing, and they bowed and prostrated themselves.

31 And Hezekiah answered and said, At this time you have filled your hand to Jehovah; come near and bring sacrifices, and raise your hands in the house of Jehovah. And the congregation brought in sacrifices, and raised their hands; and everyone of a generous heart *brought* burnt offerings.

32 And the number of the burnt offerings which the congregation brought was seventy bullocks, a hundred rams, and two hundred lambs; all these *were* a burnt offering to Jehovah.

33 And the sanctified *were*: six hundred oxen and three thousand flock animals.

34 But the priests were too few, and they were not able to flay all the burnt offerings; and their brothers, the Levites, seized to strengthen them until the work was ended, and until the other priests had sanctified themselves, because the Levites *were* more upright in heart to sanctify themselves than the priests.

35 And also the burnt offerings *were* in abundance with the fat of the peace offerings and the drink offerings for every burnt offering. And the service of the house of Jehovah was set up.

36 And Hezekiah and all the people rejoiced that God had set up the people, because the word was sudden.

CHAPTER 30

1 And Hezekiah sent to all Israel and Judah, and wrote letters also to Ephraim and Manasseh that they should come to the house of Jehovah at Jerusalem to do the Passover to Jehovah God of Israel.

2 And the king had taken counsel, and his chief rulers and all the congregation in Jerusalem, to do the Passover in the second new moon,

2 CHRONICLES 30 *Hezekiah does the Passover; many in Israel laugh at them; some come*

3 Because they were not able to do it at that time, because the priests had not sanctified themselves sufficiently, and the people had gathered to Jerusalem.

4 And the word was right to the king and all the congregation.

5 And they caused a word to stand for a call to cross over throughout all Israel, from Beer Sheba even to Dan, that they should come to do the Passover to Jehovah God of Israel at Jerusalem, because they had not done it for a long time as it was written.

6 And the runners walked with the letters from the hand of the king, and his chief rulers throughout all Israel and Judah, and according to the command of the king, saying, Children of Israel, turn back to Jehovah God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, and he will turn back to the remnant of you who are escaped out of the palm of the kings of Assyria.

7 And do not be like your fathers and like your brothers who acted treacherously against Jehovah God of their fathers, and *he* gave them up to destruction, what you see.

8 Now do not be dense as your fathers; give your hand to Jehovah, and go into his sanctuary which he has sanctified forever, and serve Jehovah your God, and the burning anger of his nostrils will turn back from you,

9 Because if you turn back to Jehovah *there shall be* compassion to your brothers and your children before the face of them who transported them into captivity, and

they shall return into this land because Jehovah your God *is* gracious and compassionate, and will not turn away *his* face from you if you turn back to him.

10 And the runners crossed over from city to city through the land of Ephraim and Manasseh, and to Zebulun, and they were laughing at them, and mocking them.

11 Only men of Asher, and Manasseh, and of Zebulun bent their knees, and came to Jerusalem.

12 Also in Judah the hand of God was to give them one heart to do the commandment of the king and of the chief rulers by the word of Jehovah.

13 And many people gathered to Jerusalem to do the feast of unleavened bread in the second new moon, a very great congregation.

14 And they rose, and took away the altars that were in Jerusalem, and they took away all the altars for incense, and threw them into the stream Kidron.

15 And they slaughtered the Passover on the fourteenth day of the second new moon, and the priests and the Levites were reproached and sanctified themselves, and brought in the burnt offerings into the house of Jehovah.

16 And they stood in their place after their judged decree of the law of Moses, the man of God; the priests sprinkled the blood out of the hand of the Levites.

17 Because *there were* many in the congregation who were not sanctified, and the Levites *were*

over the slaughter of the Passovers for everyone not clean, to sanctify *them* to Jehovah,

18 Because a multitude of the people, many of Ephraim and Manasseh, Issachar, and Zebulun, had not cleansed themselves, but did eat the Passover not as written, because Hezekiah judged in prayer for them, saying, The good Jehovah cover everyone,

19 All who has set up his heart to tread seeking God, Jehovah God of his fathers, though not *cleansed* according to the ceremonial purification of the sanctuary.

20 And Jehovah attentively heard Hezekiah, and healed the people.

21 And the children of Israel who came forth to Jerusalem did the feast of unleavened bread seven days with great rejoicing, and the Levites and the priests boasted in Jehovah day by day with loud instruments to Jehovah.

22 And Hezekiah spoke to the heart of all the Levites who made the good knowledge of Jehovah intelligently successful, and they ate the feast seven days, sacrificing sacrifices of peace offerings, and raising their hands to Jehovah God of their fathers.

23 And the whole assembly took counsel to do another seven days, and they did *another* seven days with rejoicing,

24 Because Hezekiah, king of Judah, raised for the congregation a thousand bullocks and seven thousand flock animals; and the chief rulers raised for the congregation a thousand bullocks and ten

thousand flock animals; and a great number of priests sanctified themselves.

25 And all the congregation of Judah, and the priests and the Levites, and all the congregation who came out of Israel, and the strangers who came out of the land of Israel, and who dwelt in Judah, rejoiced.

26 And there was great rejoicing in Jerusalem, because since the time of Solomon, the son of David, king of Israel, *there was* not this in Jerusalem.

27 And the priests, the Levites, rose, and blessed the people; and their voice was attentively heard, and their prayer came up to his holy dwelling place in the heavens.

CHAPTER 31

1 And when all this was finished, all Israel who had come forth went out to the cities of Judah, and burst the idolatrous columns in pieces, and cut down the pole images, and tore down the high places, and the altars out of all Judah and Benjamin, and in Ephraim and Manasseh, until they had ended *them*; and all the children of Israel returned, every man to his possession, into their own cities.

2 And Hezekiah stood the divisions of the priests and the Levites upon their divisions, every man according to the mouth of his service, the priests and Levites for burnt offerings and for peace offerings, to minister, and to raise their hands, and to boast in the gates of the encampment of Jehovah.

2 CHRONICLES 31 *Hezekiah commands and Israel and Judah bring tithes and offerings*

3 And from his property the king allotted for the burnt offerings - for the dawn and dusk burnt offerings, and the burnt offerings for the Sabbaths, and for the new moons, and for the appointed feasts, as it is written in the law of Jehovah. Num 18-19; Lev 23

4 And he said to the people who dwelt in Jerusalem, Give the allotment of the priests and the Levites that they may be strengthened in the law of Jehovah.

5 And as the commandment broke out, the children of Israel brought in abundance the first of grain, grape juice, and oil, and honey, and of all the increase of the fields, and they brought in the tithe of all abundantly.

6 And the children of Israel and Judah who dwelt in the cities of Judah also brought in the tithe of oxen and sheep, and the tithe of sanctified things which were sanctified to Jehovah, their God, and gave them heaps by heaps.

7 In the third new moon they began to lay the foundation of the heaps, and finished them in the seventh new moon.

8 And Hezekiah and the chief rulers came and saw the heaps, and they blessed Jehovah and his people Israel.

9 And Hezekiah treaded seeking with the priests and the Levites concerning the heaps.

10 And Azariah, the head priest of the house of Zadok, said to him, and said, Since they began to bring the offerings into the house of Jehovah, we have had enough to eat and abundance is left, be-

cause Jehovah has blessed his people, and this great store is left.

11 And Hezekiah said to set up rooms in the house of Jehovah, and they set *them* up,

12 And faithfully brought in the offerings, and the tithes, and the sanctified things, and the commander over *this was* Cononiah, the Levite, and Shimei, his brother, *was* the second.

13 And Jehiel, and Azaziah, and Nahath, and Asahel, and Jerimoth, and Jozabad, and Eliel, and Ismachiah, and Mahath, and Benaiah, were overseers under the hand of Cononiah, and Shimei, his brother, at the appointment of Hezekiah, the king, and Azariah, the commander of the house of God.

14 And Kore, the son of Imnah, the Levite, the porter toward the east, *was* over the free-will offerings of God, to give the presents of Jehovah and the holy things.

15 And under his hand were Eden, and Miniamin, and Jeshua, and Shemaiah, Amariah, and Shecaniah, in their trustworthiness in the cities of the priests to give to their brothers by divisions, to the great as to the small,

16 Separate from their genealogy of males, from a son of three years and upward to everyone who goes into the house of Jehovah, his word day by day for their service in their guard duty according to their divisions;

17 And the genealogy of the priests and the Levites by the house of their fathers from twenty years old and upward in their guard duty

by their divisions;

18 And to the genealogy of all their little ones, their wives, and their sons, and their daughters, through all the congregation, because in their trustworthiness they sanctified themselves in holiness;

19 And of the sons of Aaron, the priests, in the fields of the pasture lands of their cities, in city by city, the men who were punctured out by name, to give, weighed out portions to all the males among the priests, and to all that were reckoned by genealogies among the Levites.

20 And Hezekiah did this throughout all Judah, and did good and right and truth before the face of Jehovah his God.

21 And in every work that he began in the service of the house of God, and in the law, and in the commandments, to tread seeking his God, he did it with all his heart, and prospered.

CHAPTER 32

1 After these words and faithfulness, Sennacherib, king of Assyria, came, and came into Judah, and pitched against the fortified cities, and said to break them open to himself.

2 And Hezekiah saw that Sennacherib had come, and that he faced the battle against Jerusalem,

3 And he took counsel with his chief rulers and his mighty men to stop the waters of the fountains which *were* outside of the city, and they surrounded him with help.

4 And many people gathered together, and stopped all the fountains and the stream that flushed through the midst of the land, saying, Why should the kings of Assyria come and find abundant water?

5 Also he strengthened himself, and built up all the wall that was broken, and raised it up to the towers, and another wall outside, and strengthened Millo in the city of David, and made missiles and shields in abundance.

6 And he gave chief rulers of war over the people, and gathered them together to him in the street of the gate of the city, and spoke to their hearts, saying,

7 Be strong and powerfully alert; do not fear, and do not break down in the face of the king of Assyria and in the face of all the multitude that *is* with him, because *there are* more with us than with him;

8 With him *is* an arm of flesh, and with us is Jehovah our God to surround us with help and to devour in our battles. And the people took hold upon the words of Hezekiah, king of Judah.

9 After this, Sennacherib, king of Assyria, sent his servants to Jerusalem (and he *came* against Lachish and all his realm with him) to Hezekiah, king of Judah, and to all Judah who *were* at Jerusalem, saying,

10 Thus says Sennacherib, king of Assyria, On what do you trust, that you sit down in the siege in Jerusalem?

2 CHRONICLES 32 *Assyria reproaches Judah; Hezekiah and Isaiah pray; Jehovah saves Judah*

11 Does not Hezekiah prod you to give yourselves to die by hunger and by thirst, saying, Jehovah, our God, shall snatch us out of the palm of the king of Assyria?

12 Has not Hezekiah himself taken away his high places and his altars, and said to Judah and Jerusalem, saying, You shall prostrate yourselves before the face of one altar, and burn perfumed incense upon it? Note 2 Kngs 18:22

13 Do you not know by seeing what I and my fathers have done to all the people of the lands? Were any of the gods of the peoples of those lands able to snatch their lands out of my hand?

14 Who *was there* among all the gods of those peoples that my fathers devoted *to destruction* who were able to snatch his people out of my hand, that your God should be able to snatch you out of my hand?

15 And now do not let Hezekiah deceive you, and do not let him prod you in this, and do not believe him, because no god of any people or kingdom was able to snatch his people out of my hand and out of the hand of my fathers; surely your God shall not snatch you out of my hand?

16 And his servants spoke repeatedly against Jehovah God and against his servant, Hezekiah.

17 And he wrote letters to reproach Jehovah God of Israel, and to say against him, saying, As the gods of the peoples of the lands have not snatched their people out of my hand, so the God of Hezekiah shall not snatch his people

out of my hand.

18 And they called out with a loud voice in the Jews' language to the people of Jerusalem who *were* on the wall to frighten them and to cause them to tremble with alarm so that they might capture the city.

19 And they spoke against the God of Jerusalem as against the gods of the people of the earth, the work of the hands of man.

20 And Hezekiah, the king, and the prophet Isaiah, the son of Amoz, judged in prayer over this and screamed to the heavens.

21 And Jehovah sent *the Messenger* who hid *in destruction* all the mighty men of resources, and the commanders, and chief rulers in the camp of the king of Assyria. And he turned back with shame of face to his land; and when he came into the house of his god, they who came out of his insides fell on him there with the sword.

22 And Jehovah saved Hezekiah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem from the hand of Sennacherib, the king of Assyria, and from the hand of all, and caused them to flow with a sparkle on every side.

23 And many brought gifts to Jehovah to Jerusalem, and precious gems to Hezekiah, king of Judah, and he was lifted up in the eyes of all peoples thereafter.

24 In those days Hezekiah was worn *out ready* to die, and judged in prayer to Jehovah; and he said to him, and he gave him a miracle.

25 And Hezekiah did not return *to God* according to the benefit to him, because his heart was lifted up; therefore there was wrath upon him and upon Judah and Jerusalem.

26 And Hezekiah bent his knees for the loftiness of his heart, he and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and the wrath of Jehovah did not come upon them in the days of Hezekiah.

27 And to Hezekiah was exceeding much wealth and heavy glory, and he made for himself treasuries for silver, and for gold, and for precious stones, and for spices, and for shields, and for all manner of delightful implements;

28 And storehouses for the increase of grain and grape juice and oil, and stalls for all kinds of animals and stalls for flocks.

29 And he made for him cities, and livestock of flock animals and cattle in abundance, because God had given him very much property.

30 And he, Hezekiah, stopped the going out of the water of the heights of Gihon, and brought it straight down to the west side of the city of David. And Hezekiah prospered in all his works.

31 And so in *reference to* the scoffing of the chief rulers of Babylon, who sent to him to tread seeking concerning the miracle that was in the land, God forsook him to test him, that he might know by seeing all *that was* in his heart.

32 And what is left of the words of Hezekiah and his mercy, behold, they are written in the vi-

sion of Isaiah, the prophet, the son of Amoz, in the book of the kings of Judah and Israel.

33 And Hezekiah lay down with his fathers, and they buried him in the high place of the sepulchers of the sons of David; and all Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem did heavy glory to him at his death. And Manasseh, his son, reigned in his place.

CHAPTER 33

1 Manasseh *was* a son of twelve years when he began to reign, and he reigned fifty-five years in Jerusalem;

2 And did evil in the eyes of Jehovah like the abominations of the peoples whom Jehovah had possessed before the face of the children of Israel.

3 And he turned back and built the high places which Hezekiah, his father, had torn down, and he raised up altars for Baals, and made pole images, and prostrated themselves to all the host of the heavens, and served them.

4 And he built altars in the house of Jehovah where Jehovah had said, My name shall be in Jerusalem forever.

5 And he built altars for all the host of the heavens in the two courts of the house of Jehovah.

6 And he caused his children to cross over through the fire in the valley of the son of Hinnom, and he practiced secret arts, and whispered spells and enchantments, and dealt with channelers, and with occult false prophets; he did much evil

2 CHRONICLES 33

Manasseh's idolatry, repentance, and removal of idols

in the eyes of Jehovah to provoke him.⁶

7 And he put a carved idol, the image which he had made, in the house of God, of which God had said to David and to Solomon, his son, In this house and in Jerusalem which I have chosen before all the tribes of Israel, I will put my name forever;

8 And I will not any more remove the foot of Israel from out of the land which I stood for your fathers; only if they will hedge about to do all that I have commanded them, according to the whole law, and the enactments, and the judgments by the hand of Moses.

9 And Manasseh caused Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem to stray, to do worse than the peoples whom Jehovah had desolated before the face of the children of Israel.

10 And Jehovah spoke to Manasseh and to his people, and they would not prick up their ears.

11 And Jehovah brought upon them the chief rulers of the host of the king of Assyria, and he captured Manasseh among the thorns, and bound him with bronze fetters, and walked him to Babylon.

12 And in his distress he rubbed the face of Jehovah, his God, and bent his knees exceedingly before the face of the God of his fathers,

13 And judged in prayer to him, and ignited a prayer as incense to him, and he attentively heard his prayer, and returned him to Jerusalem into his kingdom. And Manasseh knew by seeing that Jehovah, he *is* God.

14 And just after he built a wall outside the city of David on the west side of Gihon by the stream and at the entering in at the fish gate, and surrounded Ophel and lifted it greatly, and put chief rulers of resources in all the fortified cities of Judah.

15 And he took away the foreign gods, and the idol out of the house of Jehovah, and all the altars that he had built in the mount of the house of Jehovah, and in Jerusalem, and threw *them* outside of the city.

16 And he built the altar of Jehovah, and sacrificed there sacrifices of peace, and raised their hands, and said to Judah to serve Jehovah God of Israel.

17 Yet the people continued to sacrifice in the high places, although to Jehovah their God.

18 And what is left of the words of Manasseh, and his prayer to his God, and the words of the seers who spoke to him in the name of Jehovah God of Israel, behold, they *are written* in the book of the kings of Israel.

19 And his prayer, and his igniting prayer as incense, and all his sin, and his treachery, and the places where he built high places, and stood pole images, and carved images, before he bent his knees, behold, they are written among the

⁶ 33:6 This is the same identical list of occult practices forbidden by God in Deut 18:10 except the last one in Deut, to tread seeking the dead, is not included in the practices of Manasseh in 2 Chr. See Note Deut 18:10.

words of the seers.

20 And Manasseh lay down with his fathers, and they buried him in his own house; and Amon, his son, reigned in his place.

21 Amon *was* a son of twenty-two years when he began to reign, and reigned two years in Jerusalem.

22 And he did evil in the eyes of Jehovah, what Manasseh, his father, did, and Amon sacrificed to all the carved images which Manasseh, his father, had made, and served them;

23 And did not bend his knees before the face of Jehovah as Manasseh, his father, had bent his knees, because he, Amon, increased his guilt.

24 And his servants conspired against him, and killed him in his own house.

25 And the people of the land struck all them who had conspired against king Amon, and the people of the land made Josiah, his son, king in his place.

CHAPTER 34

1 Josiah *was* a son of eight years when he began to reign, and he reigned in Jerusalem thirty-one years.

2 And he did right in the eyes of Jehovah, and walked in the ways of David, his father, and did not turn away to the right hand nor to the left.

3 And in the eighth year of his reign, and he was yet young, he began to tread seeking after the God of David, his father; and in the twelfth year he began to purify

Judah and Jerusalem from the high places, and the pole images, and the carved images, and the molten images.

4 And they tore down the altars of Baals before his face, and he cut down the sun-pillars that were on high above them; and he burst in pieces the pole images, and the carved images, and the molten images, and crushed *them*, and sprinkled *them* upon the face of the graves of them who had sacrificed to them.

5 And he burnt the bones of the priests upon their altars, and purified Judah and Jerusalem,

6 And *also* in the cities of Manasseh, and Ephraim, and Simeon, and to Naphtali, with their swords all around.

7 And he tore down the altars, and violently struck the carved images and the pole images into powder, and cut down all the sun-pillars throughout all the land of Israel, and he returned to Jerusalem.

8 And in the eighteenth year of his reign, when he had purified the land and the house, he sent Shaphan, the son of Azaliah, and Maaseiah, the chief ruler of the city, and Joah, the son of Joahaz, the recorder, to strengthen the house of Jehovah, his God.

9 And they came to Hilkiah, the great priest, and they gave the silver that was brought into the house of God, which the Levites who hedged about the doors had gathered of the hand of Manasseh and Ephraim, and of all the remnant of Israel, and of all Judah and Benjamin; and they sat down at

2 CHRONICLES 34 *Josiah repairs the Temple; the Book of the Law found; Huldah the prophetess Jerusalem.*

10 And they gave it in the hand of the doers of the work who were visited over the house of Jehovah, and they gave it to the doers of the work who did in the house of Jehovah, to repair, and strengthen the house:

11 And they gave it to the fabricators and builders to erect cut stone and timber for joining and to floor the houses which the kings of Judah had destroyed.

12 And the men did the work faithfully, and those who visited over them, Jahath and Obadiah, the Levites, of the sons of Merari; and Zechariah and Meshullam of the sons of the Kohathites were to give light as superintendents, and of the Levites, all who understood instruments of singing.

13 And they were over the bearers of burdens, and were to give light as superintendents of all who did the service for every work; and *there were* scribes, and officers, and porters out of the Levites.

14 And when they brought out the silver that was brought into the house of Jehovah, Hilkiyah, the priest, found *the* book of the law of Jehovah by the hand of Moses.

15 And Hilkiyah answered and said to Shaphan, the scribe, I have found *the* book of the law in the house of Jehovah; and Hilkiyah gave the book to Shaphan.

16 And Shaphan brought the book to the king, and brought the king word back again, saying, All that was committed to your servants, they do it.

17 And they have poured out the silver that was found in the house of Jehovah, and have given it into the hand of the overseers, and to the hand of the doers of the work.

18 And Shaphan, the scribe, caused it to stand out boldly to the king, saying, Hilkiyah, the priest, has given me a book. And Shaphan called it out before the face of the king.

19 And it was, the king attentively heard the words of the law, and he tore his clothes.

20 And the king commanded Hilkiyah, and Ahikam, the son of Shaphan, and Abdon, the son of Micah, and Shaphan, the scribe, and Asaiah, a servant of the king's, saying,

21 Walk, tread seeking from Jehovah for me and for them who are left in Israel and in Judah, concerning the words of the book that is found, because great is the wrath of Jehovah that is poured out upon us, because our fathers have not hedged about the word of Jehovah to do after all that is written in this book.

22 And Hilkiyah and they from the king walked to Huldah, the prophetess, the wife of Shallum, the son of Tikvath, the son of Hasrah, the one who hedged about the wardrobe (and she dwelt in Jerusalem in the second section), and they spoke this to her.

23 And she said to them, Thus says Jehovah God of Israel, Say to the man who sent you to me,

24 Thus says Jehovah: Behold, I will bring evil upon this place, and upon its inhabitants, all the

curses written in the book which they have called out before the face of the king of Judah;

25 In the place where they have forsaken me and have burned perfumed incense to other gods in order to provoke me with all the works of their hands, even my wrath shall be poured out upon this place, and shall not be extinguished.

26 And to the king of Judah, who sent you to tread seeking from Jehovah, thus you shall say to him, Thus says Jehovah God of Israel: The words which you have attentively heard -

27 Because your heart was soft, and you bent your knees before the face of God when you attentively heard his words against this place and against its inhabitants, and you bent your knees before my face, and tore your clothes, and wept before my face - even also I have attentively heard you - An oracle of Jehovah -

28 Behold, I will gather you to your fathers, and you shall be gathered to your grave in peace, and your eyes shall not see all the evil that I will bring upon this place and upon its inhabitants. And they returned the king word.

29 And the king sent, and gathered together all the elders of Judah and Jerusalem.

30 And the king went up to the house of Jehovah, and all the men of Judah, and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and the priests and the Levites, and all the people, great and small; and he called out in their ears all the words of the book of the covenant that was found in the

house of Jehovah.

31 And the king stood in his place, and cut a covenant before the face of Jehovah to walk after Jehovah, and to hedge about his commandments, and his testimonies, and his enactments, with all his heart and with all his soul, to do the words of the covenant written in this book.

32 And he caused all who were in Jerusalem and Benjamin to stand, and the inhabitants of Jerusalem did according to the covenant of God, the God of their fathers.

33 And Josiah took away all the abominations out of all the lands that *were* to the children of Israel, and caused all who were in Israel to serve, to serve Jehovah their God; all his days they did not turn away from after Jehovah, the God of their fathers.

CHAPTER 35

1 And Josiah did a Passover to Jehovah in Jerusalem, and they slaughtered the Passover on the fourteenth of the first new moon.

2 And he stood the priests in their guard duty, and strengthened them in the service of the house of Jehovah,

3 And said to the Levites who taught all Israel, those holy to Jehovah, Give the holy ark in the house which Solomon, the son of David, king of Israel, built; it *shall* not *be* a burden upon your shoulders; now serve Jehovah, your God, and his people, Israel,

4 And set up yourselves by the houses of your fathers, after your divisions, according to the writing

2 CHRONICLES 35

Josiah does the Passover

of David, king of Israel, and according to the writing of Solomon, his son.

5 And stand in the holy *place* according to the divisions of the families of the fathers of your brothers, the children of the people, and after the division of the houses of the fathers of the Levites.

6 And slaughter the Passover, and sanctify yourselves, and set up your brothers that they may do according to the word of Jehovah by the hand of Moses.

7 And Josiah raised up to the children of the people of the flock to the number of thirty thousand lambs, and sons of she goats, and three thousand oxen, all for the Passover for all who were *there*; these *were* of the king's property.

8 And his chief rulers raised up *flock animals* willingly to the people, to the priests, and to the Levites; Hilkiah, and Zechariah, and Jehiel, commanders of the house of God, gave to the priests for the Passover two thousand, six hundred *flock animals* and three hundred oxen.

9 And Conaniah, and Shemaiah, and Nethaneel, his brothers, and Hashabiah, and Jeiel, and Jozabad, chief rulers of the Levites, raised to the Levites for Passover five thousand *flock animals*, and five hundred oxen.

10 And the service was set up, and the priests stood over their stand, and the Levites over their divisions, according to the king's command.

11 And they slaughtered the Passover, and the priests sprinkled *the blood* from their hands, and the Levites flayed *them*.

12 And they removed the burnt offerings that they might give according to the divisions of the houses of the fathers of the people, to bring near to Jehovah, as it is written in the book of Moses; and so *they did* with the oxen.

13 And they cooked the Passover with fire according to the judged decree, and the holy offerings they cooked in pots, and in caldrons, and in pans, and ran them to all the children of the people.

14 And afterward they set up for themselves and for the priests, because the priests, the sons of Aaron, were causing burnt offerings and the fat to ascend until night; and the Levites set up for themselves and for the priests, the sons of Aaron.

15 And the singers, the sons of Asaph, were over their position, according to the command of David, and Asaph, and Heman, and Jeduthun, the king's seer; and the porters at entrance by entrance, that they might not depart from their service, because their brothers, the Levites, set up for them.

16 And all the service of Jehovah was set up the same day, to keep the Passover and to offer up burnt offerings upon the altar of Jehovah, according to the command of King Josiah.

17 And the children of Israel who came forth did the Passover at that time and the feast of unleavened bread seven days.

18 And there was no Passover like that done in Israel from the days of Samuel, the prophet; neither did all the kings of Israel do such a Passover as Josiah did, and the priests and the Levites, and all Judah and Israel and the inhabitants of Jerusalem who came forth.

19 In the eighteenth year of the reign of Josiah was this Passover done.

20 After all this, when Josiah had set up the house, Necho, king of Egypt, came up to devour against Carchemish upon *the* Euphrates, and Josiah went out to meet him.

21 And he sent messengers to him, saying, What *have I to do* with you, you, king of Judah? Not against you this day, but I have war against the house; and God said to me to tremble; cease from *being* against God who is with me, and he will not destroy you.

22 And Josiah would not turn his face from him, but devoured against him disguised, and did not attentively hear the words of Necho from the mouth of God, and came to devour in the valley of Megiddo.

23 And the archers caused *arrows* to flow at King Josiah, and the king said to his servants, Cross me over *out of this chariot*, because I am rubbed *out* exceedingly.

24 And his servants crossed him over out of that chariot, and caused him to ride upon the second chariot that *was* to him; and they walked him to Jerusalem, and he died, and was buried in one of the sepulchers of his fathers; and all Judah and Jerusalem mourned

for Josiah.

25 And Jeremiah sang a lamentation for Josiah, and all the singing men and the singing women say of Josiah in their lamentations until today, and gave them as an ordinance in Israel; and behold, they are written in the lamentations.

26 And what is left of the words of Josiah and his mercy, according to that written in the law of Jehovah,

27 And his words, first and last, behold, they are written in the book of the kings of Israel and Judah.

CHAPTER 36

1 And the people of the land took Jehoahaz, the son of Josiah, and made him king in his father's place in Jerusalem.

2 Jehoahaz *was* a son of twenty-three years when he began to reign, and he reigned three months in Jerusalem.

3 And the king of Egypt took him away from Jerusalem, and fined the land a hundred talents of silver and a talent of gold.

4 And the king of Egypt made Eliakim, his brother, king over Judah and Jerusalem, and turned his name to Jehoiakim; and Necho took Jehoahaz, his brother, and brought him to Egypt.

5 Jehoiakim *was* a son of twenty-five years when he began to reign, and he reigned eleven years in Jerusalem; and he did evil in the eyes of Jehovah, his God.

6 Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, came up against him, and bound him in bronze fetters to walk

2 CHRONICLES 36 *Jehoiachin taken to Babylon; Zedekiah's rebellion; Judah taken captive*

him to Babylon.

7 And Nebuchadnezzar brought of the vessels of the house of Jehovah to Babylon, and gave them in his temple at Babylon.

8 And what is left of the words of Jehoiakim, and his abominations which he did, and what was found against him, behold, they are written in the book of the kings of Israel and Judah; and Jehoiachin, his son, reigned in his place.

9 Jehoiachin *was* a son of eight years when he began to reign, and he reigned three months and ten days in Jerusalem, and he did evil in the eyes of Jehovah.

10 And at the return of the year, king Nebuchadnezzar sent, and brought him to Babylon, with the pleasant vessels of the house of Jehovah, and made Zedekiah, his brother, king over Judah and Jerusalem.

11 Zedekiah *was* a son of twenty-one years when he began to reign, and reigned eleven years in Jerusalem.

12 And he did evil in the eyes of Jehovah, his God, and did not bend his knees before the face of Jeremiah, the prophet, *speaking* from the mouth of Jehovah.

13 And he also rebelled against King Nebuchadnezzar, who had made him swear by God, and he stiffened his neck and powerfully alerted his heart not to turn to Jehovah God of Israel.

14 Also all the chief rulers of the priests and the people exceedingly increased treachery with all the abominations of the peoples, and polluted the house of Jehovah which

he had sanctified in Jerusalem.

15 And Jehovah God of their fathers sent to them by the hand of his messengers, loading up and sending, because he in pity spared his people and his dwelling place;

16 And they mocked the messengers of God, and despised his words, and scoffed at his prophets until the wrath of Jehovah rose against his people, until *there was* no healing.

17 And he brought upon them the king of the Chaldees who fatally struck their youth with the sword in the house of their sanctuary, and did not in pity spare young man or virgin, old or gray haired; he gave all into his hand.

18 And all the vessels of the house of God, great and small, and the treasuries of the house of Jehovah, and the treasuries of the king and of his chief rulers he brought all to Babylon.

19 And they burnt the house of God, and tore down the wall of Jerusalem, and burnt all its citadels with fire, and destroyed all its delightful vessels.

20 And them who had escaped from the sword he transported as stripped captives to Babylon; and they were servants to him and his sons until the reign of the kingdom of Persia,

21 To fulfill the word of Jehovah by the mouth of Jeremiah, until the land was satisfied of its debt to the Sabbaths; all the days it lay stunned it Sabbath²¹ to fulfill seventy years. *Jer 25:11-12*

²¹ **36:21 sabbathed**, *shabath*, the word Sabbath, which means to rest. Even though foreigners were transported into the land of Is-

22 And in the first year of Cyrus, king of Persia, that the word of Jehovah by the mouth of Jeremiah might be finished, Jehovah woke up the spirit of Cyrus, king of Persia, and he caused a proclamation to cross over all his kingdom, and also wrote, saying,

23 Thus says Cyrus, king of Persia, Jehovah God of the heavens has given me all the kingdoms of the earth, and he has visited upon me to build him a house in Jerusalem, which is in Judah. Who *is* among you of all his people? Jehovah, his God, *be* with him, and let him go up.

rael, 2 Kng 17:24; Ezr 4:2,10, and only a few of the poorest Jews left in Judah during the seventy years of the Babylonian captivity, Jer 25:11-12, the land sabbathed, that is, rested day after day to make up for the neglect of the Sabbath for all those years Israel and Judah violated the Sabbath.

2 CHRONICLES